

FONCVA

Minutes January 17th, 2002

Attendees:

Eric Andersen (CHAIR)	Blueridge C.A.
Corrie Kost	Edgemont C.A.
Diana Bellhouse	Delbrook C.A.
Maureen Bragg	Save Lynn Canyon Park
Val Moller	Lions Gate N.A.
Dan Ellis	Lynn Valley C.A.
Brian Platts	Edgemont C.A.
Cathy Adams	Lions Gate N.A.
Hugh Murray	Lower Capilano R. A.
Al Price	Pemberton Heights C.A.
Allan Orr	Roche Point C.A.
Dave Sadler	Seymour C.A.
David Knee	Norgate Park C.A.
John Fair	Lynnmour Inter-River C.A.
Jenny Knee (notes)	

1. ORDER CONTENT OF AGENDA

Added items:

- Corrie Kost - Streamkeepers (Canoxoy)
- Eric Andersen - Letter from district re: removing trees
- Dan Ellis - Fixed FONVCA meeting times.

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by Al Price, seconded by Brian Platts, and carried unanimous.

3. OLD BUSINESS

3.1 Budget Review process - Corrie – reported on Draft Financial Plan 2002-2006 released at council meeting held 5pm Wed. December 19th/2001. No other members of public were noted as attending. Corrie was kindly invited to sit at table with council members by councilors Denault. An important concern raised by councilors at this initial meeting was withdrawal of insurance coverage of "leaky condos" and that condos on native land inspected by district staff could be a potential liability.

"Financial Planning Workshop", held January 12th/2002 (Sat. starting at 10am), whose purpose was "to provide the public an opportunity to comment on the 2002-2006 Draft Financial Plan" was poorly organized, not run as a workshop, allowed for very limited public input (2 hrs), and was cut off early. The budget document format was poor – not providing % changes from prior years and still lacked comparison to previous year on many tables. Although the manpower was now listed, there was needless confusion over having both documents (second being Inventory of Municipal Services) commenting on services provided by each department). Overall, we can expect a 6.9% tax increase (before adding any new requests). Figure is closer to double that if one takes into

account funds from other sources (heritage, reserved, etc).

Question by Al Price - should the budget format not be a standard in the community charter? Will bring this point up when document is public.

Dave Sadler – Reported on how, on Jan 12th, a public presentation regarding the low revenues from district land was challenged by council members and termed "flawed". A subsequent correction of council by another public speaker, who disliked council's accusations, and illustrated how the previous arguments were not flawed culminated in that speaker's rebuke by Mayor Bell!

Allan Orr - **There is only one more scheduled public budget meeting – on April 3rd. However, note that bylaws are set for adoption by council on Feb 25th/2002.** Public will not come out to meeting on Saturdays. Viability of using surveys to set budget priorities was discussed.

A lengthy discussion took place on requesting council to hold another public "workshop" meeting ASAP. The following motion, moved by Maureen, seconded by Allan Orr and eventually adopted unanimously:

"THAT FONVCA submit a letter requesting Council hold a well-advertised meeting to allow the public to have discussion and clarification on the Draft Financial Plan 2002 - 2006, to be held on a weekday evening as soon as possible."

3.2 Big boxes - multiple comments on how chaotic parking situation was at Save-On-Foods over Christmas time – the proposed expansion/parking stall reduction would worsen situation.

3.3 Community Charter - Al Price - has to come up for first reading in Victoria before it can be discussed, this is expected early Spring. Al will set up meeting with Ted Nebbeling - hope to advertise in dialogue.

3.4 Closed council meetings - agenda of closed meetings should be properly advertised. Castlegar standards distributed.

3.5 Questionnaire of Council performance - ongoing Corrie needs help. Brian volunteered.

3.6 Grouse Grind Trail - discussion followed – group continue to question private ownership. Corrie mentioned Occupiers Liability Act and how this greatly absolved GVRD from liabilities.

3.7 Letter to Council re: construction bylaw was distributed as per last month's FONVCA meeting

4. CORRESPONDENCE ISSUES

4.1 Crist- proposed changes to RCMP

detachments latest government “interpretation” implies little impact on local detachment.

Hunter’s letter on Financial Plan 2002-2006 – acknowledged as a good letter.

4.2 Cathy Adams discussed issue of Kash Kool

coming before council during public input period and asking for re-instatement of use of upstairs facility for – but for restaurant use.

It was remarked that at the time of the cancellation of the Banquet permit the operators were in arrears of the district leased parking areas – but that this was not even a concern to staff at that time.

4.3 Corrie mentioned that he had implemented the suggestion to print all new e-mails each month in **colour** and marked with a *.

5 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Leaky-Condo liabilities to off-district developments - see 3.1

5.2 District web server improvements – there have been a number of ongoing problems with the new DNV websites – contact Brian (604-985-5104) if you want to attend a meeting with staff in mid February to suggest further improvements.

5.3 Yard trimming collection program - Corrie - new paper bags more expensive to consumer than old clear plastic bag system. Cost of proposed program, using Kraft paper bags and/or reusable 77 litre containers will far exceed tax savings of \$2.35 per household to “debag” plastic bags. Another example of “downloading”.
Dave Sadler stated that Yard trimming starts again Mar. 1 with new system in affect.
Allan Orr – Questioned why there are 2 organizations handling our solid waste collection – council should explain this to public.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 see 3.6

6.2 Turbidity standards in Interim Report - filtered water issue - Corrie – US EPA Jan 1st/ 2002 regulations limits turbidity to max 1NTU (0.3 for 95% readings in any month). Interim report states 5NTU as US standard.

6.3 “Green” Infrastructure Grant - who got grants Abbotsford - Sunshine Coast – Lilloet etc. 15 BC systems got \$37million – eg. Fraser Valley Regional District got \$6.7m for a \$10.4 membrane filtration plant to serve 64,000 households. Nothing for GVWD members.

6.4 Stream keepers - Corrie – Minutes of Nov 13th/2001 –Canoxy (now Nexen) fined for polluting Burrard Inlet. Portion of the court award was made available to support rehabilitation of Mosquito and McKay Creeks.

6.4b New risk assessments criteria since Sep 11th/2001 for hazardous material sites - requires a reduction in density for new developments near these sites.

6.5 Letter from district re: tree removal - Eric - Blueridge received a letter from district asking not only neighbours but the Association to sign request for district to cut trees on district property. This is in accordance with new tree cutting policy (Eldon Park).

6.6 Fixed time frame for agenda- suggested by Dan, also, make the controversial items fit the time frame - Corrie suggested a draft copy of the agenda sent earlier may add focus. Keeping to agenda important, but the aim of FONVCA was to share ideas and information.

Thanks to Cathy for organizing birthday cake for Corrie.

7.0 Chair and Date of next meeting.

Diana Belhouse – Delbrook Community Association – Tel: 604 – 987-1656

**7pm. Thursday, February 21st/2002
District Hall,**