

FONVCA

Minutes October 15th 2009

Attendees

Diana Belhouse	Save Our Shores
Cathy Adams (Notes)	Lions Gate N.A.
Dan Ellis (Chair)	Lynn Valley C.A.
Val Moller	Lions Gate N.A.
Paul Tubb	Pemberton Heights C.A.
Eric Andersen	Blueridge C.A.
Peter Thompson	Edgemont C.A.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM

Regrets: Del Kristalovich, Corrie Kost

1. ORDER / CONTENT OF AGENDA

Added: 6.2(a) Olympic Police Powers

2. Adoption of Minutes of Sep. 17th

Adopted as circulated.

3. OLD BUSINESS

3.1 OCP Roundtable Update

There was a kickoff event for the District OCP process, and there have been 2 “visioning workshops”. Some of those present attended one or more of them. They consisted of small group discussions on one topic, with an attendee being able to take part in two different sessions.

An overall concern was the level of public participation in the OCP opportunities. DNV has tried many different strategies, but the feeling is that the turnout to these workshops has been inadequate.

The next event, the OCP Visioning Summit, to be held at the District Hall, has been postponed to November 18th (6:30-9:00pm)

There is lots of information on the District website (<http://identity.dnv.org>) from the workshops that have been held, and the draft Vision and Goals Workbook.

3.2 Resilient Cities

Urban Strategies for Transition Times

<http://www.gaininggroundsummit.com/theme.htm>

A follow up from Sept. 17th FONVCA meeting. Letter was sent to DNV asking council and staff to consider attending this conference to be held

on October 20th -22nd, and that they report back to the public on the issues discussed. At this point it is unknown whether any will attend.

4. CORRESPONDENCE ISSUES

4.1 Business arising from 3 regular e-mail

No business arising.

4.2 Non-posted letters – 0 this period.

5. NEW BUSINESS

Council and other District Issues

5.1 Policy on green waste limit

A suggestion has been made that the limit for green waste be increased from 6 bags, to 10 bags – especially during spring and fall clean-ups. What would the implications be? **Tabled until next meeting.**

5.2 Democracy at work in Cranbrook

Cranbrook residents were successful in getting the signatures needed to force a referendum in that municipality concerning the annexation of two parcels of land that would double the urban footprint there. Cranbrook council was forced to either hold the referendum, or abandon the expansion plan. From Cranbrook’s website – On November 14, 2009 a referendum will be held to decide if the East Hill lands should be included within the boundaries of the City of Cranbrook.

<http://www.vancouversun.com/news/Citizens+battle+heard+local+town+halls/2003164/story.html>

<http://www.dailytownsman.com/article/20090827/CRANBROOK0101/308279959/over-3000-signatures-delivered-to-city-hall>

5.3 Billboards on the North Shore

The Department of Indian and Northern Affairs and the federal environmental assessment office has granted approval for billboards proposed by the Squamish band. The current plan by the Squamish band is for 6 billboards – near the North shore bridges, the Burrard Street bridge and near the Chief outside Squamish. The billboards are planned to be 10 feet by 30 feet, with three sided rotating slats. There was massive opposition to this when the proposal was made 2 years ago, and District council sent a letter opposing them at the time.

Action Item – send email to Council:

Motion moved by Diana Belhouse, seconded by Eric Andersen and carried unanimously – *“That FONVCA urges District Council to restate their position from 2 years ago opposing these billboards and send a request that the decision to permit these billboards be rescinded, And to solicit the support of the other North Shore councils to do the same.”*

5.4 BC Greenhouse Gas Emission Legislation
Document entitled “Greenhouse Gas Emission Assessment Guide: for British Columbia Local Governments” was distributed and is available at http://www.townsfortomorrow.gov.bc.ca/docs/ghg_assessment_guidebook_feb_2008.pdf - it's intended as a resource for local governments in estimating emissions reductions that would arise from infrastructure projects.

5.5 North Shore Police Services Review
This lengthy report (318 pages - available at <http://www.dnv.org/article.asp?a=4103>) has been released. Is there a better model for policing on the North Shore – would local control give a better product? The report gives many options, but it is felt that the pros and cons are not clearly given, so it's difficult to know the process and opportunities.

Action Item – Cathy Adams will contact Dave Stuart and report back to FONVCA on the process and next steps for this issue.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 Legal Issues

(a) **“Local Government in B.C.”** A 250 page pdf publication – freely available from the UBCM. This is a useful guide for residents, and especially involved citizens and politicians.

4th edition by Bish

<http://ubcm.civicweb.net/contentengine/launch.asp?ID=4244>

Alternate:

<http://www.ubcm.ca/assets/Library/Publications/Local-Government-in-British-Columbia/LGBC-All.pdf>

(b) Retroactive Legislation to “Fix” UBC Parking Tickets. This is a follow-up of FONVCA item 6.1(a) April 16/09 meeting. The courts ruled in March that UBC lacked the power

to issue parking fines. Now there has been **retroactive legislation** introduced that would allow universities to issue parking tickets. You can be right, but still lose in the end!

(c) Seismic Test for Mid-Rise Wood Frame Buildings

A lot of work and investigation took place before the building code was revised concerning mid-rise (up to 6 storeys) wood frame buildings. A news release

<http://www.fonvca.org/agendas/oct2009/SEISMIC.pdf>

from the province in September states that seismic tests have verified mid-rise wood building safety during an earthquake.

6.2 Any Other Issues (2 min each)

(a) Olympics – Police Powers A Bill has been tabled in the legislature which would empower authorities in Vancouver, Richmond and Whistler to enter homes and remove or cover up "unauthorized" signs during the Games. The proposed law would let authorities remove any sign on a person's residence or property that doesn't 'celebrate' the Olympics.

7. CHAIR AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7:00pm Thursday November 19th 2009

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or

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Tel: 604-986-8891

Meeting was adjourned at ~ 9:20PM.