

# FONVCA

## Minutes of August 19<sup>th</sup> 2004

### Attendees:

Allan Orr (Chair)	Seymour C.A.
Maureen Bragg	Save Lynn Canyon Park
John Miller	Lower Capilano R.A.
Brian Platts	Edgemont C.A.
Diana Belhouse	Delbrook C.A.
Corrie Kost	Edgemont C.A.
Cathy Adams	Lions Gate N.A.
Dan Ellis	Lynn Valley C.A.
Vall Moller	Lions Gate N.A.
Fred Gooch	Blueridge C.A.

## 1. ORDER/CONTENT OF AGENDA

6.2 By-election Candidates Questions  
6.3 Electronic Council Meetings  
6.4 FONVCA meeting dates

## 2. ADOPTION OF JULY 15<sup>th</sup> MINUTES

Moved by John Miller Seconded by Val Moller; Approved Unanimously

## 3. OLD BUSINESS

### 3.1 Northlands Update:

Brian reported on the on-going Christie Hammond sentence issue. Hammond has been seen often in the Edgemont area. Concern that maybe she is violating the conditions of her 8 month house arrest. Brian phoned RCMP and they referred him to the NV Parole Office and was told that Hammond's privacy is paramount. Brian ended up on CKNW radio program and also wrote a letter to the Judge, with copies to Crown Counsel and the Parole Office. Meanwhile ex Northlands Manager, Laurie Craddock discovered a clerical error in the Sentence Order. On August 25th there will be a Hearing before the Judge Crown Counsel and the Parole Office is seeking to have the Sentence Order "tightened up". Brian noted that another fraud case resulted in a bookkeeper for a local travel agency being sentenced to 9 months of prison for stealing \$53,000.

### 3.2 Streamside Protection and Enhancement Areas (SPEAs)

Allan reported that DNV Environmental Protection Officer, Richard Boase gave a talk to a meeting of the Seymour CA. The Act will be difficult for municipalities because qualified consultants will be able to advise developers re: setbacks needed from streams for buildings. Act is weakened by this new provision. Input from Streamkeepers' groups was provided. Local governments must have a new Bylaw in place by January 19, 2006. DNV could go with current 30 metre setback. It was noted that so-called 'grandfathering' can present a problem with older non-complying structures being rebuilt without sufficient setbacks.

### 3.3 Recycling Tender.

Brian still does not have the new WM recycling contract. He was informed by the District that it must be obtained through FOI. Brian submitted the request and the municipality has 30 working days to provide the document. Should have it for next month's meeting. **ACTION**

## 3.4 Lynn Valley Library & Town Centre

**Public meeting to discuss the project's financial details is set for August 31st.** The report is over 300 pages of material that can be printed off the DNV web site or obtained at significant per page cost from the Hall. Concern was expressed about the date of this important meeting being in the summer. Corrie reported that he spoke at July 19th meeting requesting that Council move the date to September 19th instead, and then move forward with a referendum on the project to coincide with the Nov. by-election. No action taken by Council. Corrie has found the collection of reports on the project is lacking the specified information necessary to allow the public to have a clear understanding of the financing and associated risks of the town centre project. Another issue is the District's expropriation of property with the funds approved by the '96 referendum to build the library.

## 3.5 Graffiti Bylaw

In response to FONVCA input, Council instructed staff to draft a similar bylaw to NV City's that combats graffiti on private buildings.

## 3.6 Sale of Parkland

District is proposing sale of greenspace to an owner who has encroachments, to regularize their property. The PNEAC is opposed, and last month FONVCA sent a letter of opposition. Nonetheless council decided to go to Public Hearing on this. Don Bell and Lisa Muri were absent, with Alan Nixon in conflict, so only 4 voted on this important precedent setting issue.

## 3.7 Graffiti

Letter by FONVCA was sent to council. This issue is to be discussed by council on July 19th, with a motion put forward by Alan Nixon. City of North Van has a bylaw – one which is needed here as well.

## 3.8 Annual Reporting Requirements

DNV violated new Community Charter by not holding an annual meeting by the June 30th deadline. Corrie wrote Don Sutherland, Director of Advisory Services Branch, Local Government Department questioning what recourse is available to citizens when their municipality violates the Charter. The response was that there are no penalties but citizens can take the municipality to court. In response to FONVCA's letter on the matter, NVD Director of Corporate Services phoned Brian to explain that the District had the report completed last spring but due to certain unavoidable circumstances the required meeting date was not met. Dennis said that he contacted the Ministry in Victoria and they are not concerned so much this year that the annual meetings be held before June 30th; however a meeting still must be held (the public input format yet to be determined) and next year they must adhere to the June 30th deadline. Dennis provided, at no charge, copies of the annual report for FONVCA members. The report is intended to set benchmarks to be measured and compared annually. It was noted that the RCMP section in the report was very limited in statistical information.

## 4. CORRESPONDENCE ISSUES

### 4.1 Business arising from 32 regular emails –

Maureen reported that mountain biking on Fromme continues. The issue has resulted in more e-mail than any other topic. Trail erosion is a big problem.

#### 4.2 Non-posted e-mails – None

### 5. NEW BUSINESS

#### 5.1 Council Remuneration Committee

Should FONVCA have a representative on this committee? Question of whether the Mayor's position should be paid more for what is a full-time job. It was suggested that a mayor should have crisis management skills in order to handle emergencies. Certainly any Mayor must be able to answer e-mail and understand financial reports.

#### 5.2 Notable Planning Cases on DNV Website

The DNV web site now documents notable planning cases. In particular the controversial Elstree Place case, where it is proposed to sell off some of District's parkland due to encroachment is noted.

#### 5.3 Key By-Election / Referendum Dates

All these key dates were distributed on the agenda. Council will likely go to a referendum to try and retain 6 councillors. The results would be binding for the Nov 2005 elections.

### 6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

#### 6.1 "Legal Issues to think about"

All listed on the agenda. Of particular interest are the links to the BC Ombudsman's, an office which promotes fair treatment. See <http://www.ombud.gov.bc.ca/> and the details of the Act

[http://www.ombud.gov.bc.ca/publications/Ombuds\\_Act/Index.html](http://www.ombud.gov.bc.ca/publications/Ombuds_Act/Index.html)

"The Ombudsman receives inquiries and complaints about the practices and services provided by public bodies, and may investigate to determine if the public body is being fair to the people it serves". A definitive case is found at <http://www3.telus.net/GovtEthicsLaw/BCDC.htm>.

#### 6.2 Possible Questions to Candidates in November 6<sup>th</sup> By-Election:

Suggested that questions be discussed and refined by e-mail before the next FONVCA meeting. **10 questions for council candidates plus 5 additional questions for mayoralty candidates.**

##### Draft questions

- i) What experience do you have which qualifies you to handle the Mayor's duties in a crisis situation or natural disaster?
- ii) Detail the experience that renders you qualified; for example, what have you done which demonstrates an ability to bring cooperation among Council to get them to work together as a team? (To lead a diverse and sometimes quarrelsome group of councillors.)
- iii) What knowledge do you have of procedural rules necessary to effectively and efficiently run a meeting?
- iv) How much time will you be able (or plan) to dedicate to the job?
- v) What was your position on regional issues such as the Cambie RAV Line, the Ten Year Transportation Plan, and water metering etc.?

#### 6.3 Electronic Council Meetings

Corrie reported on August 12th Council meeting, agenda item 12. Council is moving forward with a bylaw to allow electronic "special" meetings where one or more members of Council participates in the meeting while in another location. Public must be notified ahead of time. Could citizens also participate from home via speakerphone?

#### 6.4 FONVCA Meeting Dates

Brian will send an official letter to Sue Mitchell at the Hall notifying her to book a meeting room on the third Thursday for every month including July and August. **ACTION**

### 7. CHAIR AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

**Next Meeting September 16th, 2004. Chairperson, Diana Belhouse (Delbrook C.A.)**  
(Brian will fax agenda to her in advance.)

**Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.**