

Allison/Borgeson Ratepayers Association Annual General Meeting, May 18, 2014

Brad Hope, Regional Director for Area H, RDOS spoke to the people about how the RDOS was working with our Association and other Associations in Area H. Residents were signing up for membership. There was a large crowd and it took some time.

Approximately 90 people in attendance.

Susan Dixon, President, welcomed everyone and expressed the hope that we could all work well together. Government makes the laws and regional district, RDOS Area H has their own set of bylaws. The ratepayers group does not enforce laws or bylaws. The rogue bulletins that brought so many out to the meeting were brought up and Craig Stout asked for the identity of the authors'. Craig asked Ms. Ooms if she was involved and she denied it. Craig asked 3 times who was responsible for the rogue bulletins. No one spoke up.

Minutes of the May 19, 2013 meeting were read. There was a correction which changed the meeting continuation date last year from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2013. Craig Stout moved the minutes be adopted as corrected; seconded by Gordon Bell. Carried.

Minutes of the June 30, 2013 continuation meeting were read. Moved by Craig Stout and seconded by Lyndamae Ooms that they be adopted as read. Carried.

Business arising from the minutes:

Len Lemieux and Walt Halbauer reported on water levels and erosion problems. Septic tanks can be affected by high water so Craig Stout had been pursuing coliform testing. RDOS has agreed to pay for water testing. Craig Stout will follow up. Some crawl spaces have been flooded. Some people think the dam is causing some of the problem. The dam is part of the Columbia River Treaty.

- Winter snow removal damage to the roads in the east side subdivision of Allison Lake will be repaired by the Highways Dept.
- Driveways which are blocked by plows leaving snow banks will not be cleared by the highway contractor.
- Concerns raised about the highway erosion from boat waves were discussed. The highways department has earmarked \$25,000 for repairs of the highway.

ATV Committee Report by Dean Francis:

- Stringer Lake road drainage update is complete and the road is in good shape. (The hydrologist, Michael Milne, hydrologist for Tolko, had indicated the possibility of a landslide due to erosion from water runoff caused from ATV traffic).
- Round Lake trails are still open for motorized vehicles.
- Dean is attempting to get a crossing and signage on Hwy 5A at Beaver Lane so ATV's can cross the highway safely.
- Susan thanked Dean for his signage and work on the ATV trails.

Fire Department Update by Tom Hamilton:

- The Allison Lake Fire Dept. Code for locks on truck and pump is 9119. They are stored at Tom Hamilton's lot.
- Allison Lake Fire Dept. is unable to fight structural fires.
- Forestry now has a crew which can be on site in 30 minutes but they don't fight structural fires.
- Jackie and Walt Halbauer will take over the can & bottle returns from the Hamilton's. The "Hut" will sort and count.
- Susan thanked the Hamilton's for their three years of effort in redeeming bottles and cans for the fire department fund (raised over \$2400.00).
- Tom, as a Fire Warden for the Merritt Forestry office is responsible for monitoring campfires during fire bans and noted that all campfires should be 18 inches by 18 inches maximum size. He thanked everyone for their co-operation during these bans.
- Allison/Round Lake valleys are considered by Forestry to have an extreme forest fire rating.
- Defibrillator: Currently stored at Bill Horrex 's home, 154 Skye Blue Loop. It needs to be kept in a combination-locked heated storage container outside and available to all.
- John Macronato and group will design and build something. A question was raised about liability.

A motion was made by Craig Stout to move elections to the end of the meeting. It was seconded by Gordon Bell. Carried.

New Business:

Craig Stout reported on the **boat usage questionnaire**.

- Forty questionnaires were given out at the meeting. Members were reminded that they were sent a questionnaire to their email address as well.
- Directors have heard concerns from Allison lake residents regarding motor boats and seedoos on the lake. Concerns include safety concerns for children because of large waves, safety concerns for fisherman (one fisherman ejected from his boat by a wave), canoes and paddleboards swamped, swimmers struggling, wharves broken, properties and beach front eroded, water quality degraded due to erosion of banks.
- Last year directors compiled a questionnaire, distributed to members. To get a broader response this spring the questionnaire was sent to as many residents as we were able to get addresses for.
- After questionnaires are turned in the boat usage committee will compile results and report back to Ratepayers with recommendations. Boat usage committee volunteers include Craig Stout, Paul Dixon and Dave Cooper.

Draft Park Plan Update presented by Susan:

The park plan has evolved over the years from a desire at first to have a place to build a community center/fire hall to a desire to preserve the quality of life we now have in the valley. As industry seeks to find new sources of trees to log, and minerals to mine the directors have discovered that:

- Efforts to stop logging in the Stringer Lake watershed were unsuccessful. Water Resource designation does not stop logging as witnessed by attempts to have Tolko cut at least 200 meters from Stringer Lake (in some places they cut right to the lake shore).
- Active mining companies are indicating interest in the area (coal and copper). Park designation **does prevent** such industrial activity.
- Current plan suggests encompassing the visual corridor stretching from Gulliford Lake to the south end of the residences at Round Lake (the steep hillsides).
- It also involves designating panhandles around Kump Lake and creek, Hornet Lakes, Prosser Lake and creeks as well as Mystery Lake and Allison creek as park so that a 200 meter corridor would be established for watershed protection.
- Historic fishing trails to Kump and Prosser could be preserved.
- Current recreational sites and ATV trails would remain the same.
- ATV traffic would have designated routes through the park (same as now).

Marty Vanderhelm moved that the park plan be further studied, concerns examined and a report brought back to the next Ratepayer's Meeting

Elections:

Craig Stout tried to oversee election of directors. Discussion involved how to conduct an election in these circumstances-in a park, no paper, an influx of new members. Peter Walton, stated that he worked for Elections BC and that we had to hold our election of directors, that the elections couldn't be postponed. Because of this Susan asked him to oversee the election.

- Directors are elected for three years. Two of the directors have another year in office.
- It was moved by Marty Vanderhelm, seconded by Lyndamae Ooms to increase the number of directors to 8 and to elect 6 directors at this time. Question called. In the show of hands Peter said the count looked even and Peter asked for 4 to be elected.
- He then proceeded to carry out a vote.

Nominated: Barb Hamilton, Jamie Frandsen, Susan Dixon, Len Lemieux, Irene Kovacic and Claudia Menic.

A list of the nominees was made up and voters were asked to put a maximum of 4 check marks beside their choices. The list was given to an enumerator to count under the supervision of Peter Walton and he gave us the results.

Jamie Frandsen

Len Lemieux

Claudia Menic

Irene Kovacic

Note: motions were made during the meeting and people responded with a show of hands. The vast majority of the people who held up their hands were not eligible to vote.

Meeting was not adjourned as the meeting during the election descended into a chaotic state. No check was made on who voted. Meeting lasted well over two and a half hours.