

GABRIOLA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT GENERAL MEETING

A General Meeting of the Gabriola Fire Protection District was held February 9, 2022 with seven Trustees in attendance. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chairman Paul Giffin.

Chris Windess 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 12, 2021 meeting, moved by Chris Windess that the minutes be accepted as presented, seconded by Fred Apstein, carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Dr. Rooks - moved to old business

Ivan Bulic - It was agreed that the Chief would answer the letter and send to the Trustees.

Letter of support from the Trustees for the Telus cell tower (sent)

TREASURER’S REPORT: N/A

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Communication - website, moved to old business.

The Chair requested that the minutes of the Committee Report be moved. Sean Lewis moved that the minutes of the Committee Report be accepted, seconded by Diana Moher, carried.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT: (As per written report)

The Chair asked if Will would like a letter written to the RDN from the Trustees regarding the possible camping in the 707? The Chief responded yes. Fred Apstein asked that the Chief write it as he knew the talking points.

TRAINING OFFICER REPORT: (As per written report)

Sean Lewis asked if he could have a list of members with ranks? The Chief responded yes.

Fred Apstein suggested a board with the picture of all the FF’s and their names. The Training Officer said they had sent out a questionnaire and that was one of the questions and the members vetoed it.

OLD BUSINESS:

Chris Windess gave a presentation of the website he had set up, saying that he would administer it and it would take work off the operations people in the department. He noted that he had kept it simple and straight forward and that nothing was set in stone. The cost would be approximately \$300.00 per year. He thanked Jenn Knight for some great advise.

A discussion ensued with the following comments:

- Great beginning, 95% of what we have discussed, thanks Jenn, Will, and Evan for your past work.
- Do you want the fire department to take the Trustee section off their website? - Yes, otherwise one would be redundant.
- Past minute button, and budgets, how do you want to organize it?
- Need to decide on historical information and how long to keep things.

- Layering is a good way to organize.
- Subscription - what notices to go out.
- Look at fire department structures similar to ours, not one of them has a separate website for Trustees, seems like it's splitting it into two entities. In my opinion we should be a united front.
- It's not to split it apart but to take on a task from already busy people.
- The way things work aren't going to change just the people who administer it are.
- There was an agreement in the Communication Committee to go ahead with the website.
- Corporate Officer - Point of Order, there can be an agreement at a Committee meeting but that has to be brought to a Board Meeting to have a motion.
- What happens if Chris leaves? It could be administered by a volunteer, and Chris has already stated he would continue on with it even if he wasn't here.
- Could Chris just make the new website and put it up on the FD website and administer it himself, that would save \$300 p/y?

Moved by Penelope Bahr "That the Communications Committee recommend to the GFPID Board, at the next meeting, that the GFPID pursue the creation of a GFPID website, separate from and linked to and from the GVFD website, operated by GFPID, and identify next steps.", seconded by Fred Apstein, discussion.

Amended by Sean Lewis "That the GFPID pursue the creation of a GFPID website, separate from and linked to and from the GVFD website, operated by GFPID, and that Trustee Windess develop the website as discussed, based on the sample he has prepared.", seconded.

Question? Carried.

Dr. Rooks' Charitable receipt for the Dam.

John Moeller moved that the GFPID issue a charitable receipt to Dr. Rooks for the money he has put into the Dam, seconded by Chris Windess, carried.

Long Range Plan:

The 20 year plan has expired so we need to update our operational plan for the Improvement District. The Fire Chief explained that a lot of the departments are doing ten year plans with amendments every two years.

Who is interested in being on a committee for this Long Range Plan? Fred Apstein, Sean Lewis, Diana Moher, and the Fire Chief.

Sean Lewis moved the a Committee be formed for the 10 year Plan with two year reviews consisting of Fred Apstein, Sean Lewis, Diana Moher and the Fire Chief, seconded by Chris Windess, discussion, question, carried.

Review of the Trustees:

The Chair thanked Chris Windess for his work and the email he received last night. The Chair said that as he had just received the information about the Review from Chris last night he would like to move that the Board meet has a whole next Wednesday at 4:00 p.m., to discuss this, seconded by John Moeller.

Penelope Bahr stated that as we had given Chris the go-ahead to present something tonight, I would like to discuss it now. I would be happy to meet next Wednesday if Chris could present it now.

Diana Moher stated that she had said a half dozen times we need to meet as a whole to discuss this.

Question, carried.

Policies and Procedures:

Fred Apstein moved that the Trustee have access to the physical fire department same as the General Public have access, seconded by Sean Lewis, carried.

Mutual Aid Agreement Cranberry:

The Fire Chief explained that the Agreement was exactly the same as the one we have with Cedar and that he would like a motion from the Trustees to sign this agreement.

Fred Apstein moved that the Mutual Aid Agreement with Cranberry be accepted, seconded by Penelope Bahr, carried.

Don Elkington and Public:

The Chair suggested that a thank you letter be sent to Don Elkington and the Public for their support and donations to the upgrading of the medical training.

Fred Apstein moved that the Chair write a letter of thank you to Don Elkington and the Public and it be published in the Sounder, seconded, carried.

Replacement of No. 4 @ 5:

Engine 5 expires in 2024 and No. 4, our wildfire truck is from 1995. I suggest we buy a dual purpose truck, a smaller freightliner that can get into small places and have a pump and roll with a 1000 gallon capacity. It will take about 2 years to build and by that time we will have the money in our Capital Reserve Fund with money left over.

Penelope Bahr thanked the Fire Chief for his foresight and asked if the Contingency Fund is different from the Capital Reserve fund? Yes, they are two different funds.

Fred Apstein moved that the Fire Chief continue looking into a new truck, seconded by Diana Moher, carried.

Questions from the Public:

Q: Regarding the letter of response to I. Bulic by the Fire Chief and emailing it to the Trustee, how do the Trustees respond? By email and consensus and then move ahead on the issue.

Fred Apstein moved that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Sean Lewis, carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.