

RIDGE MEADOWS SENIORS SOCIETY

Board Meeting held Wednesday, January 25th, 2023 at 9:30 am
Maple Ridge Seniors Activity Centre
12150 224th Street, Maple Ridge, B.C

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

STAFF: Maria Perretta (Executive Director), Bev Schmahmann, Outreach Coordinator

LIAISONS: Onyeka Dozzie (Maple Ridge) Tony Cotroneo (Manager, Recreation Services for Maple Ridge)
Jackie Senchyna (Recreation Program Service Coordinator, Pitt Meadows)

REGRETS: Angie Hodgins (Director), Bob Meachen (Pitt Meadows)

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1.0 Call to order at 9:32 am.
Onyeka Dozzie was welcomed to the Board as the new representative from Maple Ridge Council.

2.0 Approval of the agenda.

MOTION: Fran Preston moved that the Agenda be approved. Seconded by Gayle Lyons. **CARRIED**

3.0 Approval of the minutes of November 23rd, 2022.

MOTION: Karen Hjort-Olsen moved that the minutes be approved. Seconded by Bobbie Duncan.
CARRIED

4.0 **Staff presentation by Bev Schmahmann**

Bev shared the depth and breadth of her many responsibilities including (but not limited to) new member greetings, orientation, housing issue liaison and assistance with emergency situations. She also advocates for members by helping them through the Medical system and leads information booth teams at local community events such as Music on the Wharf, Pitt Meadows Day, and multicultural days. She organizes and leads the annual education forum, seniors helping Santa and many more initiatives. She also mentioned that her team works closely with other community organizations (such as the Food Bank, LIPS, the Community Network) on joint initiatives which help to improve the lives of Seniors in the community.

5.0 **Reports**

5.1 Liasons

Onyeka Dozzie provided highlights of his background and interests and expressed his interest in serving the group and the community. He looks forward to working with the Board going forward. He

mentioned that one of the current priorities of Council is look at housing options and current related housing policies.

Tony Cotroneo

- Tony shared the sad news of passing of two well know individuals who had worked extensively in the community.
- The new MR council has identified various liaisons and advisory committee members, including SPAC, MACAI.
- The Choose to Move program (that helps seniors learn new ways to stay active) has become very popular and currently there is a waiting list to participate.

Jackie Senchyna

- PM is coordinating with MR on the Choose to Move program.
- Fees and charges will go up for Parks and Recreation activities by 5% going forward.
- The Vancouver Metro Housing project update will be provided later that week during a Council meeting. There is an opportunity for City staff to provide a presentation to the Board at the next meeting to discuss the project, as well as associated parking changes that will occur in that area,
- Currently staff are working on activities related to the upcoming Seniors week
- The local Pickle ball group has a newly elected Board. The average age of participants in 62.

5.2 Maria Perretta, Executive Director

- The Love of Fun contest takes place between February 6th and 17th with the top prize a \$100 credit for future activities.
- RMSS is seeking funding to support the transition to a new data system.
- No decision made yet made on potential funding for the food service program through the First West Foundation
- RMSS has received \$2600 for the upcoming tax clinics.
- Approximately 260 member surveys were received to date. The summary of results to be presented soon, and dates chosen for the open meeting for members.
- The MR Operating Agreement is coming due in April 2023.
- It is the time of year to begin shredding for old documents.

5.3 Finance

- Karen provided an overview of the financial statement highlighting the increasing food costs.
- It was noted that donations have been received recently from some generous individuals, including the Maple Ridge craft folks, and the Pitt Meadows Community Foundation.

5.4 Information Technology

- Karen, Maria, Eva and Vanessa continue to work on gathering more information on the new Book King system and are looking for a more detailed presentation from a knowledgeable IT company representative. It was noted that it is not viable to buy the current system as the costs would be prohibitive, especially for IT technical support.

5.5 Maple Ridge Strata

Nothing to report.

5.6 Governance as Leadership Seminar

- Gayle and Karen provided positive feedback on the 2 recent seminars on Board governance. Documents were distributed previously to the Board. There are future opportunities for free seminars to Board members.

5.7 Affordable Housing Project

-Changes are continuing to the design of the building including a revision to the drop off area for the daycare. Parking changes by the City will also affect the Seniors Activity centre. As per Jackie's offer of a presentation to the Board, time will be set aside during the next meeting to be provided an update.

6.0 Unfinished Business

6.1 The process to purchase the Bus is more complex that anticipated and funding from a proposed grant will not be possible to apply to the purchase of the bus. In addition, there is a requirement to undergo a National Code certification process which entails an online application and test. All Board Directors would need to provide their Driver license numbers and the paperwork could take up to 12 weeks to complete.

6.2 Membership Survey results will be presented at the next meeting.

6.3 Committees

A reminder to the Board to let Don know which Committee are of interest to the group.

There were questions about the Safety Committee which led to a discussion on the current Safety plans and the need to ensure there are very specific procedures in place at the Activity Centres taken from the very detailed Fire Manual.

MOTION: Fran moved that we hire a private company to write a specific Fire plan for the Activity Centre. Seconded by Richard. **CARRIED.**

7.0 New Business

7.1 Additional Activity Centre opening/hours

-There was an information item confirming that during extended hours, there is always a custodian and staff member on site.

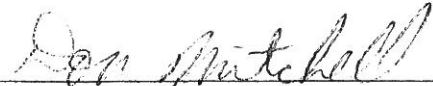
7.2 Chamber of Commerce events

-The Board was asked to flag their interest in attending any upcoming events related to Board governance. It was noted that there is a cost of \$80/person to participate.

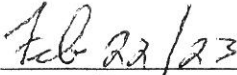
-It was suggested that the free training on Governance mentioned in item 5.6 might be more suitable since it there is no cost and the organization might be prepared to provide some training in person.

8.0 Adjournment

MOTION: Karen moved to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Richard.
CARRIED. Meeting was adjourned at 1153.



Don Mitchell (President)



Date



Susan Schenkeveld (Secretary)