

Roberts Creek Official Community Plan Committee (RCOCPC)

Meeting Minutes: January 8 2014

Roberts Creek Community School

Present: Dianne Sanford (Chair), Scott Avery, Sheila Wilson, Robin Chauhan, Billy Davis, Lesley Roberts, Nicola Kozakiewica, Heather Gatz, Graham (Starsage) Shipley, Mike Allen, Dana Wilson, Amanda-Rae Hergesheimer, Donna Shugar (Director), Kim Chi, Carolann Glover, Karen Spicer

Absent: Naomi Fleschhut

Agenda: The following agenda was agreed upon and approved:

1. Welcome and introductions of new members. List of new members to be included in minutes for future reference.
2. Election for Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary
3. Adopt minutes of Nov 13, 2013 meeting.
4. Review of 2013 – major discussions and referrals from last year and possible items for this year.
5. Meeting protocols – Copy sent out to members, Robin to try a new approach at January meeting?
6. Invasive Species – Reply to letter written by chair to MOTI asking what quality control is in place for applicators, and for an “incident report” for the Sunshine Coast.
7. Directors Report
8. Delegation - Martin Schmiegl, Zoning Issue re: Medical Marijuana
9. Other new business
10. Next Meeting

1) Welcome and introductions of new members

Newly Elected:

1. Nicola Kozakiewica
2. Heather Gatz
3. Graham Shipley
4. Mike Allen
5. Naomi Fleschhut
6. Dana Wilson
7. Amanda-Rae Hergesheimer
8. Dianne Sanford

Note: Dianne will contact old members to return their OCPC manuals and will ensure that all new members get a copy.

2) Elections for Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary:

Dianne was elected Chair by acclamation.
Scott Avery was voted in as Vice Chair.

Sheila Wilson was voted in as Secretary.

3) Adopt minutes of Nov 13/13 meeting

Scott moved to adopt minutes. Nicky seconded. Minutes adopted.

4) Review of 2013/ Looking forward to 2014

Three key items were brought forward to the OCPC in 2013: The Agricultural Road Map; Medical Marijuana & Regional Zoning; and Wind Turbines.

5) Meeting protocols

Dianne ran through all of the protocols; a few minor changes were made. See attachment. Robin would like to have us use the voting cards that he created which we will use try month.

6) Invasive Species

Reply to letter written by chair to MOTI asking what quality control is in place for applicators, and for an "incident report" for the Sunshine Coast. Round up has apparently only been used on knotweed and the current regional policy is to not apply pesticide. Someone is coming from SCR D January 22 to the RC Hall at 7:30 to speak to the issue. Please attend if you can. Graham will put together a recommendation and will bring it back to next month's meeting for committee approval.

7) Director's Report

1. Area surrounding RC School has been designated a Playground Zone, thereby ensuring the 30 km/ hour speed limit from dusk til dawn every day of the year, rather than just during school hours.
2. Community Garden Meeting: Saturday Jan 25 at 1:00 pm in Library at RCCES.
3. APC has vacancies. Please invite interested people to apply.
4. *The Agricultural Area Plan* was completed. Due to the unwieldy nature of *The Agricultural Road Map*, it was broken apart and will be dealt with in chunks.
5. *The Transit Plan* will be adopted tomorrow. We will eventually have half hour service along the highway and a smaller bus will run along Lower Road, necessitating transfers in order to travel to and from Sechelt (transfer at Field Rd) and the ferry (transfer in Gibsons).
6. Recycling: Local government was given three options. SCR D chose to take approximately \$250,000 and has elected to independently collect curbside recycling in Halfmoon Bay and Roberts Creek. Curbside collection will be funded by MMBC, and MMBC will be responsible for processing. Residents will still use depots for Styrofoam, film plastic etc. Salish Soils and Gibsons Recycling won bids locally. Committee members expressed concern over closing the consumption/waste loop and question whether MMBC will meet the same standards that the Gibsons Recycling Centre currently meets.
7. The incinerator that is being proposed to process Vancouver's waste would be on Squamish Reserve Land, giving us no control over the decision to build or not build. This site is one of several being considered and the only one on the Sunshine Coast. Graham brought forth the idea of purchasing clean air to prevent the incinerator's local construction.

8) Delegation on Zoning & Medical Marijuana

Martin Schmieg, a local patient and licensed medical marijuana consumer, lives on an unusually large 24-acre parcel of RU1 land outside of the ALR and has been growing his

own medicine for several years. Martin contends that the proposed zoning laws which will prevent the legal cultivation of medical marijuana on RU1 lots are unreasonable and arbitrary. He doesn't want to purchase his marijuana from large industrial producers, and would instead like be permitted to grow for 100 licensed users, as part of a small cottage industry.

Donna did speak to planning staff in anticipation of this meeting. Not very many RU1 or CU1 properties are as big as his. If the permits were extended to RU1, some potential properties are only half acre and embedded in neighborhoods, which becomes problematic. Donna suggests asking for a variance, with the understanding that they restrict size of operation, size of property, setbacks and zoning.

Martin could submit a recommendation that RU1 and CR1 are permitted to grow medical marijuana because the zoning decision has not yet been finalized and public consultation could influence the final zoning. Martin will talk to Donna to help him get clearer with what he needs to ask for.

Resolution was made that we write a letter regarding zoning designations with specific reference to Martin's situation. Karen will draft a letter.

Next Meeting: February 12, 2014