

Saratoga/ Miracle Beach Residents Association (SAMBRA)

Minutes of Meeting

Held Tuesday, October 13, 2015 at Miracle Beach Elementary School, Black Creek

Guests: Daniel May, Parks Technician, Comox Valley Regional District and Dave Leitch, Senior Manager of Water and Wastewater, Comox Valley Regional District

Call to order: Curtis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes of Meeting held May 12, 2015 approved as read:

Financial Report - Liz Aldridge, Treasurer, reported a bank balance of \$1,337.48 plus Member Equity shares \$40.17. No expenditures since last meeting. SAMBRA received a grant in aid from the Comox Valley Regional District in the amount of \$400 and interest on our account, between May and September 2015, in the amount of 5 cents.

New Business: Comox Valley Regional District presentations.

1. Dave Leitch, Senior Manager of Water and Wastewater, Comox Valley Regional District:
 - The Black Creek/Oyster Bay water system draws water from two wells and an intake in the Oyster River. In 2014, they system ran off of the two wells after problems were identified with the river intake, which consists of perforated pipe and pea gravel infiltrated by water,
 - They system needs to produce 2,000 cubic meters of water per day to meet peak demand.
 - A hydrological assessment conducted in 2015 revealed that both wells are drawing from the same source; essentially, there is only one source of ground water. Because the well(s) could not keep up with peak demand, there were water restrictions this past summer.
 - New groundwater legislation (provincial) requiring additional treatment for groundwater will be implemented next year.
 - Hydrologists are preparing a report and a number of recommendations, to be presented to the BCOB Services Committee on October 26, concerning water resources in the summer and a back-up system if river flow ebbs.

A number of questions and concerns were expressed following this presentation.

2. Daniel May, Parks Technician, Comox Valley Regional District:
 - Has been reviewing Driftwood Park, situated between Driftwood Road and Clarkson Avenue.
 - Driftwood Marine Park is an inactive park in the Comox Valley Regional District park system. It was originally created in 2006 when an adjacent piece of land was subdivided to retain local greenspace for the community. The park is 4.3 ha in size and includes a second growth forest composed primarily of Douglas fir and two linear salt/brackish water marshes, so it is a diverse ecosystem. The CVRD is looking to make Driftwood

Marine Park part of our 'active' parks in 2015, which means providing some yearly maintenance as needed on trails, dealing with invasive plants and tending to hazardous trees.

- A "walkabout" with local residents took place September 10.
- There are no plans to significantly alter the park with the exception of some signage, possibly at the entrance off of Clarkson, possibly expanded parking area there, completion of the trail skirting the common property strata owned by Driftwood Estates and a proposed connecting trail through an existing statutory right-of-way to connect the park to the beach at the south end.

3. Edwin Grieve, Director, Area "C" – Edwin reviewed various matters including the following:

- Possibility that the old firehall on Regent, below the Old Island Highway, will become a secure MMBC Recycling Centre, which will accept an expanded number of items including batteries, Styrofoam, etc.
- Island Communities investigating feasibility of a shared waste management plan with the objective of diverting more organics (yard waste and food scraps) from the landfill.

Questions/Comments:

- Concern was raised about the unusual number of mosquitoes this summer in the Clarkson and Driftwood area. Pearl will write a memo to Edwin requesting consideration of a mosquito abatement plan.
- Amount of garbage on Saratoga Beach – who is responsible for cleaning up this area?
- Curtis reported that an open house will take place, likely before the end of this year, to present the final draft of the Local Area Plan

Adjournment: meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM

Next SAMBRA Meeting: Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Further Information about SAMBRA meetings and the Local Area Plan process can be found on SAMBRA's website at WWW.SAMBRA.CA.

Contact Curtis Scoville if you have items you would like placed on the agenda of the next meetings or have questions. Phone 250 337-1986 or email: YourSAMBRA@outlook.com