

GABRIOLA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT GENERAL MEETING

A General Meeting of the Gabriola Fire Protection District was held February 3, 2021 at the No. 1 Fire Hall with five Trustees in attendance, absent was Penelope Bahr and Mark Noyon. The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by Chairman Paul Giffin.

Sean Lewis gave the opening greeting “The GFPID acknowledges that we are gathering within the traditional lands of the Snuneymuxw Nation”

The Chairman asked for any errors or omissions from the January 13, 2021 minutes, moved by Sandra Rudischer that the minutes be accepted as presented, seconded by John Moeller, carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Vanessa Craig:

The Chair asked for comments regarding the Trustee’s satisfaction with this response.

- I’m happy with the fast response, it looks like we have to accept their decision but it won’t affect the GFPID’s levy.
- Why was this in-camera last time and not tonight? (A) At the last meeting we didn’t have all the details, and as the response to our letter is not showing any finances so we no longer need to hold it in-camera.
- Why were the Trustees not consulted about the decision? Vanessa Craig apologized in her letter about the way it was handled.
- It was handled poorly but the Trustees have done their due diligence in regards to taxpayer dollars.
- Do we have to upgrade equipment here? That wasn’t answered.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

Paula Mallison noted that she had emailed Victoria regarding the Provincial Levy a few times, and the last time they said that although the paperwork had yet to be sent out, our request for the 2021 calendar year had been approved.

FIRE CHIEF’S REPORT: (As per written report)

- Regarding the Fort Garry preferred apparatus agreement with the RDN, have we signed an agreement with them?
No, at this point the RDN has only offered to let the GVFD join them on it.
- A question was asked about the new Fire Smart Grant. The Fire Chief explained that this grant may be able to offset some of the costs/salary for the Prevention Officer, as working with the public on Fire Smarting their property would be a major part of the job.

TRAINING OFFICER REPORT: (As per written report)

The Chair thanked him for his report.

ASSOCIATION REPORT: N/A

OLD BUSINESS:

Bylaw for electronic meeting:

- New provincial health orders are coming on the 5th, will call a meeting of the Bylaw Committee next week and report back to the Board at the March meeting.

Nuisance Bylaw:

- The Chair explained that the Fire Chief and Officers were reading over it and will hopefully, be able to address it at the March meeting.
- The Fire Chief thanked the Chair for all his hard work on the Bylaw .

Derek Kilborn, from the Sounder, asked the Trustees if this was something that they would need public approval for.

No, as the majority of it is about meeting legal requirements put out by the Province, but once completed will send it to the Sounder to inform the Public about the new regulations.

Moved by Sandra Rudischer that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Diana Moher, carried.

Meeting adjourned 4:45 p.m.