

NORTH GALIANO FIRE PROTECTION COMMISSION
BOARD MEETING
Retreat Cove Fire hall
June 19, 2011

Minutes

Attending: Andy Beers, Julie Gardner, Roger Pettit, Tom Darby, Susan Phillips, Robin Gregory

Regrets: Rob Snape, Ken Hancock

Absent: Mary Lou Williams

Meeting commenced at 9:10 and adjourned at 11:15.

1 Adoption of Agenda and Past Minutes

The draft May minutes were accepted as final.

CWPP will be included in Tom's management report instead of the Society meeting

2 Reports and Related Business

2.1 Treasurer Report – Andy:

Operating budget remaining at end of May 2011: \$98,349.66, or 76.85 % of the budget

Some of this will soon be spent on checking equipment, etc. and some will be needed to cover pre-referendum costs (e.g. CRD staff time, expert assessments).

2.3 Management Team report – Tom:

One first responder callout this past month – a medical issue.

Retreat Cove fire hall renovations remaining to do: Apron to gravel (Dave Gerlach will deliver gravel), some cabinetry work remains, painting the exterior. It was cleaned up outside (with recycling still to go), etc.

Emergency Services: ESS meetings have been held monthly. A radio exercise is scheduled for June 22nd.

Training: Crest training is to be improved via new tools, with Tom leading. Basic fire fighter certificate to complete. Eileen to complete First Responder instructor course and is carrying out recurrent training.

Tom checked the road to Dionisio and it is not passable at this point. Tom has contacted BC Parks who said the lot owners are responsible for maintaining the access. We will keep in mind whether related costs might be part of the CWPP grant application.

Equipment maintenance is occurring regularly, as scheduled.

Fire Chief Honorarium

Tom's honorarium has not been reviewed for about 3 years. The executive will consider this, Andy leading by email.

Community Wildfire Protection Plan

A Southern Gulf Islands-wide working group for implementing the plan is in the works. Tom has been provided a binder with all CWPPs and other relevant papers. Last week we were notified by the UBCM that funding is now available; e.g. up to \$400,000 per applicant per calendar year for community operational fuel treatment. Application deadlines are July 22 and October 14th.

Board members agreed that we will try to hire someone on contract to write the proposal for July 22nd. Robin will be able to lead on the October proposal.

Roger will ask Dana Weber to review the application from the UBCM website and let us know the potential for his preparing a proposal.

Tom will let Bill (South end fire chief) know we will be convening the Steering Committee.

Roger will convene the Galiano CWPP Steering Committee in June, with a second meeting on the 9 or 10 of July. Julie and Robin can attend the July meeting.

2.4 North End Fire Hall

On a site visit to Saturna by board members, Tom Darby and others, it became clear that a pre-fabricated hall can be constructed at a reasonable cost.

The cost structure for the Saturna East Point Hall #2 was \$241,124.16, including electrical, plumbing, septic, a 4,000 gallon rainwater supplied water system with ultraviolet and filtration system, the lot purchase (\$90,000), the steel building erected, groundwork, apron and foundation. Adjusting for our requirements and additional costs, our expectation is that it will be possible to keep our fire hall costs under \$500,000. Discussion occurred about extra costs incurred through CRD policies and procedures.

Our understanding is that pre-fab construction saves approximately 40% on the cost, as compared to custom, wood construction.

Susan reported on correspondence with Michael Cole of the CRD. Board members expressed concern at the lack of information from the CRD that was expected by this time regarding site assessment, etc. Some reports have come back to the CRD which have not been provided to the board yet, but are said to be coming in a week or so. Tom has communicated with Michael about the Saturna example. Susan will seek to meet with Michael for an update and get some questions answered.

Tom has clarified the water supply issue. He will email his analysis to all board members. The Q&A list will be updated accordingly.

A one-page information sheet should be available for distribution at the Jamboree. Susan and Roger will prepare this.

Within a week or two of the Jamboree, this information will be included in a newsletter for mailout. The newsletter will also include an update on the CWPP (perhaps by Dana Weber) and any of the latest information on the new fire hall planning.

3 *New/Other Business - Next meeting*

Susan will look at piggybacking on a CWPP meeting on July 8th or 9th, or schedule the meeting by email according to events needing attention.