

White Sands Community Hall Society Minutes of Meeting – April 21, 2015

Present:

President Fraser Denton, Treasurer John Shepherd, Secretary Judy Peelar.
Carol Linkert, Gerry Linkert, Lorne Thurston, Vicky Sanchuk, Bill Sanchuk, Debbie Waugh, Leigh Rairdan, Virginia Thomas, Eric Thomas, Carl Cornelssen, Geri Horne, Bev Shepherd, Suzanne Denton,

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Denton with 16 members in attendance, therefore a quorum.

Changes to the Agenda:

1. Add: New business – Information on Rural Crime Watch – Fraser Denton
2. Add: Gazebo Hill – Carl Cornelssen

Motion to accept the agenda with the above changes was made by Vicky Sanchuk, seconded by Bill Sanchuk. Carried.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting:

Minutes from the December 9, 2014 meeting were highlighted by Secretary Judy Peelar. Motion to accept the minutes as distributed was made by Virginia Thomas, seconded by Deb Waugh. Carried. Once again, we remind those planning to attend the meeting to read the minutes prior to the meeting and raise any concerns or changes based on the distributed copy. This will assist us in moving through the meeting and agenda in a timelier manner. Thank you.

Financial Report:

The Financial Report was presented by Treasurer John Shepherd.

For the Year Ended December 31, 2014:

Income:	\$12,290
Expenses:	\$ 5,747
Net Revenue:	\$ 6,473
Cash in Bank:	\$21,948

Year to Date 2015:

Bottle Revenue:	\$758
Expenses:	\$913

Jim Costigan performed an unofficial audit of the year end accounts and signed off on them. We are not required to have a licensed auditor review the books. The annual return has been filed. Motion to accept the financial report was made by Deb Waugh, seconded by Gerry Linkert. Carried.

Old/Unfinished Business:

1. Buffalo Lake T-shirts – Fraser Denton reported on behalf of Alana Costigan. Alana has ordered 130 shirts scheduled for delivery by the July long weekend. The expense is \$15 per shirt and we will sell for \$20.
2. Minutes are posted on the website, along with the bi-laws and other relevant information for White Sands Hall Society. Judy Peelar reported that information can be found at:
www.Summervillageofwhitesands.ca
On the right side of the page there is a column entitled: *Related Links*
Select: *SVWS Public Information*
You will then see a title: *Public Documents* – select this
Select the folder: *Community Hall Society*
You will then have the choice of: *Hall Society Meeting Agendas*
Hall Society Meeting Minutes or
Hall Society By-Laws
You can then create a shortcut on your computer to get to this site quickly.
3. Safe Pace Signs – reported by John Shepherd. A reminder that we are borrowing this sign from the Stettler RCMP for the May long weekend. It will be placed on Twp. Road 404 where the speed limit is reduced to 30 km per hour as you approach the village entrance. There was some discussion as to the need to slow down traffic within the village rather than on the township road. We are using the May long weekend to assess the effect, if any, on using this sign. Further action will be determined after that weekend.
4. President Denton reported on the Village Map. He received 2 quotes from Graham Scott at the Town of Stettler Office. The signs are 68” x 88”. The first quote is for a “Dibond” sign – 2 sheets of aluminum sandwiching a solid plastic core. It will not rust and graphics will look good. Cost is \$528 plus GST. The second quote is for a “Crezon” sign which offers more rigidity, but in the long run, will eventually absorb moisture resulting in some warping. Cost is \$623 plus GST and shipping.

Estimated total cost for the sign and construction material will be about \$1000 with volunteer labour to build and erect the sign. The map will have the municipal addresses for all lots in the Village.

Mayor Lorne Thurston reported that there is some pressure to have 911 signage located at each residence, similar to other rural areas. The cost to the Village is approximately \$26,000 because of the metal sign posts required. To date this expense has not been approved by council. This new map at the entrance to the village may be of some assistance to emergency vehicles.

Motion was made by Leigh Rairdan to go ahead with the “Dibond” sign at \$538 plus GST and to spend approximately \$1000 in total for the sign and structural material. Seconded by Eric Thomas. Carried.

Fraser will contact the company and determine what other information can be placed on the sign, for example – pertinent community contact numbers. He will come back with a draft for approval.

5. Secretary Judy Peelar reported that she is in the process of collecting and sorting all previous Hall Society records. Ultimate goal is to have the hard copies stored in the Hall and an electronic copy stored separately. The Societies Act provides no guidance on storage or destruction of files.

6. Hall Expansion. Bill Sanchuk led the discussion. Some of the points raised:

Costs for plans and engineering vary from \$3000 to \$76,000. Fire codes and building codes are dictated by the type of structure and how it is used.

Bill advised against using volunteer labor for construction as volunteers can only do so much and some of the work will require professional trades. Professional quotes will end up being more expensive as they have to assess what has been done and this will affect their billing time.

Engineering plans will be expensive as they will have to assess what the existing building will support in the way of an addition. Mayor Lorne advised he does have pictures of the original construction and this will help answer some of the questions regarding existing structure.

Soil analysis will have to be completed to determine compaction – will the ground carry the weight. This cost alone will be \$6000.

Bill felt that we need to form a committee to gather information on what we need for a hall expansion and what purposes will it be used for, how large an area do we need. We need this information before we can proceed.

Currently the hall does not cost a lot for maintenance and upkeep. As it ages, the costs will of course increase.

Do we need to look at fund raising for a hall expansion?

Rochon Sands has fewer lots than White Sands and has a bigger hall which they rent out steadily from May to September each year. Is it our intent to construct a hall for the purpose of rental revenue, therefore increasing traffic into the Village? It is unlikely that the hall would ever be self-supporting from rentals.

Currently the hall is not large enough to support our own community functions and this is limiting us in our social functions.

The expansion of the hall originally came up because of the lack of storage space. We have addressed these issues for now, so we have time for a proper discussion and research.

Mayor Lorne will include this topic in the next newsletter and solicit feedback from residents on what they would like to see for their community hall. President Fraser suggested that following the newsletter, the topic will be raised at the Annual Meeting.

New Business:

1. Float for the Stettler Parade – Fraser Denton reported that Jim Shaw is no longer able to coordinate this, but if anyone wants to pursue having a float to represent the Village at the Stettler Parade, to let him know.

Deb Waugh commented that if we put a float in the Stettler parade, we should also do it for the Erskine parade.

2. Committee Reports:

Carl Cornelssen reported on the Bottle Committee. He and Eric Thomas had worked Saturday and arranged for a pick by the bottle depot. The volume of bottles is certainly down in the winter months. Come summer, the number of volunteers needed is greater and anyone is welcome to stop by on Saturday mornings at 9:30. Long weekends are especially busy and more hands would be appreciated on those days.

Deb Waugh reported on the Social Committee. A Spring Fling is planned for Sunday, May 17 at 5:00. Everyone welcome. Bring your own meat to BBQ and a pot luck dish. This was a great success last year. Weather permitting; it will also be a movie night. Deb Waugh made the motion for a \$200 expense approval for this event. Seconded by Suzanne Denton. Carried.

3. Card Night Expenses – reported by Fraser Denton. Tuesday evenings a card night is held as a community event open to all Village residents. To date, those attending collected money for beverages. As it is a community event, we feel that the expense for beverages should be paid by the Hall Society, similar to Thursday Morning Coffee. Expenses for card night are expected to be no more than \$200 per year. Motion was made by Bill Sanchuk to support the minor expenses incurred for card night beverages. Seconded by Carol Linkert. Carried.
4. Fraser, John and Judy reported that Liability Insurance has been acquired for the Hall Society at a cost of \$486.16 per year. This provides us with general liability and bond/crime coverage. The issue of serving alcohol at our functions is a huge liability concern at a huge cost for additional insurance. We would also have to have a trained bar tender on site. It was suggested that for the 1 or 2 functions that we sell liquor, the cost does not outweigh the benefit and risk. Therefore liquor will no longer be sold at Hall Society functions. Residents will be advised of this in the invitations and announcements of the respective events.
5. Rural Crime Watch – Mayor Lorne reported that Al Habberfield has resigned his position of President of Rural Crime Watch. Fraser Denton was the backup for Al and will assume the position for the short term. Anyone interested in filling this role should speak to Fraser or Lorne. Thank you.

6. Gazebo Hill – Carl Cornelssen commented that he had been to a couple of functions at Gazebo Hill over the winter. Ideally a tin roof on the Gazebo would make it an even better spot to enjoy the lake. Mayor Lorne advised that this has been in the plan. The addition of a roof would have to pass building inspection and be structurally sound. He supported volunteer work to complete the work and the Village would pay the material costs. Carl agreed to lead the project and will gather a work group for a Saturday project. Anyone interested in helping should contact Carl.
7. Mayor Lorne announced that there is a new Village map on the website. It shows lot boundaries and trailer permits for those lots affected.
8. The annual golf tournament is scheduled for July 11. Anyone interested should contact Fraser Denton.
9. Fraser Denton will arrange for an update from the RCMP on Rural Crime Watch to be presented at the Spring Fling.
10. Next meeting date for the Hall Society is set for Saturday, July 18 at 10:00 a.m. We hope the Saturday scheduling will allow interested residents who are not normally in the village during the week, to attend.
11. Meeting was adjourned on the motion of Carl Cornelssen at 7:00 p.m.