

Wasa Lake Land Improvement District

Box 133, Wasa BC VoB 2K0

admin@wasalake.ca www.wasalake.ca

Minutes for 2014 Annual General Meeting

7 PM, Monday April 28, 2014

Wasa Community Hall, Wasa BC

Handouts: Agenda, 2013 AGM Minutes, Audited Financial Report

Trustees attending: Alex Jensen Chair, Sharon Prinz, Naomi Miller, John Nesbitt

Recorder: Kathy McCauley, Secretary

114 people signed in to the meeting.

1. Call to Order and Introduction of Trustees

Alex called meeting to order at 7:30 following Registration of Qualified Voters.

Alex welcomed everyone, and introduced Trustees: Sharon Prinz, Naomi Miller, John Nesbitt.

2. Presentation of Agenda

There are a few minor changes to the order of the agenda and the addition of several items under Reports. "Reports" will be item 6 and will also include Annual Review, Financial Report, Dyke and RDEK Information.

Move to amend agenda by John

Seconded by Sharon

Carried

3. Minutes of AGM 2013

Move adoption of 2013 AGM Minutes by Naomi

Seconded by Sharon

Carried

4. Presentation of Audited Financial Statements

Move for adoption of Financial Report by Sharon

Seconded by John

Carried

5. Appointment of Auditor for 2014

Move to appoint Adams Wooley as auditor for 2014 by John

Seconded by Sharon

Carried

6. Reports:

(1) Annual Review—Alex Jensen

Since Alex took over the position of chair in September of 2013, board has focused on 2 areas of concern: communication and flooding. Since our Letters Patent states our mandate as “water quantity and quality”, this will be our focus. We need our local businesses and community to flourish. Flooding cannot be controlled, but can be mitigated (getting rid of flood water as soon as the Kootenay River has peaked).

Flooding is a community issue and affects us in the following ways:

- Local businesses and services rely on a strong summer season to survive and are compromised by flooding.
- Decline of numbers of visitors
- Local fund raising groups and activities such as Lions and pancake breakfasts have decreased opportunities to raise money for the community
- Wells and septic systems under water during flooding are concern to lake users
- Property values decline on account of flooding

We will continue to investigate flood mitigation and follow the recommendations of the Baker Report. We continue to seek public input on this subject.

(2) Map -- Sharon Prinz

WLLID became aware of inconsistencies in our map just prior to last year’s AGM. Maps used by RDEK, BC Assessment Authority, and Land Titles Office were all different. We asked Ministry of Community to create a map for us based on the description in the Letters Patent, then asked BC Assessment to create a tax folio from the map. In the process, we discovered that a number of

properties we had in our tax role did not belong within the actual boundary, and a few had been omitted. On reviewing archived documentation from the Land Registry, we found that WLLID was erroneously named as the taxation authority on some properties. In good faith, we refunded all property taxes paid in error and will be contacting people whose properties should have been taxed and add them to the 2014 tax list. We believe that the inconsistencies have now all been corrected.

(3) Communication—Kathy McCauley

Since the fall of 2013, the board has focused on improved public communication. We have addressed this issue in 4 ways:

- Meetings notices are posted on community bulletin boards at least 2 weeks in advance and on the website, as prescribed in our Meeting Procedures Bylaw
- Buzz columns are posted every month.
- Newsletters were mailed in October, November, and January. From February onwards, we have sent electronic newsletters monthly to over 150 email recipients. Cost of electronic newsletters is minimal. Reports show that over 70% of recipients open them.
- Website has been up since the end of February and is a repository for all documents and reports, news and posting of meetings, and provides a direct way to contact the board at any time.

(4) Hanson Channel—Bill Walkley

On March 5th, Bill and Alex Jensen met with Wildfire Management Technician, Andre Chalabi to discuss how they could work together. Wildfire can help us and simultaneously provide crew training for chain saw, and cutting a fire control line. Their crew will clear trees and branches within the current channel bed and approximately 10 m on either side. They will begin when area is dry enough to work safely. Upon completion of this work, it is the intention to have an excavator dig out the Hanson Channel bed so flood water will flow easily from the west side of the tracks to the river.

(5) Water Testing—Laurie Kay

Volunteers have tested lake water from March to November every year since 2004. A minimum of 12 readings are taken at a deep part of the lake about ¼ of the way from the north end. Oxygen levels and water clarity are also observed. Test results provide valuable evidence of lake health and provide a base line from which variations can be analyzed and addressed if necessary. Some changes noticed are: bank erosion due to huge boat wakes, sand spit in northern section of lake seems to be increasing, as is plant growth near the small bay midway on the west side of the lake. Algae blooms have been reported in the pond behind Perch Road. Overall, the lake appears to be healthy and functioning normally. A good sign of a healthy lake is that it turns over twice a year, a fact that is evident by collecting data on water temperatures.

WLLID is currently working with Interior Health and BC Parks to arrange to have water samples from public beaches tested during periods of high water.

(6) Dyke—Alex

High water in the past 2 years has damaged the integrity of the dyke between the Wildlife Sanctuary and Cameron Pond. It is important to maintain the dyke to ensure that dirty flood water does not move from the Sanctuary to Cameron Pond and into Wasa Lake. WLLID applied for and received funding to complete the repair under the provincial Disaster Funding Assistance program. WLLID asked 3 contractors to submit bids but only 2 could meet the deadline. The job went to the lowest bid and repair was completed by April 12. The site was upgraded to include a fence to protect the public.

(7) Regional District of EK Information—Jane Walters

Jane provided information related to what would happen if the RDEK took over the WLLID:

- If RDEK was asked to take over WLLID, they would have to establish a service area, but it would not pertain to water quality and quantity.
- RDEK determines an annual tax to cover operating costs, which would have to be enough to pay staff.
- Current WLLID boundary would remain. However, a boundary extension could be considered after consultation with community, and dependent on their consent.

7. Election of Trustees**Nominations--Alex Jensen is chair of nominating committee.**

Alex nominated Laurie Kay. Bev Rauch seconded.

Alex nominated Bill Walkley. Alan Askey seconded.

Alex nominated Cliff Youngs. Sharon seconded.

Alex nominated Gary Olafson. Ben Roberts seconded.

Alex nominated Gary Yasinsky. Gary Olafson seconded.

Alex nominated James Swansberg. Gary Yasinsky seconded.

Assistant Returning Officer, Sandy Kay, asked if there were any further nominations from the floor 3 times. Since there were no more nominations, Sandy declared nominations closed.

Alex asked each candidate to speak briefly about why they were running for election.

Election followed with returning officers Betty Wardle and Sandy Kay presiding. Registered voters were asked to return to the registration desk to receive their ballots. Voters were asked to go to voting booth, write 3 names on their ballot, and return the ballot to the registration desk and deposit it in the ballot box.

8. Questions & Comments from Floor (2 min time limit per speaker)

There were no questions from the floor.

9. Election Results

Sandy Kay announced results. There were 3 spoiled ballots.

Laurie Kay 52

Bill Walkley 52

Cliff Youngs 51

Gary Yasinsky 41

Gary Olafson 40

James Swansberg 37

Announcement of New Trustees: Laurie Kay, Bill Walkley and Cliff Youngs. As previously announced, the 2 candidates with the two highest numbers of votes would take the 3 year terms, and the candidate with the 3rd highest number of votes would take the one year term, finishing off Naomi Miller's term.

Election results were posted on the website later in the evening.

Presentation of procedural information to new trustees: Trustee's Handbook, Improvement District Manual, Letters Patent and Open Meetings Guide.

In a brief meeting of board members, the inaugural meeting date was set for May 1st 7 pm at Wasa Hall. Trustees deemed it necessary to hold the first meeting at this time because senior trustee Sharon was leaving on Friday to return to Northern BC to tend to an urgent family matter and would not be returning until the end of June.

10. Adjournment

Alex adjourned the meeting at 9 PM.