

FONVCA

Minutes of January 18th 2007

Place: DNV Hall 355 West Queens Road

Attendees:

Brian Platts(Chair Pro-Tem)	Edgemont C.A.
Lyle Craver	Upper Lynn Valley R.A.
Val Moller	Lions Gate N.A.
Corrie Kost	Edgemont C.A.
Diana Belhouse	Delbrook C.A.
Maureen Bragg	Save Our Shores
John Miller	Lower Capilano C.R.A.
Hugh Murray	Lower Capilano C.R.A.
Cathy Adams	Lions Gate N.A.
David Knee	Norgate C.A.
Fred Gooch	Blueridge C.A.

Regrets: Lisa Thon, Diana Belhouse

Notetaker: Jenny Knee

Meeting started: 7:10pm

1. ORDER/CONTENTS OF AGENDA

6.2 End of Traffic Lights?

2. ADOPTION of Oct 19th MINUTES

Minutes (Corrie added details of select UBCM items) were approved as circulated.

3. Old Business

3.1 Review of FONVCA mandate/process:

Continued debate of Nov 16/2006:Website: How to control letters that use the site for a platform? - discussion followed:

Maureen felt it demeans the intent of the site. Corrie wants to remain flexible for the sake of the valid letters. Brian - letters are vetted for content - particularly at election time - suggestion to delay posting (until after municipal election), DNV removes link to DNV after nomination date.

4. Correspondence Issues

4.1 Business arising from 14 regular emails. Variety of topics – none discussed in detail.

4.2 Non-Posted Letters

The 2 non-posted (by author's request) letters of current period were distributed.

4.3 New host for FONVCA website - old one went out of business - new one costs \$100 per anum providing us with more space so each CA can have its own site within the FONVCA site. Cost will be \$10 from each CA - funds to Corrie please. Paid to date: LCRA - NPCA - SOS - MFRA - ECA – Brian to e-mail CA's not in attendance tonight.

4.4 2007-2011 Financial Plan Presentation

To FONVCA by DNV staff at 7:00 pm. Thursday January 25th - presented to council on Monday January 22nd - Brian to request copies - Cathy will pick them up.

Lyle reported - plan looks pretty shaky, Dow and Fibreco are appealing their assessment/taxes (impact could be \$1.25m - 1.5m) also CNR is looking for a reduction of \$1.5 million. Plus due to 'environmental events' ie the slide & wind & snow damage - already spent the budget and done nothing for the parks yet - they are trying to keep the increase down to 3.5% don't be surprised if it comes in at 3.75 % or higher.

5. New Business

5.1 Status of North Shore TAC - Cathy reported it had been disbanded - it will be replaced by the Mayors Task Force on Transportation. Information TBA.

Council & Other District Issues

5.2 Plan to Walk –Corrie distributed a copy of "Why People Don't Walk and What City Planners Can Do About It" (see agenda for reference). Much relevance to Marine Dr. etc.

5.3 Windstorms & DNV Parks Tree Damage

Dan reported via Maureen - suggest all CA's to write to DNV urging compilation of a 30 year plan for District Parks like Vancouver has for Stanley Park.

Lyle - as this is an extra-ordinary event suggest showing the true cost of clean-up and not just burying it in parks or engineering.

Maureen - no-one seems to be doing anything.

Cathy - can we apply for financial aid like Vancouver?

Corrie - Concerned re: soil retention on hills, forest fires next summer, impact on water sheds.

John - the Bowser Trail suffered damage - Howie Barbour tree

Val - would the meeting on the 24th be appropriate to bring up request for disaster fund/future plan of action? Parks Advisory Committee Jan. 24th

Action Item - Brian to write a letter to Mayor & Council - cc James Ridge requesting application be made by DNV to Provincial/Federal Government for financial assistance for natural disaster relief. Carried unanimously.

5.4 Seylynn Open House (10 Jan 2007)

Item tabled to a future FONVCA meeting.

5.5 Marine Drive Improvement Strategy -

Cathy reported it could be a fairly long 1st reading at Council. Reported difficulty booking meeting room at DNV HALL. Corrie suggested all bookings be available on website - Cathy to follow up.

As a business owner in the second block of Pemberton Lyle questioned the boundaries of the plan and notification process.

5.6 Aggressive Dogs - Change in terminology from "Dangerous" dogs which identify specific breeds and not individual animals. Some members expressed concern about accountability of professional dog walkers and bylaw enforcement.

5.7 Costco in DNV - Corrie reported it was the most comprehensive proposal he had ever seen. Concern expressed by others over delay in process.

5.8 Chlorine Plant Expansion - Corrie reported risk contours inconsistencies. Standards not like 10 years ago – now much tighter in all areas. Rail cars in transport not taken into account – news headlines of late involve such. Volume of shipping proposed to go up. Corrie suggests getting rid of chlorine plant in future – we should be urging Port Authority not to renew lease.

6. Any Other Business

6.1 Legal Issues:

Corrie outlines various recent local and national municipal legal issues. See agenda references.

Sidewalk Maintenance requirements: 1" seems to be the threshold – but local government needs to be informed.

Denying Business Licence/Renewal is tricky:

Case in Burnaby illustrates need that "poor management" is not reason enough.

Right to Criticize Local Government:

Inappropriate public comments may defame a local council member – but one cannot defame the local council (government). That is, a government cannot sue in defamation. "No government may bring an action in defamation".

Making Municipal Governments More

Accountable: An Oct/2003 report (see agenda link) by the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario points the way – through an appropriate Open Meeting Law.

Municipal Matters – discussed at <http://schenklaw.ca/> touched on aspects that infrastructure fees cannot be used as a cash cow – only to recover actual expenses. The ongoing saga of getting rid of a billboard continues in Vancouver.

Next meeting – February 15th, 2007

Chair: Diana Belhouse – Delbrook C.A. Tel: 604-987-1656

Adjourned meeting at 9:30 pm