

Stave Gardens Community Association (SGCA)

Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 5/2020

Call to Order: 6:49 pm

Directors in Attendance: Phil C., Birgit K., Roger C., Greg C., Tony R., Bruno W., Colleen B.

2020 SGCA AGM Meeting Date:

Monday, November 2, 2020

6:30pm

Location: TBA

General Meeting to be held following the AGM

Mission Tree Management Bylaw 5970-2020

Some of the issues regarding this bylaw include but are not inclusive of:

- a suggested tax increase to pay for the management of this bylaw
- the DOM will monetize trees that are on private land
- the fee and fine structure is too high. Minimum fines of \$500 up to maximums of \$50,000 for non compliance
- the DOM will require us to request permits and will likely require additional reporting such as surveys, geotechnical reports, erosion control plans, farm plan, arborist report, tree management plan, fire interface report, wind-firm boundary assessment, bird nesting survey, tree replacement proposal.
- Anyone wanting to cut a tree must employ a qualified Environmental Professional to provide a written assessment of any proposed cutting.
- If you don't or cannot replant trees then you must pay Cash-in-lieu to the District of Mission.
- even pruning of trees and scrub will require a permit

Open Discussion

- most people agree that limiting developers ability to clear cut land and then develop it should be restricted, but that this bylaw as written does not address that issue.
- there needs to be clearer language in the bylaw regarding species exclusion, rural property maintenance, non-compliance and fines, fire interface issues, conflicts with insurance interests, farm plans and covenants.
- concerned about the DOM's wanting to control private land management for the purpose of environmental activism, a burden of reporting requirements, large fees and fines.
- there should be more community input from people who actually live on and understand rural property ownership.
- it is disingenuous that the full reading of the bylaw as well as the adoption schedule is in place already. It would appear as though it is a given that the bylaw is to be adopted in whatever form it is presented.

- the bylaw should align more with the DOM's forest license
- is legal action against the DOM a viable option to aide in slowing the process should they choose to proceed?

Motions:

Motion to approve up to \$1000 for the purpose of doing a mail out to Stave Falls, Steelhead and Silverdale. Informing them of this bylaw and including a mail back petition regarding the bylaw.

Motion: Birgit Keys
2nd: Greg Cowan
All in Favor: Yes

Motion to approve funds for the purpose of placing a large ad in a local newspaper that will inform Mission residents about this bylaw and encourage them to take the survey before October 15, 2020 as well as contact council to give feedback regarding the proposed bylaw.

Motion: Phil Cooper
2nd: Birgit Keys
All in Favour: Yes

Motion to hire a lawyer to write a cease and desist letter to the DOM should they choose to proceed with the bylaw without more consideration of the real issues and how they will impact our community.

Motion: Phil
2nd: Pauline C
All in Favour: Yes

AGM as well as next general meeting to be announced once a location can be secured. We hope to use the Steelhead Community Hall.

Meeting adjourned by Phil Cooper: 8:04 pm

Attachments: none