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MINUTES OF THE CULTUS LAKE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

SPRING GENERAL MEETING OF APRIL 17, 2011

1. Call To Order
 - the meeting was called to order at 1:11 pm, in the School Library
2. Approval of the Agenda (distributed)
 - the Agenda was approved by consensus
3. Approval of the Minutes of the Spring General Meeting of April 25, 2010 (posted)
 - BOB MCRAE/BARRY CORNFIELD that the Minutes be approved as posted. CARRIED
4. Introduction of Guests
 - Dave Clyne introduced the following guests: City of Chilliwack – Acting Mayor Sue Attrill; FVRD Director – Dave Lamson; FVRD Manager of Emergency Program – Lynn Orstad; RCMP – Staff Sgt Gerry Falk; CLPB Chair – Sacha Peter; CLPB Fire Dep’t Chief – Warren Mazuren and Cody Helmer; CLPB Park Patrol – Sheldon Ferguson; CLASS – Marion Robinson
 - Also introduced were the following CLPB Commissioners – Charlotte Hall, Brian Nokleby and Owen Skonberg
 - And finally introduced were the CLCA Executive: Margie Wilson, Jane Monesmith, Lorna Griffeth, Lewis Kirkness, Barry Cornfield, Nora Lowe, Sheryl Henderson, Joanne Henderson, Gary Sainiuk, Virginia O’Brien
5. Opening Remarks
 - Dave Clyne reminded people that we will be having elections in August and read out the purpose of the CLCA as per our Constitution (available on our website www.cultuslakecommunity.com)
 - Dave reviewed the two major activities of the CLCA since the Aug. AGM of 2010
 - 1) on Sept. 30/10 a letter was sent to the Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development re our support for a discussion, involving all levels of government, about changing the CL Park Act with particular attention to the issues of financial sustainability and elected representation
 - A response from Minister Cadieux was received which indicated that, as stated at the Governance Committee meetings, the government is not contemplating any changes to the Act.
 - Re financial issues – he stated that the CLPB could work with the FVRD to obtain funding
 - Re elected representation – an alternative to the CLPB would be a local Community Commission, which would be elected by CL people only

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- Such Commission would operate within the corporate structure of the FVRD and could only consider issues related to services provided by the FVRD
- CLCA opinion is that this would only add another layer to the governance structure and would result in a more complicated system
- 2) this week a letter was sent to various levels of government and our MLA re concerns about the mining of gravel on Vedder Mountain, which has been in excess of 250,000 tonnes
- The gravel pit was approved at that level of extraction (249,000 tonnes) ; any amount over that requires an environmental assessment; this was not done
- Concerns cited were: a) possible geological changes which may have been related to the huge amounts of gravel that flooded areas of the west side forest and the Munroe waterfall in 2009, plus the appearance of some new creeks in the forest above the west side parking lot; b) safety re numbers of trucks on the road, especially last summer when over 500,000 tonnes were mined from June to mid-Sept.
- Our letter asked for an environmental study to be done
- Other items of interest: Joanne Henderson and Virginia O'Brien will be retiring from the Executive this August; they were thanked for their contributions
- Other Exec members Margie Wilson, Gary Sainiuk, Lewis Kirkness and Jane Monesmith will stand for re-election
- There will be 2 vacancies; a 1 yr and a 2 yr term
- Copies of the Constitution and of the Duties of the Executive are available for anyone interested in considering being on the Exec.
- It is a good way to learn about our community and to work with a good group who focus on making the Lake a better place
- Our Newsletter, the Cultus Lake View was mailed in early April
- If you did not receive a copy (a request for no junk mail will result in not receiving a copy), please contact the Post Office
- Margie is going to make inquiries about this as well
- Margie reported that an error occurred in the Newsletter; an old ad from 2008 was run for the CL Golf Club, offering coupons; these will not be honoured
- However, a coupon for "buy one get one at 50% off" at Legends Bistro will be honoured
- Margie thanked the Golf Club Manager for his understanding re this error
- It was also noted that the ad for the Orient Restaurant indicates summer hours which take effect in May
- The support from local businesses who place ads in the Newsletter was gratefully acknowledged
- A reminder when speaking today: please raise your hand and state your name

6. Treasurer's Report (distributed)

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Cultus Lake Community Association Treasurer's Report For the Six Months Ended April 15, 2011

| | | | |
|--|--------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Market in the Park Balance Forward | | | \$ 3,790.71 |
| Revenues | | | |
| Space Rentals | \$ 1,810.00 | | |
| Newsletter Advertisements | 100.00 | | |
| Table Rentals | 200.00 | | |
| Parking Passes | 75.00 | | |
| Float Return | 50.00 | | |
| Post Cards | 23.19 | | |
| Total Revenues | | <u>2,258.19</u> | 6,048.90 |
| Expenses: | | | |
| Market Assistants | 240.00 | | |
| Market Musicians | 200.00 | | |
| Newsletter -Printing | 385.63 | | |
| Long Distance Phone Calls | 16.67 | | |
| Transfer to CLCA | 585.50 | | |
| Storage Fees | 150.00 | | |
| Tourism Chilliwack | 168.00 | | |
| Total Expenses | | <u>1,745.80</u> | |
| Balance as at April 15, 2011 | | | \$ 4,303.10 |
| CLCA Balance Forward | | \$ 1,876.87 | |
| Revenues: | | | |
| Dues | \$ 290.00 | | |
| Market Transfer | 585.50 | | |
| Envelope + Post Card Sales | 14.30 | | |
| Interest Revenue | 0.62 | | |
| Total Revenues | | <u>890.42</u> | 2,767.29 |
| Expenses: | | | |
| AGM -Photocopying | 70.43 | | |
| AGM -Coffee Tote | 8.93 | | |
| AGM -Refreshments | 44.05 | | |
| Potluck Room Rental | 45.00 | | |
| Potluck Coffee | 3.98 | | |
| Society Fees | 25.00 | | |
| Park Patrol Treats | 44.05 | | |
| Post Cards for Resale | 23.19 | | |
| Condolences | 14.20 | | |
| CL Community School Member | 40.00 | | |
| Christmas Gift Baskets | 110.42 | | |
| Postage & Mail keys | <u>13.10</u> | | |
| Total Expenses | | <u>442.35</u> | <u>\$ 2,324.94</u> |
| Balance as at April 15, 2011 | | | \$ 6,628.04 |
| Bank Balance as at April 15, 2011 | | | |
| Submitted by Jane Monesmith, Treasurer | | | |
| CLCA, April 15, 2011 | | | |

- LEWIS KIRKNESS/NORA LOWE, that the Treasurer's Report be approved as distributed. CARRIED

7. Correspondence
 - no questions

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8. Reports

8.1 FVRD - Lynn Orstad – Emergency Program Manager

- on May 7th, from 9:00 am to noon, there will be a mock evacuation exercise involving the RCMP and the CL Fire Dep't, who will knock on doors and leave an envelope with sample evacuation alert forms
- they want to discover how long it would take to go to all the homes, in the event of an evacuation alert (eg. wildfire)
- Lynn reminded residents to think about what you would take if evacuated and to have a “grab and go” bag ready
- The Salvation Army will have a food truck here
- There will be a mock reception centre set up in the Community Hall
- Should an actual evacuation ever occur, CL would be evacuated to Evergreen Hall or Heritage Park
- QUESTIONS:
- Marion Robinson – Because local First Nations Reserves are under Federal jurisdiction, how will they be involved in this?
- Lynn – A letter was sent to them; they need to be included, perhaps in an exercise on the Reserve
- Sandy Guthrie – In case of evacuation, will we get a map of how to get out? Can we use the Reserve road? Will the roundabout have any impact?
- Lynn – You would take direction from the RCMP; they will tell you what route to take out. There is seldom any panic in an evacuation, because you are alerted ahead of time. At CL, the first people to be taken out would be those at the waterpark. The CLPB is looking into a system for Sunnyside; maybe going to each campsite. This exercise is a start; we will build on what we learn from it.
- Sandy Guthrie – There is lots of underbrush here. Is there any Provincial funding for cleanup?
- Lynn – Start with your own home and area. There is a good booklet on this – Community Wildfire Protection Plan
- Steve Mowat – There should be an exit from Lindell Beach to Yarrow. The Government needs to be pressured about this.
- Lorna Griffeth – Will Sleepy Hollow be included in this exercise?
- Lynn – yes
- Marion Robinson – There is a plan for clearing underbrush on the CLASS website; but local citizens have to do it themselves

8.2 City Of Chilliwack – Sue Attrill – Acting Mayor

- Sue brought greetings on behalf of the City and expressed appreciation for the good stewardship at the Lake
- QUESTIONS:
- Chris Skonberg – The section of the road to CL coming up the hill, just after the stoplight, is in poor condition and there is no bike lane next to the retaining wall. This is a safety concern.
- Sue – She is not sure what is in this year's road repair budget. Road repairs are very expensive. Send her the Minutes of this meeting and she will look into it.

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- Marion Robinson – Is the City releasing the bottom part of the secondary road to Soowahlie?
- Sue – She has no information on this.

8.3 RCMP – Staff Sgt. Gerry Falk

- in 2010 there were 5 B&Es into businesses, 7 into residences and 1 in the campground
- thefts from vehicles – 41, mostly in the Teapot Hill parking area
- assaults – 16
- car theft over \$5,000 – 2; under \$5,000 – 4
- overall the community is safe
- starting the May long weekend, there will be 6 members full time covering CL, Harrison and Hope
- there will be boat and foot patrols, as well as ATVs in the back country
- they have a zero tolerance policy, so that the area is safe for families
- Park Patrol and COP are excellent here and work well with the police
- QUESTIONS:
- Sandy Guthrie – Sometimes we can hear gunshots.
- Sgt Falk – Discharging a firearm is legal in most of the surrounding area. You can get a map of the approved areas from a sporting goods store. Ask for sporting regulations.
- Steve Mowat – A few weeks ago SAR and a helicopter were out. Do you know why?
- Sgt. Falk – no
- Steve Mowat – There have been breakins at Manos restaurant.
- Sgt. Falk – We are aware of these.
- Margie Wilson – Re ATVs – Is there any chance the RCMP could check on our conservation areas?
- Sgt. Falk – Yes, we can send the bike patrol.

8.4 Cultus Lake Park Board – Sacha Peter – Chair

- Sacha thanked the CLCA for the opportunity to speak and said he would update his remarks that were made in the recent Newsletter
- Policies continue to be revised
- Most important is the Future Plan Advisory Committee, which is now chaired by Brian Nokleby
- The provisional budget presented in Dec was finalized in March
- Also in March was the longhouse event relating to the ecological status of the Lake
- Re gravel – a letter was sent with the Board’s concerns, indicating in particular the flooding of 2009 and the need for the root causes to be mitigated
- The audited financial statements indicated a significant improvement from 2009 to 2010
- Many people have been working on getting to a more sustainable financial footing; this is an ongoing project
- Re the organizational changes – positions are being filled

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- Parking is being worked on
- Soowahlie has elections April 22nd. The CLPB will be offering to work with the new council on common issues, like emergency evacuation
- The geese problem is an ongoing issue
- The roundabout, which was decided upon by the Ministry of Highways, is designed to address the issue of flow, not of capacity
- QUESTIONS:
- Sandy Guthrie – Will there be speed signs going up at the roundabout?
- Sacha – Yes. It is still under construction. It is the Ministry of Highways' roadway, so they put up the signs.
- Sandy Guthrie – What about the reflectors that need to go on the ravine side of the road and the ones needed down the centre line?
- Sacha – A letter was sent to the Board from a resident about this, so the Board sent a letter to the Ministry asking for improved visibility and safety measures to be taken.
- Fay Herle – Is there a plan to manage the geese this year?
- Marion Robinson – The Ministry of the Environment came at night and took out 1% of them.
- Sacha – We are consulting with other governments as to how they handle the geese.

8.5 FVRD – Dave Lamson – Director, Electoral Area E

- re evacuation - Dave has been involved in planning teams for this. An alert comes well ahead of an evacuation.
- For example, if it were a wildfire, the campsites would have already been closed ahead of time and there would have been a campfire ban before that
- Re road to Yarrow – the costs and pros /cons have been examined and there are more cons; however, it is not up to the FVRD; roads are a Provincial responsibility
- Re underbrush – there is a good book called Firesmart, about safety at your home; it recommends cleaning gutters, having a sprinkler on the roof, indicates what trees are a greater risk
- Re Governance and local Commission – there are some in the Province; there are 5 members with the Director of the Electoral Area as an advisor; the elected members are not paid; expenses may be paid for
- It can only be concerned with services provided to the area by the Regional District; at CL that would be sewer and water
- These services are operated in conjunction with the CLPB, but the FVRD owns the permit on the sewer system, which is old and needs upgrading
- The FVRD has obtained money from the Community Works Fund for this upgrading
- In some local service areas, certain services can be paid for by the local residents; a Commission would oversee such services
- If there is no Commission, the regional Director oversees them

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- Re election this Nov. – the FVRD is twice the size of the 6 other areas in the District, with a population of 3,800 and 30% of the assessed value of the taxes, but only 1 vote out of 7
- Dave would like to see Area E divided into two areas – CL/ Columbia Valley and the Chilliwack River Valley
- Support from CL for this idea would be helpful
- However, the Government has indicated they are looking at more amalgamation of areas, not division of them
- QUESTIONS:
- Mark Isaac – There have been talks with the International Boundary Assoc. re evacuation through the US via Silver Lake Rd which is partly in Canada
- Sandy Guthrie – Will the sewer that serves the new condo project where the marina was, be using the CL septic system, the same as Mountainview, Park and Sunnyside?
- Dave – the sewer will be available to those areas, but no one will have to connect to it; there will be a maintenance charge after being connected; there is no liability because we are insured with the Municipal Insurance Agency
- Marion Robinson – It is not really a sewer, but a pipe that goes into the septic system. It could leech into the soil. How could we connect to the Chilliwack sewer system?
- Dave – this would cost \$2.4 million
- Dave – there are ecosystem grants for replacing toilets with low flush models
- Brian Nokleby – The CLPB did recommend that a sewer line with oversize capacity be installed over 5 yrs, to accommodate Mountainview, Park and Sunnyside. However, there is no immediate plan to do this.
- Dave – There are grants for installation but you still have to pay for maintenance
- Brian Nokleby – There is only a plan to have an oversized pipe for the new condos
- Chris Skonberg – In Sechelt, people got low flush toilets from the District, for free; this may have changed since that occurred.
- Dave – Low flush can cause other flushing problems

8.6 CL Fire Dep't – Warren Mazuren and Cody Helmer – Fire Chiefs

- more members were trained to be First Responders, so we now have 12
- another group will be trained by the end of the summer
- 2 members went to the Justice Institute for training on basic firefighting and to learn new protocols
- 2 members are paying their own way to Texas in Aug. to be certified as trainers who can conduct training anywhere in North America; this requires 6 – 8 months of study
- 4 are going to a Spring training weekend and will report back to the group
- There are 7 new members, for a total of 23; 5 are on leave of absence
- There are now 2 safety officers; one or both are at any fire scene and can redirect toward safer practices
- 2 members have been promoted to Lieutenant and 1 to Captain

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- From the May long weekend to the beginning of Sept. there will be 2 man First Responder teams on weekends

8.7 Park Patrol – Sheldon Ferguson – Supervisor

- Dave Stelmach , who is now the Manager of Community Services, which includes Park Patrol, sends his regrets
- There are 3 members returning; interviews for new hires occur this week
- There will be extended day time coverage and bike patrols
- QUESTIONS:
- Owen Skonberg – How was last summer compared to other years?
- Sheldon – Last year was a reactive model. This year we plan to be proactive and be more visible. We will respond courteously to situations.
- Steve Mowat – What are the plans for the kiosk?
- Sheldon – We will have someone there on weekends, but have to operate within our resources. Patrolling seems most effective.
- Sandy Guthrie – Have your hours been cut back?
- Sheldon – No, but we only have 4 people now. We can't do 24/7 with 4. We have been covering 3 pm to 7 am. As of April 20 the day shift will start at 10:00 am.
- Steve Mowat – Is there a liability issue having COP cover the kiosk?
- Sheldon – I will look into that. Occurrences have been down in the past 3 years. Safety is of paramount importance.
- The PP number to call is 604 858 5298. Please report any concerns you have.

8.8 Citizens on Patrol – Lewis Kirkness – Supervisor

- COP are the eyes and ears for the community
- We have operated since 2004 under the direction of the RCMP
- We patrol in 5 person teams walking, or a two person bike team, covering the residential and business areas on weekends
- We are in contact with the Park Patrol via VHF radios
- We watch for and report suspicious activity, check for stolen vehicles/plates through the ICBC Stolen Auto Recovery Program
- During the day, we check the parking lots
- To volunteer, you must be 19 yrs or over, be able to pass a criminal records check and take training from the CLCOP
- You can come to sign up and get information on May 14 from 10:00 to noon at the Community Hall
- There are some Crime Prevention and ICBC pamphlets available today, plus a roundabout instruction handout

8.9 Market in the Park – Lorna Griffeth – Manager

- Notices are going to be distributed to the campers in Sunnyside
- Notices have gone out to all vendors; some have paid for the whole season already and we have some verbal confirmations
- We are part of the Circle Farm Tours and are in the Chilliwack Tourist Guide

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- We are also going to post a sign on the covered bulletin board next to the Visitors Office
- If you would like to help by sitting at the CLCA booth, please contact Lorna at 604 858 6593

8.10 CL Community School Association – Lorna Griffeth – Chair

- there will be a number of programs over the next few months
- contact Olga at the school for more information
- all day kindergarten is now offered
- the PAC Spring Fling will be coming up soon
- the AGM will be the first week in May
- planning is still in the works for a Heritage Day

8.11 Cultus Lake Aquatic Stewardship Strategy – Marion Robinson – Chair

- there are 3 things at CL that are unique: the pygmy sculpin, the sockeye salmon (recognized by SARA) and the Sepass Poems
- CLASS is a network of people and organizations who all care about the lake; they began on Oct 2007
- They meet the last Wed of the month at DFO or CLPB office; thanks to CLPB and DFO for their support
- There are 60 on the mailing list and an average of 20 attend the meetings
- They take a non- adversarial approach to problem solving
- If you would like to get a monthly e-mail report on the work, please let Dave know
- Marion is from the Fraser Basin Council and is able to address interjurisdictional issues
- They conducted an oral history project to get a baseline of what things used to be like here re aquatic life
- They conduct the Pike Minnow Derby on Father's Day
- They do workshops and literature reviews
- They conducted a Lake User Survey last year both at CL Park and the Provincial Park; there were 167 responses
- 93% want more environmental care and funding for such
- 92% expressed concern about safety and overcrowding
- 82 – 87% expressed concern about sockeye, invasive species(milfoil) and water quality (temperature, fuel spills, nutrients)
- 54% were concerned about other species, like the pygmy sculpin
- 53% planned to increase their visits to CL
- 81% were visitors
- Lake users: swimmers – 66%; power boaters – 27%; non power boaters – 33%
- Most people liked the beauty, natural setting, easy access and low cost of visiting CL
- Most people did not like the crowds, rowdy behaviour, noise, loud music on boats, fast speed and high densities of power boats
- Of power boaters surveyed – 62% use no drip fuel spout or fuel up at gas stations before coming here; 62% say they wash their boat to reduce the spread

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of milfoil; 47% say they control their speed to prevent shoreline erosion; some expressed the need for speed to get a large enough wake for wake-boarding

- With 3 million visitors per year, the problem of effluent is serious
- Nutrient impacts are being studied and there is money for more research this season
- Nutrient enrichment started in the 1950s; the result can be degraded water quality, taste and odour problems, increase in invasive species (milfoil and algae) and habitat degradation
- We need to get the “scoop on poop”
- How do we deal with point source nutrients? We want to learn how nutrients get to CL and where they come from
- It is not too late to help the Lake!
- QUESTIONS:
- Bob McRae – What is SARA and how does this help us?
- Marion – It is the Species At Risk Act; there are laws governing how to manage such species.
- Owen Skonberg – Also it involves the Federal Government in protecting the species.
- Christine Masson – The power boats with free exhaust are still on the lake, even though this has been banned
- Dave Lamson – He meets with a salmon protection group and CL is frequently mentioned as an example of how things have gone wrong. CL is the most researched lake in BC. There has been research since the 1930s.

9. New Business

9.1 Location of the Meeting

- it was agreed that the library was suitable, depending on the number of people

10. Adjournment

- FAY HERLE/BARRY CORNFIELD, that the meeting be adjourned at 3:20 pm