

Minutes of Saanich Peninsula Memorial Park Society Board Meeting May 3, 2022

Directors Present:

Jane Batty, Sheilah Fea, Linda Pendray, Andy Rosequist, Floyd Mailhot, Dick Reynolds, Bruce McLarty.

Liaisons: Heather Gartshore, North Saanich. Sheila Stelck, SD63. Scott Garnett, Sidney.

Regrets: Ross Imrie

Executive Director: Brad Edgett

1. Meeting Called to Order
 - a. Sheilah called the meeting to order at 3:55 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda
 - a. The agenda was circulated.
 - b. No Report from Treasurer
 - c. No Minutes from the Dec 7, 2021 meeting.
 - d. Linda moved to approve the agenda seconded by Dick, agenda was approved.

3. Report from Sd63
 - a. New Strategic Plan
 - Saanich School Board approved the new 5 year Strategic Plan (2022-2027) which has five goals.
 - 1) Literacy (with a focus on elementary education)
 - 2) Indigenous Learning Success (support for culturally respectful and barrier-free learning environments.
 - 3) Mental Health and Wellness (social emotional learning and trauma informed practice)
 - 4) Citizenship (inspiring learners to be knowledgeable, curious and active global citizens)

All of the Strategic Plan headings in the document also include the SENCOTEN translation.
 - b. Budget Consultation and Survey
 - The District is in the process of a budget consultation process. Annual inflationary pressures for the coming school year have not been funded (eg. Gas for buses, heat for schools, etc.) and as a result the District is facing a

short-fall which will require program reductions. There is a public budget meeting at Bayside School May 4th at 7pm and an online survey available on the District website until May 12th.

- c. New Child Care Space Funding
 - The Ministry of Education and Child Care announced the Saanich School District will receive funding for an Early Childcare facility of 84 spaces (from infant to school age) which addresses the need in our community for more child care services.
 - d. New Programs in Saanich
 - There are two new programs being offered at the Centre for Independent Learning (ILC) – 1) Education Assistant & Community Support Program in partnership with Vancouver Island University which is blended delivery from February to August, & 2) Take-A-Hike Foundation – an outdoor adventure program & partnership to engage vulnerable youth and enable them to complete high school.
4. Report from North Saanich
- a. Tree Bylaw concluded due back July 11.
 - b. OCP phase 3 public consultation May/June. Expect a summary in August.
 - c. Budget finished, 3.955 overall tax increase.
 - d. Newly created Advisory Committee for Accessibility includes liaison from all three municipalities and 6 citizens who represent those living with various degrees of disability. Committee will provide recommendations to local government on accessibility improvements.
5. Report from Sidney
- a. Overall 3.76% tax increase. Over the next 10 years Sidney will be imposing a balanced distribution between commercial and residential. Every 4 year term the tax distribution will be revisited to ensure its working.
 - b. OCP summary report 279 page document. Lots of feedback from the community. Town staff hope to have the OCP passed at the end of June.
6. Report from Chair
- a. Hiring Committee and staff have met with Engaged HR and set a criteria for hiring. The job posting is out now and closes on May 20, then the candidates will be interviewed.
 - b. BHP Community Garden, we were approached by Rotary and a group interested in starting a community garden plot somewhere on BHP lands. This group were eager but didn't have a lot of information about the projects. We have leases with SD63 and the Soccer Association that we would have to look at first and no money to contribute to the project.

Linda motioned to instruct Brad Edgett to prepare a feasibility study on the possibility of having a community garden in BHP. Brad will report back at the next MPS meeting. Seconded by Andy, motioned passed.

- c. Pickleball club is having issues finding places to play after being kicked out of other parks. The committee has asked to build courts behind the soccer club house at BHP. The land is currently leased by the Soccer Association so there is a lot of information, planning and a business plan we would be to see before anything is approved.

Bruce moved to have Brad Edgett talk to the Municipalities and Soccer Association and provide a report back to the Board about the feasibility of putting pickleball courts in BHP. Brad will report at the next MPS meeting. Seconded by Jane, motion moved.

- d. Union term comes due in January. Instead of having the new ED have to navigate negotiations Brad has offered to begin negotiations which can happen anywhere between 3-6 months before the term is due. With the first renewal there is usually not many changes and Brad feels he can finish it before he leaves.

Bruce moved that Brad start the Union negotiations for the term renewal, seconded by Dick. Motioned passed.

- e. Extended liquor license was approved by the Town of Sidney, this helps us immensely without events. Thank you to Sidney council.

7. Report from Executive Director:

- a. Brad met with David Spence and Kenny Podmore who are interested in hosting a Queen's Diamond Jubilee event at the Centre. The event would be an outdoor proclamation and tree planting. If this event were to move forward we would have participation from all four Nations on the Peninsula. With the ongoing from Canada Day last year an event

Andy motioned that Brad report back to David and Kenny that the Board has decided not to move forward with the Diamond Jubilee event. Seconded by Bruce, motion passed.

- b. At the AGM Brad was tasked to look at the Term Limits in our Bylaws. When the new bylaws were written in 2016 the term limits for Board members were taken out and replaced with clause 5.8. Brad looked at other organizations and all have term limits in their bylaws and it is actually abnormal not to. Brad suggested at the next special meeting, the AGM in October, that term limits be reinstated from the old bylaws clauses 5.8 & 5.9.

Jane motioned to accept Brad's report on Term Limits and to bring the information forward to the AGM. Seconded by Floyd. Motion passed.

- c. Floyd reported on the update to Blue Heron Park. Old trees have been removed from the park, there are still 5-7 still needed to come down, next we will work on drainage on the pathways and widening the paths to 6ft. There is 24-36 months' worth of ivy removal to do as well.
- d. Work on Parkland Track has started, the funds have been released to continue with the drainage and paving of the lanes, the track should open Fall 2022.
- e. Look ahead we have Johnny Reid this weekend. He specifically asked to come back to Sidney.

Sidney Street Market starts up again in the parking lot this Sunday. They will be running the Thursday Night Market here too starting in June.

Jann Arden is almost sold out for her run of shows in June, she will be finishing her tour here and staying a few extra days.

Buffy Saint-Marie will be here in August while she's on her final signing tour.

Next Meeting Date: The next meeting will be held on May 31 at 4:00pm.

Adjournment at 5:30 pm, followed by in camera with and without management.