

COWICHAN STATION AREA ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE
DIRECTORS' MEETING
SEPTEMBER 15, 2009

ATTENDEES: Sue, Guy, Angela, Alison, Patty, Sarah, Anthea, Kevin, Madelaine, Rick

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm. Held at Cowichan Station school site and commenced after a walk through of the space.

Approval of Agenda: addition of North Oyster Community Centre visit. Moved by Guy. CARRIED.

(Further additions as meeting progressed were Kim Tourner and Glenora AGM).

Approval of minutes of previous meeting (AGM). Moved by Angela. CARRIED.

BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:

1. Engaging community members: annual and regular events outside of meetings important. Ideas discussed:

- >presentation of school site to community tied to an event
- >membership offerings to include family, 3 or 5 year memberships
- >online registrations

Further discussions resulted in moving directly to topic of school site.

SCHOOL SITE

Alison presented the community centre "Project Plan". Specific focused review on pages 3-4 "making the goals a reality". Guy asked for inclusion of "emergency centre" as a use. Madelaine requested further clarification of the "funding requirements" for each of the options as the preferred option (#4) appears to need direct funding "only" vs. "as well as" (ie grants/p3/CVRD funding) Kevin thanked Alison for her hard work and powerful document (unanimous response from directors). One idea presented on Friday's walk about was that Parkside could take over the annex with a direct business tie to SD 79; the separated gym facility (together with the fields) to be managed by Parks and Rec; and the CSAA would be responsible for the original/restored school building.

Alison proposed that two immediate future community meetings are required (mid-Oct and Nov) in order have community brought up to speed with business plan to present to School Board after they establish their surplus building policy (expected to be done in November). Madelaine indicated concern to wait as the Ministry's cut of the facilities grant may force the Board to sell surplus properties (in order to meet any outstanding financial obligations – ABG/ new high school) and Cow. Stn. Is their only surplus property. St. Andrew's Harvest Feast is scheduled for Oct. 17 and it was suggested a community meeting outside school with presentation of plans and then a walk to the Feast. Second meeting to be held early November.

Kevin indicated concern that perhaps CVRD should be doing proposals on gym and annex as we cannot direct what would happen if we have no control; CSAA focus should be only on old building. Alison indicated she was not sure breaking the site into three is a good idea. Believes that next step would be to have Loren Duncan and Ron Austin visit school site with us where we would share vision. Discussion. Final decisions:

Alison will speak to St. Andrew's church about tying a community meeting in with church function. Sue and Alison will facilitate the two meetings. Sarah will present plans for the school buildings.

Guy made motion to accept floor plans ideas in principal as submitted. CARRIED. Angela made motion to proceed to community meetings – October 16 (details to be confirmed) and November (to be firmed) for community to review and approve proposed project plan. CARRIED.

Patty made motion that Alison invite Ron Austen and Loren Duncan to meet with us (CSAA directors) at the school site date ASAP to present our visions and ideas. CARRIED.

Meeting returned to agenda.....

BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

2. Communication between director's: Patty asked that Madelaine add time to agenda as a reminder to directors and others. Angela asked that everyone "reply all" to CSAA director correspondence . Sue promised to respond to emails more proactively.

3. Priorities for the year: it was decided that at this time the school site and membership would be major focus for this year. It was noted that in Jeannie's absence at the meeting that there might be another priority.

4. Website: Alison and Sarah to report at next meeting

COMMITTEES:

Village: second sign ("Centre of the Universe") is ready for installation. Madelaine suggested this might be a good photo op and to include that this was Jack Fleetwood's saying – link back to his writing award gifted to Cowichan Station.....community's movement to develop a community centre....publicity might bring more people to upcoming meetings. Date and time of installation to be confirmed by Patty.

Kevin to contact Tom Patterson for historical spin. Letter for paper also opportunity.

Parks and Environment: Sue and Anthea will participate in data collection on the Koksilah River.

NEW BUSINESS

Graffiti: Madelaine reported that she had contacted Mainroad to remove graffiti on bridge buttresses – should be done by month's end.

St. Andrew's Church: Madelaine reported that the Church would be holding a fund raising event a few weeks after their Harvest Feast that they hoped would include music. She requested that the Church and CSAA work together vs. independently on events such as these. Also motioned that the CSAA directors write a letter to the South Island Diocese relaying the support that St. Andrew's has offered Cowichan Station over this past year. CARRIED. It was also suggested a similar letter would be appreciated from other user groups.

Discussion that due to lack of attendance at meetings and inactivity on the Board Kim Tourner by removed as a director and the CSAA actively engage in searching for a replacement. Sue will write a letter to Mr. Tourner.

Meeting adjourned at 8:48 pm.