

**RIDGE MEADOWS SENIORS SOCIETY**  
Open Board Meeting held Thursday, March 20, 2025 at 09:30 am  
Maple Ridge Seniors Activity Centre,  
12150 – 224 th Street, Maple Ridge, B.C. V2X 3N8

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**PRESENT:** Karen Hjort-Olsen, Bobbi Duncan, Patricia Gordon, Margaret Attwell, Leslie Carnie

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

**LIAISONS:** Tony Cotroneo (Manager of Community Recreation Maple Ridge), Carleen McDowell (Manager of Recreation & Culture)

**REGRETS:** Kathy Baxter (leave of absence), Deborah Jamieson

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**1.0 Land Acknowledgment**

**2.0 Call to order**

- Meeting was called to order at 9:32 am.

**3.0 Approval of the agenda**

- **MOTION:** Bobbi Duncan moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Leslie Carnie. **CARRIED.**

**4.0 Approval of the minutes of Feb. 20, 2025**

- **MOTION:** Bobbi Duncan moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Leslie Carnie. **CARRIED.**

**5.0 Reports**

**5.1 Liaisons**

**Tony Cotroneo**

- Tony will continue to push to find space in Albion Rec Centre for RMSS Chair Fit classes
- Front lobby of Leisure Centre is completed to make more accessible through a Rick Hansen Foundation grant. Tony suggested RMSS look into applying for a grant from that foundation.
- Spring Break day camps are running and full
- The Men's Shed is in full swing. They are looking to perhaps start an Intergenerational Garden .
- They meet at times at the Greg Moore Youth Centre, but it is also available for other groups, including RMSS.
- The reorganized city committees will have monthly meetings, more staff and councillor members

- Social Planning Department created and will hire a Social Planning Manager.

#### **Carleen McDowell**

- Pitt Meadows online accessibility survey closes Mar. 23.
- Grabenhorst Garden will have official opening July 17.
  - More outdoor programs being created
  - Place of Remembrance and Adopt a Tree program will be available
- New Disc Golf course on Bonson official opening May 8
- New sport box on amenity land by Phase 3 GEBP still in planning stage
- Planning is underway for Easter events April 20 at Harris Park and Pitt Meadows Day on June 7 at Pitt Meadows Athletic Park.

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

- Three grant applications completed
- Parking decals distribution at Pitt Meadows going well
- Very successful Education Day Forum held on Feb 23 at Maple Ridge Centre
- Mardi Gras event Mar. 11 at Pitt Meadows Centre also successful
- Study completed to map where all members live
- Study completed using our new software to find the average age of members
  - Maple Ridge =75.88 yrs      Pitt Meadows =75.38 yrs
  - Average age of NEW members 72.25 yrs.
- April 8 there will be open forum at both centres to explore transportation need for a senior community bus to run between both centres with stops in between

#### **5.3 Finance**

- Karen Hjort-Olsen reported that Feb. shows a loss with increased food costs a major reason

### **6.0 New Business**

#### **6.1 Age Dementia Friendly Task Force Group**

- Karen Hjort-Olsen reported she has met with the group twice representing RMSS
  - Plans are being explored to hold a Wellness Fair at Maple Ridge Seniors Activity Centre in the fall
  - Silver Alert program has a grant and the committee is working on it with City of Maple Ridge
  - Age Friendly committee working on updating but focuses mostly on Maple Ridge; Pitt Meadows hasn't expressed much interest

## 6.2 Fundraising

- Patricia Gordon reported that RMSS board has declined to participate in this years Rotary Duck ticket sales given the large number of volunteer hours required to man the ticket booths for the events. In 2024, board members volunteered for 123 hrs to raise \$3344.
- RMSS Second Annual Shred-a-thon is scheduled for Sat. June 14 from 9 am to 12 noon in parking lot of Maple Ridge Seniors Activity Centre.
- Three local businesses have been secured as sponsors to help offset the cost of the mobile shredding truck. In 2024, the event took in \$2990 before expenses.
- New fundraising event planned for April 14 – May 12 selling coffee from local business Maple Ridge Coffee Roasters. \$5 from each 1 lb bag sold goes to RMSS.

## 7.0 Old Business

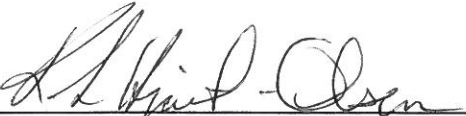
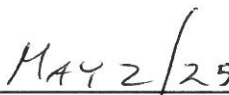
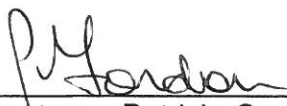
### 7.1 Advocacy Participation

- Karen Hjort-Olsen reported that RMSS advocacy in Maple Ridge will continue through our participation in the Seniors Network committees
- Karen, Maria and Patricia met with Patrick Ward, Director of Planning and Development for the City of Pitt Meadows, to discuss opportunities for RMSS to advocate on city committees. Maria currently sits on the city's accessibility committee.

## 8.0 Adjournment

- **MOTION:** Bobbi Duncan moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Leslie Carnie. **CARRIED.**

Meeting was adjourned at 10:34 am.

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| <br>_____<br>President - Karen Hjort-Olsen | <br>_____<br>Date |
| <br>_____<br>Secretary - Patricia Gordon   |                                                                                                       |