WASKESIU COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Public Council Meeting: Friday, May 9th, 2014 - 9:00 am – 2:00 pm WCC and Parks Canada

Location: Hawood Inn, Waskesiu, SK

Attending: Brian Morgan, Randy Kershaw, Nancy Wood Archer, Bryan Matheson, Brent Hamel, Jim Kerby, Terry Schneider, Alan Fehr (phone in 9:30 am-1:15 pm)

Agenda Topics:

1. Call to Order — Brian Morgan — **9:00 am**
2. In-camera session
3. Adoption of Agenda — Brian Morgan
   Randy Kershaw/Nancy Wood Archer — ***Carried***
4. Approval of March 21st, 2014 Meeting Minutes — Brian Morgan
   Jim Kerby/Randy Kershaw — ***Carried***
5. Business Arising from Minutes
   - Proposed Bungalow Camp changes – move to next meeting agenda.
   Land Use Objectives – PCA is currently not working on the file.
   There is some interest from some business people to advance another bungalow camp
   PCA responded to their recent proposal and are waiting to hear back.
   Jim Kerby volunteered to leave the room if a conflict of interest arises. None did.
   -Proposed changes to the Cottage Owners Guidelines - No advancement has been made on this by PCA.
   - Figures from 2005 to 2010 revenue trends were promised from Parks Canada. Terry Schneider has set up a graph showing the trends for the past 3 years.
   Terry will send to Council and this will be added to next meeting agenda.
   - Elk Street – Community Plan
   Discussion ensued.
   - Budget – Terry Schneider met with Janice MacKinnon, Chair of the WCC Finance Committee, in April and all materials have been sent to Jim Kerby, member of the WCC Finance Committee, for follow up.
   - Reforestation funds from the Waskesiu Foundation fundraising – Jim Kerby to discuss with Dustin Guedo, PCA Ecologist.
6. Correspondence
   - Letter from The Minister of the Environment – dated April 8, 2014
   Re: Community Plan. PCA cannot add anything more to the letter.
   Chair Brian Morgan and Alan Fehr to meet, develop collective strategy and call Alan Latourelle, CEO of Parks Canada Agency.

7. Townsite Update — Terry Schneider — **9:30 am**

- Balsam Street/Lakeview Drive – Storm Sewer and Road Failure – Spring 2014
  Christine Hamilton, Asset Roads Supervisor was present to report on the status of this roadway area.
  Discussion regarding road/storm sewer line failure occurred with the Park Asset Advisor. It was noted that the most likely cause for this failure was due to the failure of a storm sewer pipe located below the surface of the road and alongside the curb gutter.
  Christine will provide Council with information regarding the scope of this project.
  Road barricades on Balsam Street will stay in place where the road has failed until, and while excavators are on site to excavate and repair the roadway infrastructure.
  The pavement in front of Archers store will be monitored to determine if and when it will be appropriate and safe to remove these barricades.
  PCA is going to tender as soon as possible. On Monday the plan is to clean up in front of the Trading Post, Angry Taco and LA Outfitters. PCA does not know if there is damage under the road in front of the stores.
  Preventive options such as applying heat tape to the lines, blow out and steam the lines in the fall were discussed.
  Jim Kerby suggested PCA to report at next Council meeting on what has been learned through this experience - was it an accident or was it preventable. Action item
  Nancy requested the sidewalk be cleaned in front of the LA Outfitters, Angry Taco and The Trading Post.
- PCA projected that the water to the townsite should be on next Monday or Tuesday.
  At present Prospect Point and the flower streets have water. Council's administrator needs to add the information on the waskesiu.org website as the areas get turned on. PCA to keep her informed.
- SaskPower Vegetation Maintenance 2014
  SaskPower has completed their tree topping/trimming/removal work in the Townsite for 2014. Logs on the ground are to be removed by SaskPower in May. At the request of Parks Canada a number of standing wildlife trees (snags) have been preserved. Several decadent trees and trees that were a potential hazard to SaskPower's primary line infrastructure have been removed.
  Phase III (cottage area) to be next year.
  Swale will be done when weather permits – have until the end of September – Jay/Kingfisher and Bluebird/Chickadee.
- SaskTel – New "Stealth Tower" proposal
  SaskTel plan to have the Tower in service for the 2014 operational season.
  Site staked, communication line trench area flagged, power supply line flagged....waiting for favorable weather to proceed
- Waskesiu Multi Season Camp Kitchens

The Park was not successful in Project planning in acquiring the services of a private consultant to produce design drawings for the construction of a multi season camp kitchen. Park's office has since contacted a Parks Canada contemporary architect who is prepared to discuss the project details on site and prepare the construction documents that a licensed framer can use to do the work. When the architect is on site between May and the end of June Park's office will be sure to involve Dave Archer in these camp kitchen upgrade discussions.

- Waskesiu Foundation Agreements
    i. Birch Bay Camp Kitchen renewal project – Agreement has been signed. Weather providing, work to remove the existing camp kitchen and build the new one will take place post the 2015 May Long Weekend and prior to the end of June 2014.
    ii. "Bears on the Beach" agreement with the Waskesiu Foundation is signed. Pending the success of a Waskesiu Foundation funding campaign, this project is scheduled to commence in the fall of 2014 and to be completed prior to the operational season of 2015.
- Canada Post Operations

  Discussion ensued on how and when Canada Post would resume business in the building that has been under repair since last fall.

  PCA reported they are working on repairing the building. The biggest challenge is finding a bilingual person to staff the Post Office.

  Canada Post came up with four options:

  First option - a year round business in Waskesiu could run the post office in their own business. Canada Post would pay the business a pre-established fee per year.

  Second option – Parks Canada to run the post office out of the Administration building.

  Third option – Community mailboxes to be set up to receive mail and send mail.

  Fourth option – Community mailboxes to be set up to only to receive mail – Parks Canada would allow placement of mailboxes on boulevard by Administration building.

  PCA agree they would consider the option for a Canada Post staff person to ride with the daily PCA commuter vans. Also there could be an option for PCA to provide staff housing in Waskesiu.

  PCA will contact someone in the more upper level in Canada Post and offer these options.

  PCA suggested the Waskesiu Chamber of Commerce and the Waskesiu Community Council should contact Canada Post in support of keeping the post office in Waskesiu.

  It was agreed that Terry Schneider and the Council Chair would meet with John Abbott, Regional Representative from Canada Post to discuss increasing the revenue offered to run the post office in a Waskesiu business and the other options discussed today.

  Bryan Matheson suggested, that should it be of help that the Council Chair to pen a letter to our MP in Elk Ridge asking for help with this situation.
- Annual Land Rent Graph

A comparison graph to be shared with WCC at the next meeting.

- Draft 2014/2015 Townsite Operations Budget and Draft 2014/2015 Utility Bill Report
  Terry presented a detailed breakdown of the budget
  Jim Kerby and Janice MacKinnon have seen the budget comparisons and Jim reported there aren't large variations; obvious changes were explained.
  Bryan Matheson recommends a second reminder of the new recycling procedure be sent out by PCA to residents.
  A motion was made to accept the Operating Budget and Utility Budget as presented.
  Jim Kerby/Bryan Matheson ***Carried***
- Capital Repairs are being done on river walkway bridge over the river.
- PCA is in the process of purchasing pumps to replace lift station pumps. $200,000 cost.
- Nature Centre – June 6th is closing date for Tenders, then it takes one month to mobilize. Looking at project commencement after the September long weekend. PCA is working on shoring up the land slump behind the Nature Centre.
- PCA is looking at repairs to Highway # 263.
- Community Litter Blitz will take place on Thursday, May 22nd - Terry sent information to WSRA to forward to their members.

8. Committee Reports

Budget/Finance – Janice MacKinnon

No report given (Covered in previous budget discussion)

Business Relations – Nancy Wood Archer

Both the Waskesiu and Elk Ridge golf courses will not be open for May long weekend due to the cold weather. They had to postpone the Couples Classic Golf Tournament. New date for the tournament is the July long weekend.

There is a new business in town - Pietro, Italian restaurant, opening June 1.

The Temporary Foreign Workers program suspension will have an impact on the local businesses, especially in the winter. Brent Hamel suggested Waskesiu and area Wilderness Region (WWR) and Elk Ridge write to their local MP.

Nancy Wood Archer is now vice president of the Waskesiu Chamber of Commerce, Gary Bender is chair.

Community Development & Planning – Jim Kerby

- Waskesiu 2020 & Beyond Visioning Process - Update on Progress & Next Steps

The goal is on August 17th, immediately following Waskesiu Community Council's AGM, we will hold a community wide meeting with displays in the Terrace Gardens to show the community what activities are planned over the next 5 years and to get the community's input in the establishment of a broad based community vision. Brent Hamel has created a Powerpoint presentation to be shown. The Committee will be meeting with all the stakeholders in the community prior to August 17th, to get their support of this process. Meetings have been set up

to talk with Heritage Museum, Waskesiu Golf Course, Waskesiu Chamber of Commerce, Waskesiu Seasonal Residents Assoc., Waskesiu Marina, Friends of the Park and to talk to the PCA leadership group as well as the DMO.

Alan Fehr to send Brian Morgan and Jim Kerby some suggested dates for a meeting with the PCA leadership group.

Community Relations – Nancy Wood Archer

Merchants and visitors are upset with the fact that The StarPhoenix delivery is now at 11 am daily, in past it has been delivered by as early as 4:30 am.

The Trading Post was broken into – over $3,000 in merchandise was taken. One person has been arrested and is in jail.

Sask. Provincial Government – Ministry of Environment are doing a fire break in the area between Elk Ridge and Waskesiu.

Essential Services – Policing and Fire – Randy Kershaw

- Fire Chief Monthly Report submitted for March and April 2014.

June Council meeting – RCMP – Sgt. Alen Pressler will attend to give Council a policing update.

Vegetation Management – Brian Morgan

Brian Morgan and Jim Kerby will meet with PCA regarding the Waskesiu Foundation's Reforestation donation and how to make it a 'visual' improvement to their donors.

The Waskesiu Foundation – Jim Kerby

- Bears on the Beach Playground Renewal Project update.

Jim thanked PCA for their support of the project. The Foundation's goal is to raise $295,000 by the August long weekend this year.

Many meaningful donations have been received. Three or four local businesses have stepped up to help with fundraising. The Hawood Inn, Twin Pines Cinema, Outer Limits Fun Run and Friends of the Park.

- Birch Bay Camp Kitchen update

Discussion was held during the Townsite Report

- Board member recruitment

The Foundation continues to be looking for suggestions from Council for new board members.

- Planned Giving Initiative - fall of 2014

Planned Giving, endowments, bequests, Insurance policy, to develop a 'capital pot' – taking the Foundation to the next level.

- Reminder - Annual Donor Recognition and Fundraising Dinner is Saturday, July 12th

Tickets 50% sold out and are available online at waskesiu.org.

9. Tracey Desjardins, Marketing & Sales Manager **11:45 am**

- Waskesiu Wilderness Region

Tracey gave a presentation to update WWR's objectives and implementation strategy.

10. Lunch **12:00 noon**

11. New Business

- Marina rate increase – Council Chair has received several phone calls and many emails complaining of rate increase. Council has neither jurisdiction over nor responsibility for the Waskesiu Marina – so there is nothing Council can really do on behalf of residents/users of the marina in regards to the rate increase this year.

Discussion ensued.

- Canada Post service – discussed during the Townsite Report
- Waskesiu Community Council year-end financial statements were presented.

A motion was made to accept the Waskesiu Community Council year-end financial statements - April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014.

Nancy Wood Archer/Bryan Matheson ***Carried***

- Lakeview Drive storm sewer problems – discussed during the Townsite Report
- Nominations for the Kraft Celebration Tour - http://kraftcelebrationtour.tsn.ca/en

A motion of support was made for the Waskesiu Foundation to submit the nomination application.

Bryan Matheson/Brent Hamel ***Carried***

12. Next Meeting – Monday, June 23 – 9 am at The Hawood Inn
13. Adjournment 2:00 pm

Nancy Wood Archer/Jim Kerby