

## General Community Meeting on April 16, 2014

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Guest speaker **Peter Busnik, Conservation Officer**, discusses his scope of duties (bears, firearms, garbage dumping, and fisheries).

A bear has an incredible sense of smell. Their noses are 700 times more sensitive than a bloodhound. If a garbage bin is unlocked, it becomes a problem. Garbage bins must be locked at all times (except the morning of pick up). Bins must be kept in a secure location. If a bear becomes habituated to human food they become very bold and they just keep coming back. They become defensive with cubs or their food. It is best to call early so the conservation officers can start to deal with them. Feeding bears is a \$345 fine and unlocked bins is a \$230 fine. The conservation officers may make a patrol of garbage bins to insure that they are locked at any time. Birdfeeders and dirty barbeques are one of the worst attractions for bears. 1-877-952-7277 is a 24 hour "hot line". Call on new bears or when you see a change in behavior. Relocation of bears does not really work. Conservation officers use bean bags and rubber bullets. For the shooting of firearms in the woods behind the community, the RCMP are the main contact. If there is an on going issue, the conservation officers can make regular patrols.

Guest speakers from the **Ministry of Highways, Graham Schimf and Michael Braun**, and guest speaker from **Miller Capilano, Larry Paradis**.

Highways looks at improvement, land development, traffic design, etc. Miller Capilano does the maintenance of the highways. Roads within Britannia are the highways and sidewalks fall under the SLRD. A question is asked about why the hill going up to Murrin Park is under construction. It will be fixed, but it was a new process and the topcoat did not adhere properly. There is a question about the approval of subdivision. The Approving Officer for the Ministry has the final say. There is a question about the left turn lane southbound into Britannia. They are aware of the problem. Question from Lance Iverson about a tree on the highways right-of-way. They have been made aware of the tree and have deemed it not a risk. Question of the future right-of-way of the highway along Goat Ridge. There are no plans for it in the near future because of costs. The problem of visibility at the corner of Copper Driver and Lower Crescent is brought up. It is a blind corner and very dangerous. The Ministry does not allow speed bumps or mirrors. Perhaps more signage and speed limit signs nearer to corner. The rip-rap under the new highway bridge is inaccessible for some people to negotiate. It is the only place for locals to obtain access to the waterfront. Miller Cap. was not aware of this trail.

Minutes from the AGM of November 2013 are accepted by Pam Tattersfield.

**Treasurers Report:**

- Current balance       \$7,292.80
- Terms                   \$19,540.19

**Correspondence:**

- A letter was sent out by the BBKA regarding street parking and loose dogs. Both are a problem in the community.
- An invoice was received from CN for the road allowance. The amount of \$525. This has been paid and the Old Customs House pays half.

**General Business:**

- Tai Cheng is planning a four-day info session next week. This will be held in the community hall with the new project management team.
- The Institute for Research, Communication and Development (IRCD), a non-profit with close ties to Opus Dei, have started construction of the road into their property just off of Goat Ridge Drive.
- The waste bin for landscaping waste has arrived at the fire hall. It will be there all summer.

**Reports:**

Angie Knudsen – Dock:

The new dock addition took a beating in the winter storms and broke up. We have been 'loaned' a replacement from Steve Alexander. We will try to salvage parts of the original dock. Sewells Marina was hired to put in a breakwater at a cost of \$2,257.50 plus \$1,526.20 for wood and boom sticks. It was agreed that Sewells may use the dock to drop people off for a mine tour at a cost of \$300 for the season. The moorage was set at \$1000.00 per year.

Celeste Bickford – Copper Kids Playgroup:

Funding was received from the SLRD for another year. The group meets every Wednesday morning from 10am-12pm in the community hall. This group is open to everyone. <http://copperkids.ca>

Lynne Cook – Treasurer:

A tether ball will be installed on the BC hydro right-of-way where the temporary transformer was located. A bench will also be provided. A \$500 donation from Lee

Cation, of the Britannia Classic Long Boarding event, will pay for the cost. Lynne is also looking into another piece of play equipment to go into the park. The area is very small. The extra cost could be upwards of \$300. Lynne would like to make a motion that the BBCA spend \$300 to \$400 for an extra piece of playground equipment. Seconded by Lance Iverson. Carried.

The annual Easter Egg Hunt will take place on April 20th. The location will be the park at 12:00. Volunteers will be needed to do a quick clean up on Saturday at 11:00 and then Sunday same time to hide candy.

The Britannia Beach Volunteer Fire Department has completed the addition to the hall. The 1951 Bickle has been moved over. This was kindly donated by Rob MacDonald back to the fire department. The fire department will be hosting a garage sale on April 26th from 9am to noon. All proceeds will go to restoring the Bickle. There will also be a Mother's Day breakfast on Sunday morning. The fire department is participating in the Mining Museum's 110 year home coming event. The new hall will be dedicated and a pancake breakfast by donation will take place. We will also be doing some 'cool' demos!! Please come out and support your volunteers!

There will be no 'clean up' bins this year. We did not get any grant money from the SLRD. Lynne also put in for a grant to upgrade the playground, but that was also turned down.

The Invasive Species Council will be helping the community again this year. We have a small outbreak of Hog Weed, which is almost under control. The broom and bamboo is an on-going battle. If this is on your property or right-of-way please try to get rid of it.

Remember to please keep the basalt clear from the gutters, as it fills up the storm drains. The cost to taxpayers is \$150 per drain to clean them.

There has been discussion on fixing the trail lights (from Upper Cres. to Copper Dr.) Lynne Cook makes a motion to look into the repairs of these lights. Seconded by Pam Tattersfield. Carried.

Meeting adjourned.