



Elphinstone Community Association

elphinstonecommunity19@gmail.com

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Serving the Elphinstone Community since 1971

General Meeting May 24, 2023 – 7 PM Frank West Hall Minutes

Executive	Rod Moorcroft – President	Clint Budd – Vice President, Co-Secretary
	Trish Wray – Treasure	Lucie McKiernan – Co-Secretary
	René Mandigo – Membership	Tamara Hedden - PAC
	Brian Thicke – Director	Janet Oxley – Director
	Ben Foster – Director	David Weintraub – Webmaster
Absent		
Members	Estimated at general meeting	23 including guests

1. Call to Order	The President called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.	Action by
2. Agenda	Motion to adopt the agenda as presented: Clint/Janet carried.	
3. Guest Speaker	Ashley St Clair, Alternate Director for Area E. Ashley gave an informative presentation - see below for notes. We thanked her for taking the time.	
4. Director's report	See below for Donna's usual informative and detailed report	Donna
5. Adoption of previous minutes	Motion to adopt the minutes of the March 15, 2023 meeting which is available on the website – Trish/Rene carried.	
6. Correspondence	None.	



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7. Reports		
1. President	The President requested reports be kept short.	Rod
2. Vice Pres.	No report.	Clint
3. Treasurer	Trish reported: Chequing account balance - \$2,508.70; savings account balance \$1,014.96, shares \$138.53. Motion to accept the Treasurer's report: Trish/René – carried.	Trish
4. Secretary	Confirmed that Frank West Hall is on hold for June, September and October general meetings provided they can be held in person.	Lucie
5. Membership	René reported that as of today we have 94 paid members and 13 unpaid.	René



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6. PAC	<p>Tamara provided the following report:</p> <p>It's been a busy month at the Grove, as it is always!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our principal has yet again switched hands as Jamie Sadler is off on medical leave for the remainder of the school year, so the amazing Barry Krangle has stepped up to the challenge & will get our kids through the school year which ends on June 29. • I attended the BCCPAC conference on May 5-7 in Richmond & it was incredible. I took 8 pages of notes so it would take me a while to break it down but if anyone is curious, I would be willing to send a run down in. • The pac hosted a lovely Teachers appreciation lunch catered by The Gourmet Girl & Bliss bakery! • Our annual Mothers Day Growing Smiles fundraiser was held on May 12th & like always the plants were beautiful! The Teachers put on a Rock n Roll slip and slide, the kids had a blast! • Cedar Grove hosted an indigenous art show in our gym for two days & learned about weaving & traditional beading. • We decided & voted on a year end outdoor BBQ with a band on June 23rd. All are welcome to attend. The event will take place on our back field. I will make a poster and share with the ECA. • May 29th - June 2nd is active transportation week and we have lots of outdoor activities planned. Monday is bike to school day and relay courses & learning the basic care of bikes. Tuesday, we had the RCMP and ICBC reps, and by-law officers out at drop off and Division 4 (my daughter's class grade 5's) handed out handmade tickets with warnings! I was told by the RCMP officers that both them & ICBC reached out to MoTI with invitations to attend & neither received a response - shocking! Today (Wednesday) kids were encouraged to bike or walk & pay attention to their surroundings and sounds and speak about it in class. • Today we also had a volunteer appreciation lunch that the CGES staff organized and the kids performed for us and the teachers sang us a song! Was so sweet! • We then had a surprise school wide baby shower assembly for our lovely teacher Robyn Valenta where classes sang, wore diapers, and there were games & fun stories and mes- 	Tamara
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7. APC	<p>APC is the Advisory Planning Commission to the SCRCD. There is declining control over development plans and the APC has no say in a lot of things. They only meet when RD asks them to look at a particular plan. Most plans go right by. Two things of note – Grandview area development for info only they sent suggestions – active transportation, trails, paths, stormwater, cutting of trees.</p> <p>SCRCD struggles with requests for official community plan – official plan doesn't resonate with current issues like stormwater, etc. Series of amendments to revise the current plan before they allow development. They have been given input to this.</p>	Anthony
Comm Reports		
Chaster House / Park Standing Comm.	None.	Brian
Website Standing Comm.	<p>Progress is being made. Please check out the website - https://elphinstonecommunity.ca</p> <p>Make suggestions and contributions and correct errors – send to webmaster at webmaster@elphinstonecommunity.ca</p>	David
Socials Standing Comm.	Summer Social is scheduled for Sunday June 25 th from 4-8pm at Chaster House. A member will bring bocce and other fun games designed by himself. Can be outdoor or indoors.	Clint
Trails Standing Comm.	None.	Brian
Area E Roads Standing Comm.	Jeff Moore at MoTI – suggested to call Gundula to let them know that roads are being monitored by video. Please let Rene know if you see any problems on the roads. David is setting up an email on the website so people can communicate directly to the committee.	René
RR Forest Standing Comm.	Correspondence was put together by this committee in response to the report (see last month's minutes) – grateful for the help received. They are now waiting for a response.	Hermann



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Neighbourhood Associations	OBENA – Rob Michaels, Gibsons Fire Chief was their guest speaker to address beach fires – these are to be small and below tideline. If you see things getting out of hand with fires call fire dept otherwise call the police. Rob thinks signs are ineffective but OBENA feels they are helpful and see improvement in fire etiquette. Rob expects people to be reasonable and work together.	
8. Old Business	None.	
9. New Business	We have been approached by Georgia Crest Neighbourhood Association regarding liability insurance for their volunteers which is now required by SCRD in parks managed by the RD. Previously this group had been clearing broom from the park. The best quote we have had is \$859 through Volunteer Canada and we would have to join that organization in order to avail ourselves of this insurance. We continue to work on this.	
10. Next meeting	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Board June 14th on Zoom. 2. General June 21st Frank West Hall – guest speaker will be Donna reviewing property taxes. Please bring your tax assessment. 3. Summer social Sunday June 25, 2023 4-8pm Chaster House 4. No meetings July and August except another Summer Social TBD 5. Board September 13, 2023 	
11. Adjournment	Motion to adjourn at 8:50pm – Trish	

Guest Speaker – Ashley St. Clair, Alternate Director Area E

Ashley works for the City of Vancouver where she works on the Climate Emergency Action Team. Her specific focus is on Decarbonizing Buildings. Ashley agreed to share some of this work with us.

City of Vancouver Climate Action Plan – Policy Area

- Carbon pollution in Vancouver – over 50% from natural gas for heating and hot water.
- 37% from gas and diesel.
- 4% from waste.
- 3% from electricity



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Policy is to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 through six big moves. Ashley's presentation focussed on Big Move #4 - Zero Emissions Space and Water Heating. The goal is by 2030 to cut carbon pollution from buildings in half compared to what they had in 2007, and 100% by 2050.

In order to do this:

- Clear signal to building owners re regulation.
- Support early owner action.
- Increase industry capacity.
- Facilitate access to renewable energy

They'll be looking at demand, supply cost and quality of heat pumps renewable energy - outcome – zero carbon, resilient, healthy buildings.

Opportunity by Building Types

- Detached homes – 78,800 homes 28% of total GHG's.
- Multi family residential (including rental, non-market condos) – 6,115 buildings – 24% of total GHG's.
- Commercial – 3,420 building 24% of total GHG's
- Industrial – 1,081 building 20% of total GHG's

They will use a two-prong approach including reporting and setting and measuring carbon pollution limits. It will be phased in starting with commercial, then multi family, then detached. All this is in bylaws so the limits are enforceable. They are working to help businesses see the benefits. Ashley is working on 2026-2040 interim and what needs to be done during this period. Looking at new policy for other building types and equipment such as pools, fireplaces etc.

Q – re enforcement – penalties per bylaws – A - working with industry to structure in a way that's doable. Large buildings owned by large corporations and so far they've been supportive. Hope is that they will provide the impetus for others.

Q – will there be enough electricity? A - They are working with Hydro re electricity requirements. There are big challenges but they are working with the suppliers.

Climate Action and Decarbonizing Buildings on the Sunshine Coast

Ashly noted that the challenges are very different from a large urban environment to a Regional Districts in rural settings.

- The breakdown of community emission in the SCRD is: residential and commercial is only 14%, manufacture and industrial 27%, transportation 32%, waste and other 11%, off road transportation 16%.
- Between 2007-2019 emission in the SCRD increased by 7.2% - vs Vancouver which saw a decrease – we are not doing enough to mitigate here.
- Key regulators province and SCRD.
- New provincial program rolled out May 1 – Zero Carbon Step Code – a tool that municipalities and districts can opt into to regulate carbon for new buildings.
- Gives RD flexibility to put some controls on GHG emissions.
- Currently this is Voluntary but by 2030 will be mandatory.



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- Technology is here in order to do all this.
- Province is also putting in place high efficiency standards for space and water heating.

Donna confirmed that the SCR D is currently engaged in Climate Action Planning. Reports are completed and discussions are ongoing. Check the SCR D website regularly for updates - [Sunshine Coast Regional District \(scr d.ca\)](http://SunshineCoastRegionalDistrict.scrd.ca)

Q – what about wood – lots of people burn wood for fuel here on the Coast. A – this is a good example of the difference between rural and urban. Under the City of Vancouver plan wood burning as a backup to heat pumps is acceptable. Ashley will see if there is other information available with regard to how wood burning fits into the picture.

Report from SCR D Area E Director Donna McMahon

- May 11 - Three groups attended the committee of the whole meeting: The Junior B Hockey delegation; residents angry about the location of the Halfmoon Bay Community Hall in Connor Park; and a group from Sechelt indignant about "why the SCR D isn't doing anything about water."
- Local climate activists are frustrated that the SCR D board did not endorse the Community Climate Change Action Plan presented to us on April 27. We had never seen this plan before and it includes 25 ambitious actions many of which fall outside of the mandate and services of the SCR D. The actions within our mandate, such as applying a climate lens to all our services and operations, makes total sense - but note that this alone is a lot of work. Going further afield into stormwater (almost entirely a provincial responsibility) or developing climate anxiety plans, is far outside our regular envelope. The Plan is a mix of three roles for the SCR D - get our own house in order, take on a convenor/facilitator role in the community to coordinate action (we have no service or staffing for this), and advocate with senior government (again, no service or resources for this). This begs some questions, such as: To what extent are we willing to fund these activities through property taxes? Will any of the other organizations named, such as VCH and SD46, ALSO commit their staff and resources to this? How do we ensure that the plan is actionable? We have plans sitting on shelves, including Transportation, Agriculture and Stormwater. The pattern has been for the SCR D to pay lip service to a community issue by commissioning a report, then it can go on the shelf. Climate change is far too important for us to short change.
- The Disc Golf group decided to do work in Shirley Macey Park without clearance from the Parks Department (see Coast Reporter article) and when shut down, they've started a letter writing campaign claiming that we're against disc golf. We're not.
- The last water update was May 11 and it was very thorough - all we need to get Church Road online now is final approval for our water license from the province - that wellfield should provide 4.6 million L per day into the Chapman system (about half of what was being used in Stage 4 last year) - the plan right now is to bring all sources online early to keep more water in the lake, thus extending our supply.



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- There is a survey on solid waste happening - find it on Let's Talk SCRD (go to website, upper right corner) Let's Talk Trash. It's not an exciting survey, but the process for updating our Solid Waste Management Plan is mandated by the province, in minute detail. The solid waste committee (PTAC) had a great meeting on April 25. I am very impressed by the expertise on the committee, and it was a good discussion.
- There is an open burning ban due to unusually dry conditions.
- The foreshore lease for Ocean Beach Esplanade was renewed for 10 years – see post on Donna's website - it's a unique lease, possibly in all of BC, preventing commercial development of the foreshore.
- UBCM is asking for feedback on Gas Tax aka Canada Building Fund - this is money provided from federal government to communities annually on a per capita basis - Terms and conditions will expire March 31, 2024 - under current terms, funds must be used to produce built infrastructure - historically the SCRD used it to pave road shoulders for active transportation – Donna would like us to have more flexibility to use for adaptation and mitigation of climate change, e.g. green shores - Area E currently has around \$2.2 million.
- New BC Emergency Management legislation deferred until fall for further consultation with First Nations.
- **Upcoming:**
WATER SUMMIT - with all local governments in Sechelt tomorrow.
- Donna has asked staff to look further into insurance requirements for non-profit groups - there is insurance coverage available through MIABC, but there's been a recent trend to demand MORE insurance, and I don't fully understand why.
- Do not forget to sign up to pay property taxes by installment (instructions on my website) – Donna will be doing a walkthrough of property tax bills at next meeting

Q and Comment – not well represented by MLA and dealing with SCRD is not easy - how to get out of the RD model – A - it's being worked on and yes we need a new model. The province creates new regulations but does not provide additional funding for staffing.

Q – How can groups better articulate their needs when wanting to take volunteer action? A Donna is frustrated with the situation where we have volunteers who then can't be used. Current environment and paranoia about liability and professional attitude towards volunteers is very frustrating. She is looking for ideas as to how to move the dial on this.

Q – Community Climate Action Plan – was there no process for SCRD to see it in advance? When will the plan come back for Committee of the Whole discussion? A - draft plan is available. SCRD will be doing strategic planning and decide on their role in this project. It will require resources. Q - Will it come back with action items etc?– A - it will come back at some point in a different format.

Q – looked for SCRD Evacuation Plan? A – we don't have a general one. Being done piece by piece and will be compiled to one. Not many choices – reference to one road in/one out etc.

Note One Announcement After Adjournment:



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Hike in cut block TA521 10am to 1pm meet at the B&K power line May 28. Everyone welcome to join. This is a natural forest because it burned and never was cut. The idea is to hike through the cut block so people can see the flagging and what BCTS was going to destroy.