

Minutes DCHA General Meeting January 23, 2020

Board Members Present: Pres. Kathy Burwell, VP Phil Hoeksma, Secretary Jacke Palmer (Whatsapp), Treasurer Kathy Bellamy, Rec. Hall Jim Horsford, Membership Shaunie Woods, Data Mgmt. Tracy Cox, Social Director Elly Bonsma, DAL Martin Ploegman, DAL June MacGregor

Guests Speakers: Mike Fotheringham, OKIB, Manager Policy and Strategic Initiatives
Mike Doherty, OKIB, Deputy Fire Chief

Invited Guest: Penny Renyk, representative from Mel Arnold's office (MP) observing only

Call to Order: 7:05 p.m.

Mike Fotheringham provided information regarding the Fire Service Agreement

- Fire dept. Receives \$43,000 from federal gov't., \$20,000 for fire hall and \$23,000 for training
- Actual operating cost is \$200,000 with the difference being supplemented by OKIB
- Same mill rate applied to all developments on OKIB
- Coyote Crossing has signed up, Lawrence Heights expected to in April, and Parker Cove by summer's end.
- Mill rate will be re-visited in 5 years
- New revenue for new equipment, second hall (plan to be overseen by consultant Jack Blair, retired Fire Chief Vernon F.D.), staffing.
- New pay scale for call-outs to be \$20/hr., 2 hr. Minimum and \$20 per hour thereafter
- Hopeful for certification in 2 years.
- OKIB has been talking with DCE for several years.

Mike Doherty provided information on the working of the fire hall

- Built in 1985 for natives by Federal Gov't.
- Training is per "Black Book" aka "Play Book" that is used by all fire halls in BC
- Equipment at present is 3 pumper trucks, 1 tender (1800 gal.) , 1 rescue truck
 - Requirements for certification:
 - primary engine pump 1050 gal. per min. and less than 20 years old – cost for new \$900,000
 - More personnel – 25+ firefighters with training
 - Water tender for non-hydrant fires 3000 gal.
 - Satellite hall within 13 km. Beyond 13 km negates insurance, distance too great.
 - With the Reserve being long and narrow, a second hall at Round Lake

Questions and Answers

- First hall would likely be at Head of the Lake
- Medical training is First Responders, EMR
- All \$ raised will go to Fire Service and accountability as per agreement will be provided in June or July statement
- Mill rate is in accordance with rural (less dense) area (comparable to RDNO)
- A time line for the plan will emerge as revenue stabilizes and should be in June report as per Jack Blair. Mike hopes revenues will settle at \$400,000 annually.
- Mutual Aid from neighboring halls – anticipate signing once revenue can meet invoicing from outside halls
- Who “certifies” – insurance underwriters as per Play Book criteria
- At present there are 16 trained personnel, and 4 more by March
- Question re: March 2018 report and firefighters - it has been dealt with and is an internal matter
- Question re: large transfer of \$ to OKIB from Fed. Gov’t. – OKIB uses it for healthcare, education, social services, etc. (all costs covered by municipal, provincial and federal gov’t. off reserve)
- An invitation was extended to visit the fire hall any Tuesday evening, 7:00 pm when personnel are training, later in the spring or summer (warmer and daylight)
- OKIB audited financials are published online.

Q & A closed by Pres. Kathy at 8:05 with many thanks to the speakers from the residents as well as the DCHA.

Business of the General Meeting

Pres. Kathy moved the adoption of the agenda, seconded by Deb Prevost.

Approval of the Sept. 2019 GM Minutes by Pres. Kathy, seconded by RuthAnn Sabourin

Directors Reports

Pres. Kathy B: Fire Services Agreement very time-consuming since taking office.

BC Assessment – DCHA asked to appeal on residents behalf but this is not possible. No Federal Gov't. authority, it's a Provincial matter. 60 appeals in writing so far and no one followed procedure by phoning first. An open meeting with a rep from BC Assessment will be held in the Rec. Hall Wednesday January 27th from 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.

A reminder that individual board members have personal lives before DCHA business. Go to the DCHA website, use dchoa general email or phone during business hours only.

A thank you extended to Jean Holtom for her generous community service.

Rec. Hall Jim H: Multi CD player has been replaced. New cables, mics, soundboard revitalized.

Kitchen duties have been assumed by Tracy and Robert Cox, as Harriet Hovde is moving.

Researching the purchase of 2 portable a/c units and required venting for Hall Recycling Program continues

Treasurer Kathy B: See attached report. Explanation re higher than usual donation amount which reflects Xmas Skit donation to VJH. Insurance costs include Board liability as well as asset coverage.

Social Director Elly B: Calendar is posted on bulletin board with a few co-ordinator positions available.

Membership Shaunie W: 10 new homes with residents becoming involved in community activities.

An invitation made for any informal groups in DC to add info to the website

New Business

Pres. KB restated about BC Assessment info

Send thank you's to guest speakers

Pres. Kathy B moved adjournment at 8:25 p.m.