

## RIDGE MEADOWS SENIORS SOCIETY

Board Meeting held Wednesday, February 22nd, 2023 at 0900 am  
Pitt Meadows Activity Centre, 19065 119b Avenue, Pitt Meadows, B.C

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**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), Angie Hodgins (Director)

**STAFF:** Maria Perretta (Executive Director)

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

**GUESTS:** Colin O'Byrne (Manager of Planning, Pitt Meadows), Pat DeLuca (Owner, The Wesbrooke)

**REGRETS:** Bob Meachen ( Pitt Meadows)

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1.0 Meeting was called to order at 9:05 am.

2.0 Approval of the agenda with one addition under Reports for the Housing Task Force group.

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

3.0 Approval of the minutes of January 25th, 2023 with one adjustment to the attendance list.

**MOTION:** Richard Newman moved that the minutes be approved. Seconded by Bobbie Duncan.  
**CARRIED**

4.0 **City of Pitt Meadows presentation by Colin O'Byrne ( Manager of Planning)**

Colin presented various options (11) associated with traffic flows and parking around the proposed new Housing Development project on 119b Avenue. There were lots of questions and concerns raised related to the various options.

Ideas being considered include, but are not limited to, providing some dedicated parking spots for the PM Seniors Activity Centre next to the building (much less than what is currently available), designating visitor spots for the Housing Development in the current PM Seniors Centre parking, and opening up non-assigned parking spots in and around the PM Seniors Activity Centre which may be time restricted (i.e. only 4 hours). Some of the options also include restrictions to street parking in the area.

The City is also looking at revisions to the current drop off area and access for students at Pitt Meadows Elementary School. Parking needs for the School, the PM Seniors Activity Centre, the new Proposed Housing Development, the Parks and Recreation Centre, Pitt Meadows City hall, as well as other stakeholders need to be considered.

There were concerns that the significant decrease in availability of parking near the PM Seniors Activity Centre may deter members from attending the facility. For example, if the PM Seniors Activity Centre has 2 to 4 activities in progress, 30 to 60 people, including participants, staff and volunteers could be using the centre at one time, many of whom are driving their vehicles to attend these activities. Should the building proposal go forward, insufficient accessible and available parking may mean that members will not be able to park their cars and therefore will not participate in their planned activities. Reduced participation will negatively impact the Society and the Seniors themselves.

Colin emphasized that these options are just ideas at this stage and are not finalized.

A communications strategy will be developed and following more feedback and stakeholder input, updated proposals will need to be redrafted and presented (likely in the fall of 2023) to Council.

## **5.0 Reports**

### **5.1 Liasons**

Jackie Didrikson

- PM Family Day was a great success with approximately 800 people attending the Carnival.
- The attendees were inter-generational. Approximately 300 people attended the skating event.
- There were 64 players participating in the Pickle Ball tournament.
- New dance instructors will be available for the South Bonson Centre with information to be published in the Parks and Recreation Guide.
- Jackie distributed her new contact information and email for the groups reference.
- There have been some parking issues related to the Athletic Park that need attention.

Tony Cotroneo

- Tony indicated that there have been some preliminary meetings on the Operating Agreement. MR is looking at the rate of inflation and trying to adjust the amounts as much as possible to reflect the current inflation rates. There will be more meetings occurring in the next 2 weeks.
- There have been issues related to pool closures which have disproportionately affected Seniors who had been scheduled for early morning pool activities. MR is trying to mitigate and offer up spaces for folks to wait until the pool is reopened.

-Tony suggested that any changes to the current traffic and parking flows around the proposed Housing project in PM require lots of communication to answer people's concerns and questions.

Onyeka Dozzie talked about how focused the Council is currently on strategic planning and budgeting and expects that the Council will finish this planning soon and be able to share their work and initiatives with the Board soon.

### **5.2 Maria Perretta, Executive Director**

- The Love of Fun contest wraps up in the next week. Participants have had great fun with their friendly competitions.
- The Gaming application funding was received for a total of \$48,000. It was a little less than hoped, but will still assist with the budget.
- The New Horizons grant was successful which will allow for floor and paint updates in designated rooms at the Maple Ridge Seniors Activity Centre. A Steering Committee will be set up to finalize the approach to the upgrades. (\$25,000)
- A reminder that the open forum for members will take place on March 8<sup>th</sup> in Pitt Meadows and March 9<sup>th</sup> in Maple Ridge.

- Good connections were made recently with the Katzie First Nation Seniors through the Outreach Coordinator with a hope that it will lead to more joint initiatives.
- The MR Centre will be hiring 2 new Facility Attendants for evenings and some Saturdays.
- The Everclean group has recently hired new staff and the transition is going well.
- The kitchen staff transition has also been going well.

### **-5.3 Finance**

- Karen provided an overview of the financial statement highlighting that RMSS is currently running a small deficit of \$14,000. Food costs continue to be high. Trip revenues are down and drop in fees have decreased but the overall budget is on track. Staff have been doing an excellent job staying on track with the budget.
- There was a donation of \$2000 from the Pitt Meadows craft ladies.

### **5.4 Information Technology**

- Maria, Eva and Vanessa meet with “Intelligence” recently to gather more information on their software options. The FOB process would be much less efficient using this system. The group now needs to meet with Book King to gather more specific information on the new software program.

### **5.5 Maple Ridge Strata**

- There is a new Strata Management representative and things are progressing with the roof repairs.

### **5.6 Housing Task Force Group**

- Don is currently a member of the Housing Task Force group which is a subgroup of the Senior’s Network and part of the Age Friendly Seniors Committee group. Don will distribute past minutes for the Board, and is seeking names of interested Board members to transition to the committee going forward. Angie indicated her interest in being a part of the group.

## **6.0 Unfinished Business**

### **6.1 Bus**

- The paperwork is almost complete for submission for the Commercial Safety certificate. Next step is working on Community sponsors and hiring a transit coordinator. MOU’s will need to be developed to set out the joint use of the vehicle with other community groups.

### **6.2 Membership Survey**

- Maria referenced the survey results that were distributed. The response rate was good and the results very positive. A high level summary will be posted on the RMSS website.

### **6.3 Committees**

- Don distributed a Committees list with associated Board member volunteers. Board members were asked to look at the list and identify any additional committees of interest.

## **7.0 New Business**

- There was discussion on Board member attendance at the Chamber of Commerce Awards event. Angie, Bobbi, Gayle and Don ( and Maria by extension) all indicated their interest in attending. Pre-registration and payment will be necessary to attend. Future events will be posted as well.

**MOTION:** Richard Newman moved that we approve up to 5 RMSS attendees to the Chamber of Commerce Awards event requiring we spend \$130/ticket. Seconded by Margaret Attwell. **CARRIED.**

## 8.0 Adjournment

**MOTION:** Susan Schenkeveld moved to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Karen Hjort-Olsen.  
**CARRIED.** Meeting was adjourned at 1130.

Don Mitchell  
Don Mitchell (President)

Mar 22/23  
Date

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Susan Schenkeveld (Secretary)