

FONCVA

Minutes March 21th, 2002

Attendees:

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

It was agreed that first order of business was to hear the:

Bear Awareness Presentation by Betty Carrington

The presentation and Q/A lasted some 45 minutes. Information details can be obtained by phoning 604-990-BEAR (2327). Some 251 bear sightings were reported in 2001 (albeit a much smaller number of bears were actually involved). Most were from communities adjacent to the forested areas, creeks, ravines, etc. Only 2 bears were killed in 2001 as opposed to 40 in 1999. Educational program is key.

1. ORDER CONTENT OF AGENDA

Added items:

- 6.2 Construction noise bylaw harmonization – Corrie
- 6.3 Proposed changes in wording on policy for correspondence sent to FONVCA website - Corrie

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Correction to Feb 21st minutes – add Eric Andersen to attendees list.

Moved Dan Ellis/Cathy Adams -carried unanimously.

3. OLD BUSINESS

3.1 Budget Review Process -

General discussion ensued on the two public meetings. Some concerns and comments were expressed on the following issues:

- What is the actual status of the reserved funds?
- Why some council members did not stay for the whole time at either meeting?

- Some presentations were too lengthy; chair should ascertain the estimated time of presentations so short presentations can be interspersed between the longer ones? Questions from council to presenter sometimes lengthened the presentation.
- When the Provincial government passed on extra tax burdens in years past, council compounded the future problem by compensating from district reserve funds rather than increase taxes.
- Changes will have to be made as District has low growth and small industrial base.
- Some small cost measures were undertaken such as changing to a cheaper media provider and not filling vacated staff positions.
- Council has still not completed Budget Review process.
- It is felt that there are still areas where significant savings can be made -police, fire dept.

Proposed by Dave Sadler/Corrie Kost that we submit a letter of thanks to Council for granting the extra financial Budget Review meeting. Feb 27. – carried unanimously

3.2 Community Charter - Al Price was unable to set up a meeting with Ted Nebbeling as Ted would not attend an evening meeting.

Corrie Kost/John Miller – We submit a letter stating disappointment that the meeting could not be arranged and that we would still welcome any future evening meeting if one could be provided by Hon.Ted Nebbeling – carried unanimously

3.3 Closed meetings of council and committees

– Two recent issues – one a simple grant application – dealt in open council meeting by CNV, another – the appointment to GVRD and Translink – again dealt in open council by Richmond, were both dealt with in-camera by District. This was felt to be in violation of Local Government Act. Corrie and others will pursue this.

3.4 Changes to Council Procedure Bylaw -

Mayor Bells' revision of Council Procedure Bylaw were adopted. FONVCA's proposed changes were not carried by council – being supported only by Councillors Muri and Crist. However the solicitor subsequently consulted on this issue agreed that public input of opinions and facts should be allowed. It was felt by FONVCA members that raising the issue for further debate by council had been worthwhile.

3.5 Draft letter on "Approval of DVPs". Minor change of wording by adding "We believe" at

agreed sentences of paragraph 2 & 5. The revised letter is to be submitted to Mayor and Council.

4. CORRESPONDENCE ISSUES

4.1 Business arising from extensive e-mail – In light of a recently posted letter on the FONVCA web site a thorough discussion of the current policy of posting letters to FONVCA took place. The current policy is “all such correspondence will be posted, unless the author explicitly requests that it not be posted, or in the opinion of the secretary of FONVCA that it is inappropriate to do so.” The intent being to avoid posting material that may be slanderous/libelous or contain inappropriate language. Corrie proposed to add that we “encourage content which enhances debate of the issues and not result in a flurry of adverse comments about its tone or “colourful” language”.

This was rejected and instead Corrie Kost/Al Price moved and it was subsequently unanimously endorsed that we add the following preable to our current web site notice on posting letters –

The FONVCA site is intended to promote the free exchange of information and opinions. Messages sent for posting are encouraged to have content which enhances debate of the issues.

NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Bear aware presentation – done above.

5.2 Heritage Fund Principle – It was proposed “*That FONVCA support the principle that any excess of revenue over operational expenses for any Heritage Funded project be repaid to the Heritage Fund to cover principle and interest owed.*” Proposed Corrie Kost/Eric Andersen – carried unanimously. To be forwarded to council.

5.3 Council GVRD and Translink Appointment Procedure. It was moved/seconded by Corrie Kost/Diana Bellhouse “*That FONVCA support the principle that discussions/nominations/election of GVRD and Translink appointments take place in an open public meeting of Council as is done in Richmond.*” This was carried unanimously. To be forwarded to council.

5.4 Billboards – general discussion took place on Councilor Denault’s proposal to raise revenue for the District from proceeds by installing billboards on public property. The following concerns and comments were made:

- It goes directly against the OCP guidelines.

- What are the proposed locations for all these billboards?
- Property value loss could far exceed extra income.
- Draft sign by-law is ready, still to be bought to Council – possible public meeting before coming to Council?
- Could this put council into a potential conflict of interest?
- Is this the best deal?

Proposed by Maureen Bragg/Dan Ellis that the chair submit a letter to Council stating “*That while FONVCA appreciates Councilor Denault’s efforts to find alternate sources of revenue from the private sector, we reject the installation of billboards on public property.*”

Carried unanimously.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

6.2 Construction noise – letter from District staff in response to our letter on construction noise suggesting alternative ways to control this problem. FONVCA to indicate to staff acceptance of the alternative.

6.3 Correspondence to FONVCA – see 4.1

6.4 Freedom of Information Act - Brian will invite Stephen Fleming to a future meeting to discuss FOI Act.

7.0 Chair and Date of next meeting.

Cathy Adams (Val Moller backup) –Lions Gate Neighbourhood Association. Tel: 604-987-8695

**7pm. Thursday, April 18th /2002
District Hall**

Motion to adjourn 10:10 p.m. Corrie /Dave Knee – carried.