

SSPORA

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

SEPT. 28, 2021 ON ZOOM

Present: Dave Kerk, Iain Donaldson, Betty Price, Nigel Gray, Nancy Westwood, Bruce DeConinck Smith, Jo Dunn, Peter Staton.

With Regrets: Cindy Shelest.

Note: Cindy Shelest advised Dave Kerk that due to personal reasons she was resigning from the Board.

Called to Order: 6:34 pm

New Business: 1. Dave Kerk made the following motion:

We the Board demand the resignation of Dave Kerk as President of SSPORA and Chair of the Board.

Seconded by Jo Dunn.

Discussion regarding this motion:

Dave explained how he made errors in judgment dealing with the handling of the offer Geeks on the Beach made to the board to create a website for the San Pareil Community. In retrospect he would have contacted Nancy Westwood personally to ensure she was included in the discussion and had an opportunity to give input. He would have also included all Board members in the decision to accept the Geeks on the Beach offer before giving Nigel Gray the green light to initiate the website creation.

Nancy Westwood responded by saying she accepted Dave's and Nigel's apologies and that the situation was a lack of communication and not a gender discrimination issue. Jo Dunn called it a very important learning experience for the Board and it was agreed we needed better communication protocol.

The Motion was called and unanimously defeated.

Item 2 **Discussion regarding gender discrimination complaint**

Submitted by Nigel Gray

Dave Kerk felt the issue had been adequately addressed during discussions in item 1.

Nigel Gray made it clear he is very aware of gender biased environments and the hurt they can cause and will always endeavor to not go there.

Nancy Westwood again stated she felt this issue was a lack of communication and not gender bias.

Item 3 **General Communication Protocol**

Discussion:

Betty Price and Jo Dunn will be reviewing the bylaws for the SSPORA Board. During this process the communication protocol will be included. Iain Donaldson suggested all sub-committees that are created should report back to the Board before any final decisions are made.

Everyone agreed that if an issue arises during the summer months when the board is on summer break we would address the problem promptly.

Item 4: **Betty Price made the following motion:**

Create a sub-committee made up of Board members and community members responsible for the San Pareil Parks.

The motion was seconded by Peter Staton

The motion was passed unanimously

Betty Price and Peter Staton are the board members volunteering for this sub-committee. Barbra Lowden and one other person will represent the community.

Item 5 **Betty Price asked that there be ongoing funding from the Board for community events.**

Discussion: Several suggestions were made:

In addition to a Board funded budget, fundraising in the community is a possibility and also seeking grant monies are areas that could be explored

Jo Dunn said he would prepare a budget for next month addressing the issue of ongoing funding from the board for community events.

Item 6 **Create a sub-committee that would deal with the outcomes of the pending request by Lehann Wallace to the province for a possible reorganization of Area G and how it may impact San Pareil.**

The following members volunteered for this sub-committee:

Iain Donaldson, Nancy Westwood, Jo Dunn and Dave Kerk

Due to conflict issues Nigel Gray said he would stand as a resource person for the sub-committee only.

Discussion: Some members thought it may be a bit premature to create the subcommittee.

Nancy Westwood was concerned about possible zoning changes and resulting development in our area if Parksville was to annex San Pareil.

Nigel Gray felt it was inevitable that San Pareil would one day become part of Parksville. And due to our community being on the flood plain he was of the opinion future development was unlikely and also our lack of services should help keep our taxes relatively low compared to Parksville.

The final consensus was creating the subcommittee now and we will be better prepared for whatever comes.

Item 7 **Discuss the sale of Don Cameron's Property to The Nature Trust:
Submitted by Nancy Westwood.**

Discussion:

We all agreed Don Cameron, The Nature Trust and the Wilson Foundation have done the community a great service in facilitating the preserving and restoring of this land to its natural condition.

Nancy Westwood said she would contact Tom Reid of the Nature Trust to voice our appreciation and to ask if volunteers would be used during the restoring process.

Dave Kerk talked to James Craig (our POSAC [RDN parks and open spaces advisory committee] representative) who gave us contact information for the Nature Trust. James had spoken to Tom Reid previously on this issue, who said that they intend to remove buildings, excavate cement, fill, and rock that make up the manmade seawall in an effort to return the property to its natural state. Erosion would then take over to reshape the shoreline and estuary. James Craig also stated that he was leaving the committee position in January 2022 and was looking for a volunteer to fill that position. Peter Staton will look into the the requirements and make a decision regarding the position.

Other business: Nancy Westwood asked us all to be aware of suspicious individuals and call the RCMP if you suspect they are up to no good. Both Nancy and Nigel reported the Nature Trust will respond to phone calls regarding homeless people tenting on their lands.

Motion to adjourn at 8:25