

**40 MILE PARK MEETING
MARCH 12, 2009
TOWN OF BOW ISLAND OFFICE**

1. Acting chairman Len Varjassy called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Present: Rob May, Bruce Vine, Vern Beck, Kim Dosman, Doug Hancock, Tom Thacker, Brenda Hallett, Ron Lane, Len Varjassy, Ron Hunt, LeRon Torrie, Blair McNeely

2. Minutes – The minutes from the February 12, 2009 meeting were reviewed.

Motion: Doug Hancock moved that the minutes be adopted as presented.

Seconded: Bruce Vine seconded the motion.

Carried.

The minutes from the February 26, 2009 meeting were reviewed.

Motion: Bruce Vine moved that we accept the minutes as amended.

Seconded: Rob May seconded the motion.

Carried.

Business from the minutes

Doug Hancock questioned whether everyone would be eligible to buy 2 Seasonal Passes for \$40. The consensus was that Seasonal Renters would not be eligible for the half price passes.

3. Financial Report – Bruce Vine

Bruce reviewed the Financial Report as of February 20, 2009

Bruce has met with our accountant Michele Winger and has signed another 1-year contract with her. She would like to set up a check and balance system to protect the park.

The past due accounts with larger amounts owing have been sent to a Collection Agency

Motion: Doug Hancock moved that we accept the Financial Statement as presented.

Seconded: Kim Dosman seconded.

Carried.

4. Committee Reports

Operations – Len Varjassy

Jake has been given 5 weeks notice of his layoff, and he says he will not be returning.

He is currently working on welding a gate, and he has the washroom framed.

Len thought that we should give Jake something in recognition of all the hard work he has put into the park.

Motion: Blair McNeely moved that we give Jake a \$2000 gratuity in recognition of his 7 years of service to the Park.

Seconded: Rob May seconded the motion.

Carried

It was also suggested that we have a barbeque at the park one weekend after it opens, so the park users can say good-bye to Jake.

Marketing & Public Relations - Rob May

Rob is going to put an ad in the Inroads booklet put out by Alberta Tourism. The cost is \$410 and the booklets are distributed all over Alberta.

Special Events & Fund Raising – Kim Dosman

Kim has submitted a proposal for a playground to the Lottery Board. She passed around a copy of the proposal for everyone to look over. She needs to submit a copy of our By-laws to apply for grants from the Lottery Board.

We will be holding the fireworks on July 4th, since July 1st falls in the middle of the week. The Last Resort Club is planning on holding a function on that weekend.

Development – Doug Hancock

Doug is still waiting for a response to the letter sent to the County requesting that they check with the Committee before giving Development Permits to leaseholders.

The Park passes will be done by the end of the week. The half price passes will look different than the regular passes and will be numbered for ease in keeping track of them.

40 Mile Park Foundation

The Foundation is looking for a member from the Park Committee to be on their Nominating Committee. They will be looking for 2 tax paying leaseholders from the park to be on the Foundation.

5. Report from the County – Tom Thacker

A written response to the Long Term plan had been mailed to the Park, but unfortunately, it had not been received by meeting time, so Tom gave us a verbal response

The County will not give approval to the Committee to move the campground from Area B, and no new housing development will be allowed anywhere in the park. They will allow us to develop Area E & J, with seasonal or overnight camping only, make improvements to Area F, widen the road to the boat ramp, and extend the beach.

6. Report from SMRID – LeRon Torrie

SMRID will not oppose the decision made by the County.

LeRon told us we can always try to come up with another proposal in response to the County's decision.

7. Convenience Store Operators

We had a call from the people who ran the convenience store last year. They would like to return this year, but they would like the range hood to be installed and some other upgrades done to the building. Estimates to have the range hood put in run about \$2500. One of the operators is a handyman and he says they could put the range hood in for about \$1000. They would be willing to do some other repairs to the building as well. All supplies purchased would be on Committee approval. It was suggested we get the range hood inspected first to make sure it will be up to code.

Motion: Rob May moved that we strike up a deal with the Convenience Store Operators to install the Range Hood in exchange for rent for the year.

Seconded: Ron Hunt seconded the motion.

Carried.

8. Highway Signs

Two years ago, the Committee had looked into putting up new signs on the Highway; at that time we had decided that the signs we had up were still in good condition and that we didn't want to go with the new ones. A letter has recently been received from the Government telling us that we have until 2010 to apply for the signs at a reduced rate. We decided the highway signs are still in good condition and to forgo new signs for the time being.

9. Other Items for Discussion

Long-Term Plan

Doug Hancock stated that the only way the park can afford to develop Area E or J is to sell some lots. He wondered if the County would allow us to sell the six view lots in Area B to finance the development. A new proposal will have to be made to the County.

Pavilion Rental

A leaseholder in the park would like to book the Pavilion on May 22, but he wanted to know if leaseholders get a reduced rate. The Committee decided that charging different rates to certain people was not something we wanted to start doing.

STEP Program

Bruce has applied for funding for two positions through the STEP program; 1 maintenance position and 1 Program Director, who will be in charge of running programs for children.

Park Manager

A proposed contract for the Park Manager was reviewed.

Motion: Ron Hunt moved that we take the contract to a lawyer and that we authorize Bruce Vine to proceed, with the lawyer's approval.

Seconded: Doug Hancock seconded the motion.

Carried.

The Park Manager will be directed by the Committee, but one person should be his contact if he needs something. Everyone agreed that Larry Weatherhead, if he is willing, should be the Manager's contact.

County Land Use By-law

The County is in the process of re-doing the Land Use By-laws and the Committee would like to have some input into the changes. Tom will get Nathan Ogden to send out some information to the Committee. There will be a public meeting in regards to the By-law changes on March 26 and the Committee is free to have someone in attendance.

10. Adjournment – Rob May moved for adjournment at 9:30 p.m.