

Saratoga/ Miracle Beach Residents Association (SAMBRA)

Minutes of Meeting

Held Tuesday, June 11, 2013
7:00 PM – Miracle Beach School Library

Note: Names of people attending this meeting, as well as those who moved and seconded motions, have been deleted to protect their privacy.

Call to order: Curtis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes of Meeting held April 9th, 2013 – M/S/C: That the Minutes be approved as read.

Financial Report: Liz Aldridge, Treasurer, presented the financial report; reporting that SAMBRA's bank balance is currently \$1,002.05. Liz applied for a grant in aid and was recently advised by the Comox Valley Regional District that SAMBRA would be receiving a cheque in the amount of \$300 in August.

M/S/C: To approve the financial report.

New Business

1. Update on Saratoga Beach Estates, Watutco and application for lot division by Pacific Playgrounds – A representative of this development presented information and responded to questions.

Edwin Grieve (Area C Director and Chair of the CVRD Board) noted that Mark Ruttan, who is the chief engineer with the CVRD, has offered to speak at a SAMBRA meeting about the Saratoga Beach Estates development and the sewage treatment plant.

2. SAMBRA Website – The Local Area Plan (LAP) Participation Committee has been discussing the idea of posting a list of local businesses on the SAMBRA website (www.sambra.ca). There has been discussion about which businesses should be included. If every business serving the area, home based and other, were listed, the amount of information would be overwhelming. This information is primarily for people new to the area or visitors. SAMBRA meeting attendees were supportive of the business directory as long as it's limited to the most visible businesses, kept simple and easy to maintain.

Suggestion: Post a map with links to local businesses that would then be responsible for their own websites. Ensure emergency services (fire and ambulance) are included.

3. Coal Licence Application in the Oyster River Basin (Woodhus Creek):

Curtis presented the following information:

- Hillsborough Resources has made an application to the Ministry of Mine that is still in the very early stages. First they have to establish that they have a

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right to make an application to explore; if they obtain that right, it may eventually trigger an application to develop a mine that would lead to environmental assessments and public consultation.

- The Provincial Ministry of Mines has requested comment from the Strathcona and Comox Valley Regional Districts. See the following website link which will take you to the CVRD Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting notice; the Hillsborough application is under C-2 in the agenda:
http://www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/section_rdb/default.aspx?MeetingID=1515&PrinterVersion=0&DocumentTypeID=1&AgendaDeadline=6%2F7%2F2013

Edwin Grieve explained that there are huge coal deposits from Campbell River down to Nanaimo. With reference to applications like this one, the CVRD has no jurisdictional role other than to comment.

Curtis has corresponded with Tim Munson of the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Natural Gas as well as Darren Cowan of Hillsborough Resources. His suggestion is that we follow this application and invite Darren Cowan or another representative of Hillsborough to a future SAMBRA meeting.

In his correspondence with Curtis, Tim Munson of the Provincial Ministry of Energy, Mines and Natural Gas provided the following information (excerpted):

- *Please find an explanation of the required authorizations for exploration and mining activity in the province at the following link:*
http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/major_projects/external!/publish/web/mining/Mines-Guide.pdf.
This is a good overview of the various legislation and agencies involved in authorizing exploration and mining activity in the province.
- *Please view coal licences on Southern Vancouver Island on the following map:*
http://www.empr.gov.bc.ca/Titles/MineralTitles/Pub/Documents/maps/coal/coal_titles_vancouver_island_south_Tenure.pdf
Please note that application 389508 to the right of this application has been cancelled and no longer exists and Numbers 327676 and 327690 on the map refer to the active coal leases for the operating Quinsam Coal Mine.

SAMBRA will attempt to stay in communication with the CVRD, SRD, MoEMNG, and Hillsborough Resources regarding the progress of this Coal Licence application toward the Notice of Work permit required from the Inspector of Mines before ground can be disturbed for exploration purposes.

Adjournment: M/C: to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 PM.

Next SAMBRA Meeting: 7 PM, Tuesday, October 8, 2013 at Miracle Beach School.

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: curtisscoville@shaw.ca.