

SCRD Meeting – Jan. 26, 2012

The Regional Board met last Thursday evening. All members were present except Director Louie, who was regrettably attending to the passing of a family member. We offer our condolences. Staff in attendance were France (CAO), Fenwick (Community Services), Olmstead (Planning & Development), Shoji (Infrastructure Services), Ms Legault (Legislative Services) and Ms Perreault (Treasurer).

The amended agenda was adopted. Here's the link to the regular agenda:

<http://www.scrd.ca/files/File/Administration/Agendas/2012/2012-JAN-26%20BRD%20Agenda%20Pkg.pdf>

I've not found a link to the amendments. Suffice to say that the SCRCD was in Round 1 of its budget process last week, and the amendments consisted of 45 pages containing four days of Corporate & Admin Committee minutes covering 104 recommendations regarding the 2012 budget. More of the budget process later.

REPORTS

CAO France

- Sechelt Indian Band water (meeting with SIB tentatively set for February 20)
- strategic plan (workshop scheduled for April 20 and May 4)
- Chekwelp (discussions regarding service agreement principles with the Squamish Nation)
- economic development (draft MOU to go to Corporate Services Committee February or March)
- human resources (collective bargaining agreement process is underway, progress is being made)
- BC Hydro (letter sent regarding smart meters)
- recreation facilities (deficiency remediation ongoing)
- recreation service reviews (consultants report nearing completion)
- another half dozen items are on the CAO's watch list including Solid Waste Management, 2012 budget process, BC Ferries, sustainability plan and independent power projects

Director Turnbull

- budget process is all consuming
- BURSCO proposal to mine gravel at McNab Creek will be a big issue

Director Mauro

- Last two weeks (budget) have been a revelation
- Interest from a group in a walking path from the clinic to downtown Madeira Park

Director Lutes

- Budget process is certainly different from Sechelt's
- Public Hearing on Target Marine was held and the OCP is now amended to permit harvesting
- The District terminated the golf club lease and has hired an interim manager
- District approved a temporary variance to the noise bylaw to permit overnight work on Teredo Street so as not to disrupt daytime traffic
- An application for a cement plant will be the subject of an upcoming public information session (February 2nd, 7:00 pm, Community Room, DOS)
- Going to Ottawa to accept award for climate action plan

Director Tretick

- As chair of the Corporate Services Committee which reviews the budget, Tretick notes that the process imposes a steep learning curve
- Gibsons has approved a two year contract for garbage pickup
- Public Hearing on the Harbour Area Plan is scheduled for February 28 at 7:00 pm, location TBA

Director Shugar

- Met with the Agricultural Advisory Committee – an enthusiastic and knowledgeable group.
- Attended meeting of the Roberts Creek Community Association – issues were logging on Elphinstone (a delegation will be coming to the Board) and light pollution

Chair Nohr

- Halfmoon Bay OCP group preparing for visioning

Special Infrastructure Services Committee – January 10th

- The purpose of the Special Meeting was to consider the Financial Analysis of the Impact of Proposed Zero Waste Initiatives on the Sechelt Landfill.
- The agenda and the consultant's report is at <http://www.scrd.ca/files/File/Administration/Agendas/2012/2012-JAN-10-ISC%20AGENDA%20PKG%20SP.pdf>
- The landfill is funded exclusively by tipping fees. The problem is that reduced or diverted waste (the goal of the Zero Waste strategy) reduces landfill revenues while costs remain fixed or increasing. The consultant's report shows a number of scenarios in which net landfill costs produce various deficits unless tipping fees are substantially increased.
- The Committee recommendation is to take the presentation to the District of Sechelt, Sechelt Indian Government District and the Town of Gibsons councils for their information.
- Infrastructure Services GM Shoji pointed out that the presentation takes two hours and suggested instead that the three Councils be invited to a briefing at the SCR D. A discussion ensued. Director Tretick stated that much of the public is unlikely to attend at Field Road, noted that there is a good deal of dis-information out there and concluded that the public has to be informed. Director Shugar suggested that a shorter version of the briefing be used or that a video version be linked to the SCR D's website. CAO France responded that staff want to focus on elected officials first and then go to the public as a separate process.
- In the end it was agreed that the elected officials will be invited to a briefing at the SCR D office, and a plan to communicate to the public will be developed.

Community Services Committee – January 12th

- 13 recommendations on reports and communications received. Subjects include traffic calming in Gibsons, the Age Friendly grant application, a Youth Centre for Sechelt, interruption of transit services, oil spills, the Lower Mainland Treaty Advisory Committee, RCMP contract negotiations and the Island Coastal Economic Trust.

Planning & Development Committee – January 19th

- 16 recommendations on reports and communications received, and on permits and bylaws. Subjects include commercial medical marijuana (Director Shugar asked that the report be

amended to show that she is looking for information on zoning issues related to commercial medical marijuana, not on the issue itself), pest management plan, housing affordability symposium (February 2 & 3, Director Nohr to attend), BURNCO Aggregate Mine project (Director Turnbull asked that the list of those to whom the staff report "Notice of Commencement of an Environmental Assessment Notification for the BURNCO ...project" be expanded to include the Islands Trust, a number of community associations and DFO, the Roberts Creek Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw and the Implementation of the West Howe Sound Bylaw.

Corporate & Administrative Services Committee – January 16th, 17th, 18th and 20th

- 4 reports, 45 pages, 104 recommendations
- This is Round 1 of the SCRD budget making process. There are two more rounds to come. At this stage, all SCRD Directors, sitting as members of this Committee, review preliminary budget proposals from staff. It is complicated. The SCRD provides a wide range of services. The costs of each service are recovered only from the area that benefits from the service. Listed here <http://www.scrd.ca/Services-we-Provide> are services provided by the SCRD. Some of the functions involve all Electoral Areas and Municipalities while others pertain to specific areas. In addition to these services the SCRD budget must include general administration and legislative services and grants in aid.
- The Directors approved all of these recommendations in short order, the discussion having been done in Committee.

I should add at this point that Directors Shugar and Lewis both suggested that I would have a better sense of how the SCRD operates if I were to attend committee meetings. That's where "the real action is". For now I'm attending Board meetings so that I can get an overview of the SCRD. It may be that I will attend Committee meetings in the future, particularly if there is an issue that compels me. For example, the Infrastructure Committee meets Thursday, February 2nd to review reports on sustainability, renewable energy and transit. I am told that the budget for the Sustainable Services Department is one of the fastest growing within the SCRD, so I may try to attend. The agenda is here <http://www.scrd.ca/files/File/Administration/Agendas/2012/2012-FEB-02%20ISC%20AGENDA%20PACKAGE.pdf> The meeting is at 1:30.

Corporate & Administrative Services Committee – January 26th

- 2012 Advisory Planning Commission Appointments
Voting by electoral area directors only, weighted vote

BYLAWS

Roberts Creek Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw 375.11, 2010

- Resource rural designated lands located north of but not immediately adjacent to the SC Highway may be considered for country residential uses provided conditions are met
- Voting by electoral area directors, 1 vote each
- Third reading was given (*first reading was given June 24th, 2010*)

SCRD Zoning Amendment Bylaw 310.135, 2010

- Rezone a number of parcels from RU1 (Rural One) to CR2 (Country Residential Two)

- Voting by electoral area directors, 1 vote each
- Third reading was given

SCRD Zoning Amendment Bylaw 310.141, 2012

- Amends the 1987 Zoning Bylaw to show new land use zones and new subdivision districts in West Howe Sound
- Voting by electoral area directors, 1 vote each
- First reading given

In less than an hour the meeting was adjourned and the Directors retired to an “in camera” meeting.

Cheers,
Hammy
479 Shaw Road
Gibsons, BC
604-741-5305 (cell)

“These notes have been prepared by a Gibsons resident to reflect what he heard and saw, and was able to record by hand, during a meeting of the SCR D Board. These notes have not been verified against the digital sound recording of the meeting. These notes are not an official record of the meeting – only the minutes of the meeting, produced by SCR D staff and adopted by the Board are official.”