

# FONVCA

## Minutes of April 21<sup>st</sup> 2005

### Attendees:

Dan Ellis	<b>Chair – Pro Tem</b>
	Lynn Valley CA
John Miller	Lower Capilano C.R.A.
Diana Belhouse	Delbrook CA
Val Moller	Lions Gate NA
Brian Platts	Edgemont CA
Corrie Kost	Edgemont CA
Eric Andersen	Blueridge CA
Cathy Adams	Lions Gate N.A. (8:05pm+)
Hugh Murray	Lower Cap. CRA
Allan Orr	Seymour CA
K'Nud Hille	Norgate CA
Peter Thompson	Edgemont CA
Diana Belhouse	Delbrook CA - <b>Notetaker</b>
Liz James	CAGE BC (by invitation)
James Ridge	DNV CAO
Bill Yager	Council Remuneration Task Force

### 1. ORDER/CONTENT OF AGENDA

As Chair, Dan recommended that the meeting begin immediately with James Ridge's presentation followed by Bill Yager's discussion on the Council Remuneration Task Force. FONVCA's regular agenda will follow.

### 5.2 Presentation - James Ridge DNV CAO

Highlights of Mr. Ridge's presentation included the following:

- \* **Sod turning** for L.V. Town Centre project will be during Lynn Valley Days on May 28th.
- \* **Land Slide:**
  - 3 houses still evacuated
  - emergency drainage work and catch basin is completed
  - super saturation of the soil will weaken slope on either side of the slide
  - piezometers that measure water in the soil have been installed and are monitored regularly
  - during heavy rain, geo-tech experts monitor slope
  - investigation is being overseen by DNV insurance lawyers to determine causes of the slide
  - geo-tech analysis being conducted by Prof. Morganstern for VGC
  - question about economics to fix backyard at the top of the slide and make it usable
  - DNV has hired a contractor to repair damaged house at the base of the slide
  - DNV now has a Tier Risk Management System

- there might be some things the District can do to strengthen the slope
- question about what authority DNV has to require property owners to reduce the risks along the banks of their backyards
- natural hazard mitigation - \$40 million for debris flow; many houses are on a flood plain plus some areas of DNV would be prone to having soil liquefy during earthquakes
- cost to purchase all properties along Riverside escarpment would be roughly \$50 million
- in some remote areas it maybe cheaper to simply purchase properties
- addressed the 1980 "Don Bell Letter" - the letter was drafted for the Mayor's signature by a Mr. Stuart, a lawyer with Swinton; the lawyers included certain waivers as key elements of the letter
- question about how much the Province is funding - they have raised max \$100k per affected property owner to \$300k, all of staff costs, and 75 percent of all studies
- statute of limitation against municipality is 30 years

#### \* **Wrongful Dismissal Case:**

- Richard Zerr was dismissed for cause
- DNV legal response to the suit will soon be made public
- suit likely won't be heard in court until early '07

### 5.1 Council Remuneration Task Force -

Highlights of **Mr. Yager's presentation** included:

- \* Bill introduced himself as a long-time District resident and retired lawyer and Chartered Accountant
- \* 1994 was the last time the mayor's pay was raised
- \* 1996 was the last time councillor's pay was raised
- \* TF has updated info from '95 to '04 ... DNV was 7th in mayor's pay and is now 12th of the 13 Lower Mainland municipalities
- \* '97 councillors voted themselves a 22 percent increase in remuneration but they are ranked 7th today
- \* TF was not appointed in time and are now way behind schedule
- \* To complicate matters the TF Chair recently resigned
- \* The other TF members will continue with the aim of getting a report tabled before the Nov elections
- \* **Issues:**
  - should there be an automatic adjustment to Council's remuneration? i.e. CPI?
  - in addition to above should be an overall periodic review every 10 or 12 years?
  - should remuneration be weighted to the population of the municipality?
  - performance based system of remuneration?
  - is mayor's salary enough to attract the best candidates?
  - what sort of public input should be conducted?
- \* **Discussion highlights:**
  - Charter exempts Councils from a conflict when adjusting remuneration level

- suggestion that a TF report be submitted to Council for adoption now and implementation in '06 after the election
- performance based results come every election
- one-third of remuneration is tax free

**Action:** FONVCA unanimously agree to write a letter to the Council Remuneration Task Force urging its members to forge ahead and complete its task to submit a report to Council as soon as possible, preferable before summer; and further, that the Task Force should consider soliciting public input from community associations or their executive committees. If this suggestion is not practical in the time available, then an interview process involving selected individuals would be appropriate.

## 2. ADOPTION of March 17<sup>th</sup> MINUTES

The minutes were approved as circulated.

## 3. OLD BUSINESS

**3.1 Shirtsleeves meeting:** FONVCA Shirt Sleeve meeting with Council on April 26 - agenda: the three topics raised by FONVCA at its March meeting.

**3.2 Parkgate Community Policing:** discussion deferred until May FONVCA meeting.

**3.3 Alpine Recreational Strategic Plan** – will ask Susan Rogers to come to FONVCA meeting after Council Workshop held on the matter.

**3.4 DNV Consent Agenda** – was appropriately amended so that if **any councillor** objects to an item being on the Consent Agenda then that item is removed and placed on the Regular Agenda.

**3.5 Thanks to DNV staff** – Brian sent email as per request of last FONVCA meeting.

**3.6 Council Budget meetings at 5pm** – Councillor Jim Cuthbert's notice of motion to have only 7pm meetings or a Saturday session (as per FONVCA's recommendation) has been submitted.

**3.7 DNV Taxes** - increase 3.75 percent - about \$300 per year for an average NV property for Translink yet we get no benefit. Gasoline tax - DNV's share (pro-rata) is approx. \$2 million a year so we must ensure the District gets this money, instead of going to RAV line project.

## 4. CORRESPONDENCE ISSUES

**4.1 Business arising from 101 regular emails** – 30 on the “Art” issue, 19 being on the Mountain Biking issue, and 15 on Bears or Dogs issues.

### 4.2 Non-posted letters

6 non-posted emails were briefly reviewed and the decision not to post each one was supported.

## 5. NEW BUSINESS

**5.3 Sunday Library Openings** - three month trial period Sep-Dec 2005, at a cost of \$17,000. Lynn Valley is already open Sundays so this affects Capilano and Parkgate.

### 5.4 Commercial Dog Walking in DNV Parks -

concern about misuse of parks – constitutes a change of use and may require rezoning?

**5.5 Local road improvement initiatives** – plan by council to increase this from current 30% by 5%/year till 50% in 2009.

**5.6 TRANSLINK Parking Area Tax:** It was felt ridiculous to charge for bicycle parking areas!

## 6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

**6.1 Legal Issues:** Corrie provided information on the new **Bylaw Ticketing Dispute mechanism** – in particular, DNV Corporate policies describing which tickets can/should be dismissed.

**6.2 Seniors Care Facilities** - seismic standards below that of hospitals. Concerns discussed.

**6.3 Starting Date of LAP** - is the date the plan specifies, not the adoption date.

**6.4 Conflict of Interest** - Corrie received a legal opinion from West Coast Environmental Law firm that Councillor Alan Nixon is still in a conflict re: Elstree Place parkland sale.

## 7. CHAIR AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

**Next Meeting will be a week later than usual – on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday – May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2005.**

Pro-tem Chair will be Allan Orr of the Seymour Community Association. Tel: 604-929-4408 email: [allandorr@shaw.ca](mailto:allandorr@shaw.ca)