

SPORA BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

January 15, 2026

In attendance: Barbara Lowden, Janet Webb, Peter Staton, Teresa Fankhauser

With regrets: Jeet Mann

Meeting called to order at 7pm

ITEM #1

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Chequing account	\$3388.66
Savings account	\$1,209.22 (this amount is set aside for a Park Bench)
Maple Lane Park	\$1846.22
Total	\$6444.10

ITEM #2

REDUCING THE SPEED FROM 50 KPH TO 40 KPH:

Posted a Poll on the San Pareil Facebook page on October 29th and also sent out an e mail to all addresses we have under SPORA.

As of December, the results were:

Yes: 129

No: 42

The SPORA Board supports asking MOTT to consider reducing the speed in San Pareil, starting at Shorewood Drive, from 50 km/h to 40 km/h. Barbara will draft a letter to MOTT including the stats from recent Speed Watch activities plus the results of the San Pareil Poll.

A suggestion was received asking for a sign to be erected by MOTT, "Expect Deer on our Roads"

Tom from Mainland Contracting has advised that a sign request has been sent to MOTT on November 12th.

Barbara will follow-up in January with Tom from Mainland Contracting.

ITEM #3

POSAC MEETING (Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee) within the RDN:

- The final Maple Lane Community Park Master Plan has been posted on the Maple Lane Community Park Get Involved project page as of early January.

- Lehann Wallace advised that the Maple Lane Park Plan and the additional funding required to complete the plan (\$100,000 + \$35,000) was approved by the RDN board on November 25th for the 2026 Financial Plan. The funding for the improvements is a Community Works Fund grant; therefore, these funds do not increase taxation and the funds and project are scheduled for 2026 completion.

- The Maple Lane Park Revised Master Plan was posted on the SPORA Facebook Page, the SSPORA Website and an email was sent to all email addresses on file.

Ideas for the completion/opening of the new addition: a community party in the park, hot dogs, chips, cake?

Item #4 COMMEMORATIVE BENCH FOR CLARKE GOURLAY, FORMER RDN AREA G DIRECTOR:

The residents of San Pareil previously held a donation campaign to fund a commemorative bench in honour of Clarke Gourlay, former RDN Area G Director, who died in a hiking accident. The funds raised amounted to \$1,209.22.

With the approval of the four park benches in the Maple Lane Park Master Plan, the commemorative bench was brought forward by Lehann Wallace.

Barbara wrote to Riccardo Tavella, RDN Park Planner, asking if the Memorial Bench for Clarke Gourlay will come under the “Donation of an Existing Bench” at a cost of \$3,000.00. At present there is \$1,209.22 (this amount is set aside for a Park Bench). We are waiting to hear back from the RDN planner before moving forward with suggestions on how to come up with the remainder of the funds that may be needed for the commemorative bench.

ITEM #5 RDN TAXPAYERS ALLIANCE, (RDNTA), PETITION TO BE COMPLETED IN SAN PAREIL

Barbara has organized five teams of volunteers to go door to door in the area. A number of residents have already signed the Petition. As of the New Year, the volunteers will be out canvassing the remaining houses for signatures. If no one is home, residents are asked to sign the Petition at two locations: 956 Shorewood Drive or 845 San Malo Crescent. Residents can also sign the on-line Petition at:

<https://www.rdntaxpayersalliance.ca/>

The Petition signatures need to be obtained prior to February 22, 2026 in order to be given to Wayne Stark, Head of the RDN Taxpayers Alliance.

It was brought to the attention of the SPORA board that the signs put up by the SPORA to spread the word about the RDN Tax Alliance directive and petition were cut down by unknown person(s). This is disappointing as increased property taxes affect everyone. By removing information, people in the neighborhood are robbed of being informed about events and issues in the community.

Information will as always be posted on the SPORA website, emailed out, and put on the San Pareil Facebook page in an attempt to reach as many community members as possible about issues pertaining to San Pareil.

ITEM #6 LIST OF ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED DURING 2026:

Ways to connect with new residents moving into the neighbourhood:

Barbara has prepared a draft Rack Poster for discussion.

AGM to be confirmed for June 18, 2026, discuss facility rental ideas: Parksville legion a possibility.

Other Outstanding Ideas:

- Update on the Plummer Road corner changes.
- Update on the San Malo First Nations green space.
- Clarification on Mariner Park: when will the park be open to the public?

- Removing alders along Plummer Road to prevent potential road closures when they fall.
- Ask ICBC to give directions on how to safely turn left from Hwy 19A to Plummer Road.
- Ways to get more input from residents
- Clearing tree/ bush growth around intersections to make it easier to see (MOTT)
- Asking residents what they would like the SPORA Board to concentrate on (Facebook poll possible)
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Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Next meeting to be held: 7:00 pm, February 5th, 2026, at Jeet's House.