

RIDGE MEADOWS SENIORS SOCIETY
Board Meeting held Wednesday, October 26th, 2022 at 9:30 am
Maple Ridge Seniors Activity Centre
12150 224th Street, Maple Ridge, B.C., V2X 3N8

PRESENT: Don Mitchell (President), Fran Preston (Vice President), Susan Schenkeveld (Secretary), Bobbi Duncan (Director), Karen Hjort-Olsen (Treasurer), Richard Newman (Director), Gayle Lyons (Director), Margaret Attwell (Director), Angie Hodgins (Director)

STAFF: Maria Perretta (Executive Director)

LIAISONS: Bob Meachen (Pitt Meadows), Judy Dueck (Maple Ridge), Tony Cotroneo (Manager, Recreation Services for Maple Ridge)

REGRETS: Jackie Senchyna (Recreation Program Service Coordinator, Pitt Meadows),

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1.0 Call to order at 9:30 am. Introductions of new Board members and welcomes were undertaken.

2.0 Approval of the agenda.

Addition of Information Technology and Giving Tuesdays under New Business. Strata item to be reinserted into the template under reports going forward.

MOTION: Bobbi Duncan moved that the Agenda be approved with the noted additions. Seconded by Fran Preston. **CARRIED**

3.0 Approval of the minutes of July 27th, 2022.

MOTION: Bobbi Duncan moved that the minutes be approved. Seconded by Fran Preston **CARRIED**

4.0 **Reports**

4.1 **Liasions:**

Judy Dueck

-Council elections were recently completed and congratulations were provided for all the successful candidates. It was noted that there was a significant drop in the voter turnout this year. The MR Council is in transition so the RMSS liaison will need to be confirmed by the Mayor going forward.

A big thank you was extended to previous Council members and MR staff on all the hard work undertaken from the past year.

-A Communication Strategist position has been established and is in the process of staffing. It will focus on developing and implementing improved communications processes, including the monitoring and improved use of social media.

Bob Meachen

- Pitt Meadows also experienced low voter turnout in recent Council elections. The new Council will be a combination of past Councillors and newly elected ones. A thank you was also extended to PM staff and all their hard work over the past year.
- The CP rail initiatives remain part of the key priorities of the City going forward.
- The RCMP building still needs to be constructed, and a transition plan finalized between MR and PM.

Tony Cotroneo

- Business plans for Parks and Recreation are in progress. It was noted that safety remains a key component of the plan.
- Information item shared around recent break-ins at some municipal buildings by the same individual who may be dealing with a mental health issue.

4.2 Maria Perretta, Executive Director

- New Grapevine for November/December published. The Grapevine now includes a QR code on the back page which leads to the Canada Helps Donation page for RMSS.
- New programing will be put in place on a trial basis at the Albion Community Centre
- Christmas tea(s) to take place this year at both Centres.
- New open games programs at PM.
- New drop in Arts programs in MR.
- Various workshops will be undertaken over the year. Refer to the scheduling in the Grapevine.

4.3 Finance

Karen

- The overview of the financial statement shows a small deficit.
- September showed a membership increase because of renewals. There was a suggestion that understanding the attrition patterns might help the Society going forward in budgeting. Maria noted that the software program makes it challenging to easily identify the data, but it could be done on an infrequent basis.
- Food costs versus revenue continue to be of concern.
- A question was posed on the investment approach to Society monies, should there be available monies.
- There was a suggestion made that the budgeting process should begin soon, as the fiscal year will approach quickly

4.4 Pitt Meadows Centre

- The painting at the PM Activity Centre has now been completed. Folks agreed that the outcome was a more aesthetically pleasing interior.
- We still need to purchase a commercial freezer to replace the existing one that is not functioning well. This has to be completed by March at the latest to fully utilize the monies from the New Horizons grant.

4.5 Strata

- The remaining portion of the roof at MR is progressing.
- Upgrades to the toilets are planned.
- Heating units need to be repaired.

4.6 Duck Race

- Rotary presented RMSS with a \$1384.0 cheque for our portion of the fund-raising initiative.
- It was hoped that next year when paper tickets are reinstated, that additional funds can be raised as the complexity of the online ordering may have deterred some folks from purchasing a ticket.

4.7 Income Recap

- Details on current and planned revenue sources, grants, and fundraising for RMSS was attached as an information document for the Board.

5. Unfinished Business

5.1 Bus

- RMSS currently has obtained a grant from BC Gaming of \$21,000 to support use of a Bus (offered up by MR for \$1.0) which would be owned by RMSS and utilized by the Seniors Network and other community partners on a fee per service basis.
- The grant money must be utilized for Operational costs only. There remain a number of details to determine prior to being able to finalize the purchase of the bus, and its operation and use. Maria to reach out to BC Gaming to determine if we have exceeded our time frames.

6. New Business

6.1 Information Technology

- Maria informed the group that the current Software utilized by RMSS "You Connect" is being retired by the company as of April 2024, at which time it will be replaced by a module system, Book King.
- This represents a significant challenge to RMSS, as the current FOB system has been working fairly well for the Society after much customization and many hours of trouble shooting and fixes. The replacement module system doesn't appear to be capable of meeting RMSS needs now or in the future.
- Vanessa is researching other software programs, and there will be follow up to determine if RMSS can purchase the current program and continue its use. We may also reach out to an IT specialist to get additional opinions.

Action item:

A joint staff/Board committee will be struck to discuss next steps and develop and present potential options going forward.

6.2 Giving Tuesday

- There was a discussion as to whether RMSS wants to participate in the Giving Tuesday initiative.
- This is a worldwide initiative that encourages the community to donate monies to their chosen charity during a once/year campaign.
- This year's giving Tuesday will be on November 29th.

Action item

A Board ad hoc group was struck immediately following the meeting to determine how to involve RMSS in Giving Tuesday for November 2022. Margaret, Gayle, Bobbi and Don participated in a meeting that day to initiate next steps.

6.3 Miscellaneous

- An information item noted that RMSS centres are closed on Christmas and Boxing day, although only Christmas is a paid statutory holiday for staff.

The next meeting is scheduled in Pitt Meadows at Bonson Community Centre on November 23rd.

Adjournment

MOTION: Susan moved that the meeting be adjourned at 1120 pm. Seconded by Karen. **CARRIED**

Don Mitchell
Don Mitchell (President)

Nov 23/22
Date

Susd
Susan Schenkeveld (Secretary)