

Mountain Fire Protection District

Annual General Meeting

April 20, 2017

In Attendance: Trustees Charles Pinker, Mike deWit, Dale Fulton, Harold Kamikawaji and Clem Remillard. Administrator/Financial Officer Sarah Zubkowski. Fire Chief Jack Van Doorn and multiple firefighters. Residents and non-residents of the District.

Meeting called to order @ 7:03 pm by Charles Pinker.

Introductions:

- Charles Pinker introduced the board of trustees, Sarah Zubkowski and Maureen Young representative from the Regional District of Nanaimo.
- Jack Van Doorn introduced the firefighters in attendance.

Prior Year AGM Minutes:

- Charles Pinker asked everyone to read the prior year AGM minutes.
- Motion to approve 2016 AGM minutes made by George Baker. Second by Randy O'Donnell. MSC.

Financial Report: presented by Sarah Zubkowski.

- Sarah Zubkowski reviewed the audited financial statements for December 31, 2016.

Improvement District Report:

- Charles Pinker stated that the new burning bylaw has been sent to Victoria for approval. Once approved it will be posted on the website. There is a new fine schedule that is being put in place for non-burning times of the year.
- Charles Pinker stated that the District obtained 3 water tanks which they would like to bury in the District at various locations in order to give the fire department more options for water sources during fires. Charles Pinker asked that the residents of the District that would allow a water tank to be buried on their property to please contact the board of trustees.
- Dale Fulton noted that various medals were presented at the firefighters Christmas party for long service. Medals were presented to Charles Pinker, Jack Van Doorn, Wade Pile, Wayne Morgan, Jim Avender, Steve Ellis, Russ McCallum and Rob Argyle.

Fire Department Report: presented by Jack Van Doorn.

- There are 7 members of the fire fighters who are paying to reach the firefighter 2 level.
- 7 of the 28 members of the fire department are residents of the District. 21 members are non-residents of the District.
- In 2016, 25% of calls were from burning complaints, 18% of calls were from alarms activated, 18% of calls were from motor vehicle incidents, 15% of calls were to assist emergency services, 8% of calls were for structure fires, 3% were rescues, 3% were hydro line fires, and 10% were other fire calls. A total of 39 calls in 2016.
- Burning permits are required from April 15-October 15 each year. Wade Pile is working on finalizing the burning permit in an online format. Debbie Remillard asked whether the

burning permits that have been approved will be available for viewing. Wade Pile stated they will not. Elaine Seymour asked whether there will be a charge for burning permits. Wade Pile stated they do not charge for burning permits. Dave Seymour asked the fire department to elaborate on the fines for burning complaints.

- Al Whitworth enquired about the status of the accreditation process as this will reduce the resident's house insurance. Jack Van Doorn stated that the fire department is a long way away from qualifying for this. The requirements are that the fire department must produce 200 gallons/minute for 2 hours straight and there may be a requirement for a minimum number of firefighters attending fires. Al Whitworth stated that former fire chief had said that that the new truck would be helpful in qualifying for this. Jack Van Doorn stated that they need to qualify per the standards noted. Debbie Remillard enquired whether the fire department has canvassed the area to see if residents would be willing to have a water tank on their property. Jack Van Doorn stated they have not. Neil Nelson asked whether the fire department knows where they want to put the water tanks. Jack Van Doorn stated that they do: Jamieson, Northwood, Creekside. Dave Seymour asked why not ask residents to help pay to get the fire department closer to qualifying. Jack Van Doorn stated that it is up to the Board and the District is stretched due to the purchase of a new truck.
- Randy O'Donnell stated that he is concerned with the parking at Witchcraft and that it may delay the fire department in accessing a potential fire at the residences there. Jack Van Doorn stated that the fire department would have vehicles towed if they were obstructing traffic. Russ McMann stated that the RDN is putting in a new parking lot at Witchcraft Lake. Charles Pinker also stated that a standpipe could be put in at Witchcraft Lake.
- George Baker asked whether the fire department has access to Andres Road. Dave LeNeveu stated that this is out of the District's boundaries.
- Janet Atkinson enquired about how the tanks that are to be buried in the District are filled with water. Jack Van Doorn stated that the tanks will be set up to fill themselves.
- Janet Atkinson asked how to get a dry hydrant put in at Witchcraft Lake. Charles Pinker stated that the board would need to discuss this with the City of Nanaimo and the RDN. Dave Seymour asked if anyone has contacted the City regarding this issue. Charles Pinker stated no one has. Joe Mayzes motioned that the board should contact the City about putting in a dry hydrant at Witchcraft Lake. Second by Dave Seymour. MSC.
- Charles Pinker stated that the board does not receive remuneration and does not plan to take remuneration in the future.

Elections:

- Clem Remillard stated that there are 2 board positions available: Charles Pinker and Dale Fulton.
- Clem Remillard asked for nominations. Mike deWit nominates Neil Nelson. Jack Van Doorn nominates John Gregson. Debbie Remillard nominates Dale Fulton. Clem Remillard asks again for further nominations once, twice, three times.
- Clem Remillard asked Neil Nelson if he accepts the nomination. Neil Nelson stated he does. John Gregson accepted his nomination. Dale Fulton does not accept the nomination.
- Neil Nelson and John Gregson introduced themselves. Residents of the District voted. 14 votes for Neil Nelson and 12 votes for John Gregson. Neil Nelson is a new trustee.
- Clem Remillard asked for nominations. Neil Nelson nominates John Gregson. Clem Remillard asks again for further nominations once, twice, three times.

- Clem Remillard asked John Gregson if he accepts the nomination. John Gregson stated he does. John Gregson is a new trustee.
- Dale Fulton thanked Charles Pinker for his years of service and gives him a card and gift.
- Charles Pinker asked for any further questions. None.

Motion to adjourn meeting @ 8:17 pm made by Charles Pinker. Second by Dale Fulton. MSC.

Next meeting is the AGM and is on April 19, 2018 @ 7:00 pm.