

PROTECTION ISLAND NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSN.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - Sunday June 8, 2014

Directors Present: Andrew Homzy, Veronica Zehntner, David Carter, Doug Naylor,
Catherine Eck

Directors Absent: Kevin Pistor, Jane Garcia. Karen Lajoy

Meeting attended by 41 people including Directors

1. Opening Remarks: Call to Order by president Andrew Homzy at 1:30 p.m.
2. Call for Motion - to adopt the agenda: Moved by Lynn Roberts 2nd by Bev Carter to adopt agenda - CARRIED
3. Approval of 2013 A.G.M. Minutes that were posted for 10 months. Moved by Heather Cooling 2nd by Bev Carter - CARRIED
4. Directors' Reports: Reports to be approved at the end

A. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Andrew introduced each of the Directors and said working with the Board had been wonderful and that successes are built on the backs of previous Boards.

Our big accomplishment this year was our official name change. We are now legally PINA Protection Island Neighbourhood Assn., not PIRA (Ratepayers), eliminating the problems of the last 3 years operating under 2 names. "Neighbourhood Assn." also makes us more inclusive and democratic.

We examined the dilemma of low revenues vs. expenses and decided instead of raising dues to try and boost membership. As a result this year as an added incentive, we have free coupons for coffee in town at the Bees Knees and The Vault, issued with your membership subscription. Andrew asked the Members to encourage their fellow Islanders to join as well.

This year we hosted several public meetings at the Beacon House which were well attended:
- An evening on the Protection Island Neighbourhood plan with former City Planner Chris Sholberg, now Culture & Heritage Planner. He reviewed our community plan with us and we were able to cross 17 items off the list. So we have made a lot of progress.

A City power-point presentation was made by Dana Butcher prior to the sewer upgrade project, followed by a question and answer session.

Nanaimo Port Authority with C.E.O. Bernie Dumas and his staff came over with an update on the downtown moorage basin and future plans. After the information session the floor was opened for questions and ideas, which were recorded by their secretary.

The Board also received a presentation on one of our monthly meetings from Peter Frewin about the P. I. Lions Club, which was very informative.

Andrew mentioned some of the activities he's been involved in. As a member of the Nanaimo Neighbourhood Network, he attended 4 meetings and noted that we are the most active of all the City neighbourhood groups. He also attended conferences, workshops and planning sessions on culture, transportation and the Port Theatre expansion (to accommodate smaller groups). On transportation, every mode of transport was examined with the exception of boats, which Andrew pointed out to them.

Andrew thanked the current Board members for all their hard work over the past year. Kudos were also given to Larry Iwaskow and the Mud Bay Dock work party volunteers who put in many hard hours over the 5 Saturdays, some people putting in 2 days of labour and Larry 4 of the 5. A great deal was accomplished with 2 new sections built and skirting of the main dock, as well as construction and installation of several new fingers.

In closing, a welcome was extended to all new residents, both those moving here and those recently born.

B. TREASURER'S REPORT - Veronica Zehntner

Now we're officially PINA the PIRA bank accounts have been closed at the Royal Bank and the funds transferred to Coastal Community Credit Union under our new name. The move will save us \$48.00 per year in service charges.

Veronica appeared before the City Grants Advisory Board last month with Andrew, regarding our application for continued property tax exemption for the Mud Bay dock head. The meeting went very well and we anticipate a further 3-year exemption. The volunteerism plays a large role in this grant.

Veronica negotiated an almost 50% saving on the Directors' Liability insurance with a new carrier Premier Life. Also we raised the Mud Bay Dock dues by \$50.00 in October, so our bottom line is healthier this year and we are no longer in a deficit position.

Veronica then went over the annual financial report in detail:

Summary: GENERAL ACCOUNT

Balance at last report May 2013	\$221.75
Revenues: \$710.00 – Expenses (\$546.78) = Rev. Over Exp.	\$163.22
Balance at 31 May, 2014	\$389.97

DOCK ACCOUNT

Balance at last report May 2013	\$2,457.45
Revenues: \$9,375.02 – Expenses (\$8,306.62) = Rev. Over Exp.	\$1,068.40
Balance at 31 May, 2014	\$3,525.85

C. ACCESS - David Carter

The past year has seen some progress towards an understanding with the Nanaimo Port Authority regarding future moorage.

Protection Island Neighbourhood Association has attended two meetings with the Nanaimo Port Authority, one with the full board and one with management at the Boat Basin. We are currently awaiting a return meeting for answers to our most recent proposals developed through meetings with Islanders and are as follows:

- **LONG TERM MOORAGE:** Our long standing relationship with NPA and its predecessor entities and specifically our longstanding access to affordable moorage in the Nanaimo boat basin and to maintain our closest connection with the City.
- What has the NPA learned from the survey recently provided re: commuter needs etc.?
- Re: marina upgrade, are 20 ft. slips going to be the minimum, or will 15-18 ft. sizes be considered?
- Could the new design include a variety of location options for long term renters vs. all small vessels in one location?
- How many smaller slips are anticipated in the new marina plan?
- What is the NPA's valuation in dollars of the Protection Island commuter market, current and future?
- **PROPOSALS SUBMITTED - Short Term Moorage:**

Currently the 3 hr. courtesy tie-up is twice in a 7 day period (and will be limited).

A. Propose to expand to an additional tier of 6 hrs. 3 times per week for an annual fee to be determined, registering with NPA for a decal, to be policed by NPA staff.

B. ½ day and full day moorage options available for unforeseen situations requiring time ashore.

C. Shared Moorage: A single payer group representative, to pay annual moorage using allocated space in denser (more economical configuration). Decals to be used for I. D. of shared moorage boats and radio key fob (by deposit) for access through a gate on and off the dock. Supervision the responsibility of the user group.

Activity on this file will continue as the Port Authority focuses on the new marina design and hopefully we'll have more information by the fall.

Dave stated the importance of documenting any discussions with the NPA to maintain our continuous right to access since before subdivision of Protection Island in 1961.

Discussion with the membership ensued. It was mentioned that the NPA had stated in their presentation here, that they don't want to police anything as they are downsizing staff; which leaves proposal "C" the most likely viable option.

While the 3 hr. tie up will remain, once the upgrading is complete there will be much less space available as they are moving to a slip based design, so tucking in astern or in front of a fish boat or other vessel won't be an option.

The Wilcox Lands purchased by the City with water rights were discussed. It is "developer driven" so it'll be 85 - 90% complete before we hear about it. (Dave also talked to councilor Patji re: the fast ferry plans). We should keep our eye on the property and we need staff to recognize our needs; it could be an option for us down the road.

The handicapped wharf at Gallows Pt. had been put on the back burner with the PNMG battle, but there may be some old docks from the NPA renovation coming up. We could have a pier head similar to the Brechin Pt. beside the existing ramp. Bev Carter asked for a delegation to go to the City re: the Wilcox Lands with the new Board. Andrew asked for ideas in writing from the Membership.

D. ROADS REPORT: Veronica Zehntner

The sewer project should be completed by the end of the week and the City has reseeded the boulevards.

Last Wednesday Veronica walked the roads with the City roads foreman and his assistant to assess their condition and found they had survived the onslaught of the past 3 months remarkably well.

Barging of wrap will commence later in the week (subject to the barge schedule). Grading and re-doming of the roads is scheduled for June 16 - 20 followed by dust suppression, hopefully June 23/24 or at latest the end of the month. Confirmation only came late Friday afternoon as everything was hanging on the availability of the dust suppression material.

There is a shortage of the Magnesium Chloride they usually use and Calcium Chloride was unavailable. Another product from the U. S. called Rhino Snot is very effective but hadn't been sourced yet. Now at last they've come up with another product "Lignin Sulfonate" that's been used in Parksville, is more environmentally friendly (in fact you could eat it) AND it's available. So Protection Island is going to be the City's experimental project for this product. It doesn't hurt the grass and has similar binding properties to the Rhino Snot, and as we just found out has been use for decades.

Veronica read portions of the stat. sheets on the properties of the product which has a long history of use on roads for dust control as well as hundreds of other applications.

It is derived from the lignin that naturally binds cellulose together to give trees and plants firmness. It contains no oil based contaminants and like Magnesium Chloride, is soluble in water. Further it is biodegradable.

In the fall about 6 truck loads of gravel will be barged over to top dress the Eco-Grid before winter and Veronica has requested some fresh "trail" gravel to go from the circle to the dock head. However, she has to arrange this with Parks and is waiting to hear back from them as to whether the request is granted. They did perk up their ears at the mention of sharing the barge with Roads, so she is hopeful.

PARKS REPORT - Veronica Zehntner

A work party in conjunction with DIGS was held last October and we cleared up one of the undeveloped inside parks (Capt. Flint) off Colvilleton Trail. A huge amount of flammable material was hauled out onto the boulevard. Illegal dumping of yard waste was very evident, a definite no-no.

The City Parks Dept. hired Davey Tree during the same period and they completed falling and limbing of dangerous trees in Pirates Park and the wood was quickly snapped up by eager residents.

Davey Tree brought over a chipper for the park debris and Parks also contracted them to chip homeowners' yard prunings for free, if left on the boulevard. The chips were then dumped next to the Community Garden for anyone to help themselves. An overwhelming number of people took advantage of the service, completely blowing the budget for the project; but it did seem to make a difference in the amount of smoke on November burn days. "The plan is to clean up one park each year."

The Parks Board constructed a sturdy new bridge by the pond in Smugglers Park to current standards. Unfortunately, the local otters have put their own seal of approval on it, so it's a bit smelly sometimes exiting the south end.

We had planned a Broom cutting party but we did such a good job last year that so far, not much has reappeared. Veronica removed a few clumps on "Spy Glass and along Pirates Lane, and some ivy in Pirates Park, but hasn't seen enough to warrant a work party; so we'll just do the ivy in the fall after the vegetation dies back and it's easier to see.

MOTION: Moved by Neil Goldsmith seconded by Wendy Chandler that the Directors' reports be accepted. CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS:

Simon Brink and Catherine Ball made a presentation regarding the new Protection Island phone book. Sign-up sheets were available as well as E-Mail addresses. This book is for

Protection Island residents' use only and will be in hard copy format so there is no chance of information getting on the web.

Roger Gumbert, our Block Watch Captain spoke about recent incidents of marine theft from Mud Bay. He had labels for Marine Block Watch available, indicating that items have been marked. We also have an engraver available for people to borrow.

It was suggested by the RCMP to mark gas tanks, oars etc. so they stand out, i.e. paint them bright colours. Roger also suggested having an engraving party at Mud Bay, he has spoken with the fire dept. and as a group we could have the use of the generator on the fire engine for a few hours, or we could just paint items.

ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS

A review of the Directors terms of office was read out:

Karen Lajoy and Kevin Pistor have two years remaining.

Andrew Homzy, Veronica Zehntner and Jane Garcia each have one year.

David Carter, Doug Naylor and Catherine Eck's terms have expired - each has indicated they will stand again if nominated.

Sara Gogo's term also expired - she had resigned last year due to moving - so that position is also open, for a total of 4 positions open.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS OF DIRECTORS:

1 Catherine Eck	nominated by	Roger Gumbert
2 Doug Naylor	nominated by	Bev Carter
3 David Carter	nominated by	Cate Muir
4 Gary Weikum	nominated by	Lynn Roberts

Three calls for any more nominations from the floor.

Four new Directors by Acclamation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Cate Muir gave the Island Library a plug - it's open Sunday 1 - 4 p.m. They are looking for volunteers, includes free beverages and good company. She also mentioned she is currently researching archives on the history of the fire dept. on Protection Island for the Museum, which is open Saturdays and Sundays through July and August.

Neil Goldsmith mentioned he was talking to Ray, the manager at Townsite Marina, and they have moorage available and will be cutting down some 26 ft. slips to smaller sizes. They charge commercial rates but if you are over 65 they give a discount on moorage. The parking is \$60.00/mo. and is covered with cameras monitoring the garage.

Moby Dick Marina finally has new floats but they are all sitting empty.

Heather Cooling reminded us of the annual garden tour June 22nd. Meet at the circle at 10 a.m.

Cate announced the DIGS Summer Solstice party and dessert auction at the Beacon House on June 21st.

Veronica reminded everyone about the DIGS Fall Fair in September, they need more entries in the various categories for judging; she urged people, when baking or making preserves, to put some aside for the fair.

Anne Millington from the Beacon House Addition Renovation Fund "B.H.A.R.F." announced a bake sale, to raise funds for the project, will be held the long week-end Jul/Aug in front of the Community Garden.

MOVED by Lynn Roberts Seconded by Neil Goldsmith to Adjourn the meeting.
Meeting adjourned 2:51 p.m.