

Roberts Creek Official Community Plan Committee (RCOCPC)

Meeting Minutes: November 12, 2014

Roberts Creek Community School

Present: Dianne Sanford (Chair), Scott Avery, Lesley Roberts, Heather Gatz, Graham Starsage, Dana Wilson, Amanda-Rae Hergesheimer, Donna Shugar (Director), Carolann Glover, Karen Spicer, Mark Lebell, Emily, Douglas Fugge, Mike Allegretti, Elaine Futterman, Ruth Emerson

Absent: Sheila Wilson, Robin Chauhan, Billy Davis, Nicola Kozakiewicz, Mike Allen, Naomi Fleschhut

Agenda: The following agenda was agreed upon and approved:

1. Adopt minutes from October 8th meeting.
2. *Draft Board Policy on Pesticide Use and Invasive Species Management*: Comments requested by SCR D before Nov. 13th
3. Invasive plant control at Henderson Beach – SCR D is awaiting OCPC collaboration on Henderson Beach pilot project. Mike to report?
4. Referral from SCR D and invitation to Nov. 24 Area D APC meeting on Medical Marijuana
5. Director's Report - Donna's final report before her retirement!
6. Upcoming elections in November for OCPC - Wednesday, November 26th @ RC Hall, following RCCA Meeting. See list below containing status of OCPC members.
OCPC Elections notices for all to post
7. Announcement: All Candidates Trustees Meeting @ RC School Library; Thursday November 13, 7-8 pm
8. Other new business

1. *Adopt Minutes from October 8 Meeting*
Karen moved to adopt. Scott seconded.

2. *Draft Board Policy on Pesticide Use and Invasive Species Management*
Comments needed by November 13 on SCR D Board Policy Manual – Draft – October 20, 2014 – v4. We spent considerable time discussing the SCR D Board policy drafted since our last meeting. See October 8 Meeting Minutes for OCPC concerns on pesticide use. Dianne had sent our concerns that we wanted addressed if the policy is to be approved, some of which have not been addressed to our complete satisfaction. OCPC members would like to see pesticides for cosmetic purposes not allowed, neonicotinoids and foliar sprays not allowed at all, and the wording around “extra caution exercised in riparian areas” to be more explicit.

Donna pointed out that the SCR D cannot tell people that they cannot use pesticides for cosmetic purposes on their private property, only that they will not be used on SCR D property and that the SCR D strongly discourages their use. The draft policy states, “The

use of pesticides and herbicides for cosmetic purposes is discouraged and will not be used on SCRD property.”

As well, neonicotinoids are not prohibited outright in the draft policy as the SCRD doesn't have the power to prohibit these except on SCRD property and can only strongly discourage their use. We feel their use should be banned.

Procedure Item 6 was discussed, that being the use of foliar sprays, and how to close the door to their use. Although the SCRD cannot currently prohibit pesticide use on private or Crown land Donna suggested that we could ask the SCRD to ask the Ministry of Environment or Community Development for the power to ban cosmetic use of pesticides. That would enable the SCRD to prohibit them. We recommended the following wording to be sent to the SCRD about this:

“Given that the SCRD doesn't have the authority to prohibit or place a total ban on pesticide applications we would ask the SCRD to investigate from the Province the possibility of granting authority to the SCRD to enact a total ban on cosmetic pesticide application.” *Pop up where?* Dianne put the motion forward and Lesley seconded.

As an aside, Dana mentioned that hiring a local permaculture student to help educate people on alternatives to pesticide use could be helpful.

Additionally, we discussed Procedure Item 9, that being “Extra caution should be exercised in riparian areas, waterways and ecologically sensitive areas including the use of appropriate setbacks.” We would like to ask the SCRD to provide a definition of “appropriate setbacks”, to put this on a site-by-site basis and ask them to please refer to the link below for the *Riparian Setback Matrix Model* from the Alberta Society of Professional Biologists' Conference 2009.

Following are two links that we referred to -

http://www.pesticidefreebc.org/ksite_images/qualicum.pdf

http://www.aspb.ab.ca/pdfs/2009-conference-presentation/Session_5-4_White_The-Riparian-Setback-Matrix-Model.pdf

We would like to share our comments and see those of the others on the draft policy call for comments list.

3. *Invasive plant control at Henderson*

Current situation is that Mike put out a doodlepoll looking at who could participate in a meeting about this but we haven't heard any more about it. Dianne is suggesting we put a deadline on this project and if we can't get it going that we drop it.

Doug had made a sign for Henderson Beach boat owners to request they move their boats so we could start but as this is MOTI land Donna stated that we can't erect signs without consultation with the Regional District or we might find ourselves ordered off the land. Donna said we need the Regional District to put up the signs. She stated that the Regional District is getting frustrated as they await collaboration on this pilot project.

Dianne reiterated that we need to find out from Mike where this is at and that we may need to let the project drop if we can't organize it. Donna said the contact at the SCRD is Trevor Fawcett. We need a plan! Dianne to talk to Mike.

4. *Referral from SCRD and invitation to Nov. 24 Area D APC meeting on Medical Marijuana.* OCPC members and friends are invited to the Nov 24 APC meeting at 7pm at the library where an SCRD staff person will meet with Area D to discuss the Draft document for Marijuana Production Facilities and Development Permit Area Designation for Form and Character (Bylaws 310.156 and 310.159). This document presents restrictions on the form and character necessary for any buildings that are to be built for medical marijuana production in Area D and E.

All of Roberts Creek would be open to the Development Permit restrictions.

Other issues came up with respect to Medical Marijuana, such as water usage and minimum lot size.

Please try to attend the APC meeting on Monday, November 24 at the Roberts Creek Library at 7pm to make comments and suggestions. *This will be discussed further at our Dec. 10 meeting.*

5. *Director's Report*

Walking path on Beach Avenue:

This is about to happen. Some legal wrinkles of easements on private property are just being worked out.

Some options to be provided to the new Board:

The funds are there to be used for any of these projects, not just bike lanes on Lower Rd. The funds are federal gas tax grants allocated annually on a per capita basis.

- to continue working on bike lanes for Lower Road.
- with the water mains work done on Beach Avenue there is a section by Flume with a curb that is trapping cyclists, Ministry took a look at widening the curb
- Downtown walkways very popular, recommend that the walkways be continued down to the pier

Goldmoss:

The applicant is reworking their application and it will likely be the new year before it is ready to be reconsidered. They will likely pull the poultry issue out of their application to be looked at more broadly for all of Roberts Creek.

Gates in the watershed:

In 2009 following a request to look at putting up gates, the SCRD had communication with the Ministry of Forests. At that time, information signs indicating the watershed boundary were put up but the Ministry of Forests was unwilling to grant permission to have gates installed. Even if they had, keys would have to have been given to any entities, including private property owners, that had legal licensed access to land beyond the gate. That would include the Province, the Community Forest, what is now AJB, etc. So gates wouldn't obstruct industrial activity but would obstruct public access, except by foot, to the Tetrahedron, Dakota Ridge and other parts. First Nations would also be restricted on their own territory, at least individual band members, even if the Band held the keys. The intake area has been gated but AJB, who owns the land, has a key and

can come and go. To put in more gates, the SCR D would need permission from the First Nations and from the Province. Vancouver and Victoria are the only two local governments in BC with control over their watersheds and this has been a sore point for local governments around the province for decades. Victoria bought their watershed and Vancouver has had control of theirs for a long time. Is there a way to buy our watershed? It is primarily Crown land with some owned privately by A JB logging. We would have to buy from them. The idea of putting in surveillance cameras to deter vandalism and dumping was discussed as well. There are currently a couple of programs to help with cleaning up garbage dumped in the watershed.

6. *OCPC Election*

Upcoming OCPC Election on Wednesday, Nov 26 at the RC Hall following the RCCA meeting. Dianne passed out OCPC Elections flyers to be posted.

Terms that Expire / Intention to Run for Re-Election

Robin Chauhan	
Lesley Roberts	yes
Karen Spicer	no
Scott Avery	yes
Sheila Wilson	yes
Billy Davis	no

7. *Announcement*

All Candidates Trustees Meeting @ RC School Library; Thursday November 13, 7-8 pm. Free babysitting provided. For more info, contact Sheila Wilson shemark@dccnet.com

Next Meeting: December 10, 2014; OCPC Election November 26 at the RC Hall