

Saratoga/ Miracle Beach Residents Association (SAMBRA)

Minutes of Meeting

Held Tuesday, October 8, 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: The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Financial Report: The Treasurer, presented the financial statement as of October 8th, 2013; reporting that SAMBRA's bank balance is currently \$1,123.39.

Minutes of Meeting held June 11, 2013 have been circulated.

New Business

1. Comox Valley Conservation Strategy Community Partnership (CVCS) - Alison Millham and Jack Minard explained that the goals of the CVCS, a partnership of 20 local organizations including SAMBRA, are:

- to stop the loss of sensitive natural areas,
- protect and restore biodiversity and natural system processes,
- preserve healthy water resources, and
- preserve access to nature and trails.

The report: *Nature Without Borders – Second Edition*, sets out strategy, based on current science and law, to help meet these goals and to guide land use planning.

The Report is available online through the CVCS website at <http://www.cvconservationstrategy.org>.

2. Residential Garbage and Recycling Pick-Up Service – James Warren (Legislative Officer) and Koreen Gurak (Manager of Communications) for the Comox Valley Regional District presented information about the proposed garbage and recycling collection service for residents of the Regional District. Pick up will take place once per week of garbage (up to a 80 litre garbage can) and recyclables including paper, cardboard, plastics and tin. The cost per household will be approximately \$150 per year.

A referendum will take place from 8 AM to 8 PM on Saturday, November 16th to determine if voters support this new service. The two closest voting sites for SAMBRA residents are the Living Waters Church at the corner of Regent Road and the Old Island Highway and North Island Distance School (formerly Tsolum Elementary) at the corner of Smith Road and the Old Island Highway. Advance voting will take place in the CVRD Boardroom, 550B Comox Road, Courtenay, on Wednesday, November 6 and 13 from 8

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AM to 8 PM. It is possible that an additional advance poll voting day will be scheduled for the end of October.

For more information:

- CVRD staff will be available to answer questions and talk about this initiative at Black Creek Farm and Feed on November 2 from 9 AM to noon
- There will be an open house at the CVRD Boardroom, 550B Comox Road, Courtenay, from 5 – 8 PM on Tuesday, October 22nd.
- Visit www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/vote for *Frequently Asked Questions*, more information about the proposed service and details about voting.

3. Saratoga Speedway – A question about noise generated by the speedway was raised: does it violate the CVRD Noise Control Bylaw? Discussion followed:

- May not be in contravention of the bylaw as it is likely that the speedway falls under a special event permit, not noise bylaw. A special event can take place until midnight whereas “noise” has to end at 9 PM.
- Anyone with concerns or who wishes to make a complaint should contact the bylaw compliance officer at 250-334-6000.
- Are there ways that the noise from the Speedway could be mitigated, e.g. trees around the track, other methods of baffling sound?
- Noted that this might be a good “heads-up” about the importance of conserving existing trees, for example in the Saratoga Beach Estates development.

4. Flow Measurement for Black Creek – Curtis reported that the BC Conservation Foundation has provided funding to put a flow measuring station on Black Creek and that a local farmer has offered access through his land. Volunteers are needed. Please contact Curtis (see number below), if you are interested in learning how to do flow measurements.

Adjournment: M/C: to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 PM.

Next SAMBRA Meeting: 7 PM, Tuesday, February 11, 2014 at Miracle Beach School.

Contact Curtis Scoville, the Chairperson, 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.