

SAMBRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held 7:00 PM on Tuesday, February 9, 2016
At Miracle Beach School

MINUTES OF MEETING

In attendance:

Note: Names have been deleted from this document to protect privacy.

Guests: Bruce Green, Chief, and Chris Murray, Oyster River Fire Department; Vince Van Tongeren, CVRD Policy and Sustainability Analyst.

Call to order: The Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

Minutes of Meeting:

- SAMBRA Meeting held October 13, 2015 – MSC: that the minutes be approved as circulated.
- SAMBRA Minutes of AGM held February 10, 2015 – MSC: that the minutes be approved as circulated.

Reports

- **Treasurer's Report:** Liz Aldridge, Treasurer, presented the Year End Financial Report (see attached). MSC: that the financial report be accepted as read.
- **Chairperson's Report:** Curtis Scoville presented his annual Chairman's Report: See attached. MSC: that the Chair's report be accepted as read.

New Business

Election of Board Members

Presented, the list of nominees for the following positions: Chair - Curtis Scoville; Treasurer - Liz Aldridge; Secretary - Pearl McKenzie; Directors at Large: LeRoy McFarlane and Neil Ross, noting that the position of Vice-Chair is vacant.

Doug assumed the role of Chair for the election of board members, reading the nominees for each position and asking three times: "Are there any further nominations from the floor?"

Acting Chair, Doug, thanked the directors who had completed their term and announced that the following directors were elected by acclamation to fill the following Board positions:

- Chair: Curtis Scoville
- Vice Chair: this position remains vacant
- Treasurer: Liz Aldridge
- Secretary: Pearl McKenzie
- Directors at Large: LeRoy McFarlane, Neil Ross and Doug Hoodikoff

Guest Speakers:

1. Bruce Green, Fire Chief, Oyster River Fire Department, extended an invitation to SAMBRA to hold future meetings at the fire hall and presented some recent statistics, e.g. over the past year, volunteers spent 4700 hours in training and responded to 298 calls (medical and fire). Bruce and Chris Murray responded to questions concerning the following:

- Pidgeon Lake Landfill will take pesticides, poisons, etc. on Thursdays and Fridays
- Volunteer fire fighters will help senior residents with installation of smoke detectors
- Volunteers receive earthquake preparedness training

2. LeRoy McFarlane, SAMBRA Director, spoke about the potential for a coal mine in the Oyster River watershed. The provincial Ministry of Environment has issued a permit to Quinsam Mines to test for coal in the area of Woodhus Creek and the Oyster River. If they find good quality coal, disturbances of the soil due to mining could cause contamination to the watershed. See attached information prepared by LeRoy. If you would like further information or to discuss these concerns with LeRoy, please contact him directly at his email address: yorelwest@telus.net

3. Neil Ross, SAMBRA Director, described concerns about the Black Creek Oyster Bay water system which during recent summer months has been unable to deliver water needed for local residents and assure supply for fire protection without implementing restrictions. This problem has yet to be resolved. In July 2015 GW Solutions carried out a study and prepared a report with recommendations to the Comox Valley Regional District. This study or report may be found on the CVRD website under “Minutes, November 2015, BCOB Services Committee, November 15” or by the following link: http://agendaminutes.comoxvalleyrd.ca/Agenda_minutes/CVRDCcommittees%5CBCOB%5C16-Nov-15%5Cc_20151113_Oakman_SR_BCOB%20hydrogeological%20assessment.pdf

After a brief question and discussion period, Curtis thanked the LeRoy and Neil for their presentations and work on these topics and stated that there will be further information and discussion about both subjects at upcoming meetings.

4. Vince Van Tongeren, CVRD Policy and Sustainability Analyst, spoke on two subjects:

- Mosquitoes – During the fall of 2014, there were numerous complaints from residents of the Kye Bay, Point Holmes area about mosquitoes. The CVRD partnered with the Town of Comox to hire an environmental firm (Current Environmentals) to undertake a study. They determined that the greatest source for mosquito larvae habitat was a local salt marsh. Once this was removed, there was a significant reduction in mosquitoes. Vince asked people at the meeting to indicate on a local map the location of mosquitoes in the SAMBRA area (note: this appeared to be in the Clarkson, Driftwood area) so that a study can be undertaken here this summer to determine the source of the problem.
- Comfort Station on Eyre Road at Saratoga Beach – This consists of two rental port-a-potties that are available seasonally. The CVRD is proposing a more permanent structure, possibly year round. Vince asked about interest in a design contest for this

building or enclosure. The company that services the toilets also looks after garbage so, in the winter, there is no garbage receptacle; in addition to the usual problem of litter, there is illegal dumping. There were questions about whether garbage could be regularly collected by a company that services local residents and about solar powered composting toilets. Curtis spoke of re-activating SAMBRA's Beach Committee and asked if any local residents were interested in stewardship or monitoring of this area. A local resident volunteered. It was suggested that SAMBRA could partner with the CVRD and resort owners to find and implement some solutions.

Note: questions or comments for Vince Van Tongeren may be sent to his email address:

vvantongeren@comoxvalleyrd.ca

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 8:30 PM, Neil Ross. Carried.

Next SAMBRA Meeting: Tuesday, October 11th, 2016; 7 PM, Oyster River Fire Hall, 2241 Catherwood Rd, Black Creek

Note: a Local Area Plan meeting will likely be held this spring but date hasn't yet been set.

Contact Curtis Scoville if you are interested in being on the Board of SAMBRA, have items you would like placed on the agenda of the next meetings or have questions. Phone 250 337-1986 or email SAMBRA@outlook.com.

Note: attachments referred to in these minutes will be provided upon request.

Reminder: check SAMBRA's website: www.sambra.ca for more info and links to other websites.