

**SECHELT SENIORS ACTIVITY CENTRE**  
5604 Trail Avenue Sechelt BC

General Meeting  
Thursday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

**Board Members Present:**

Kit Artus, Ron Atkinson, Phil Green, Maureen Heaven, Brigitte Horn, Barbara Lightfoot, David Marsh, Douglas Smith, Linda Stroud

**Regrets:**

Dorothy Fraser, Doug Whitworth

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:35 by President, Barbara Lightfoot.
2. Singing of "O Canada" was led by Patrina Thomson. The assembly remained standing for a moment of silence for all those members who have passed on.
3. There being 87 Members in attendance, quorum requirements were met. Copies of the agenda had been distributed. Motion to adopt the agenda, moved by Bob Hurrell and seconded by Cheri Kingsland, carried.
4. Copies of the Minutes from The General Meetings of October 17th, 2013 had been distributed. Motion to adopt the minutes, moved by Wilma Lorimer, seconded by Mo Farn, carried.

5. **President's Report: Barbara Lightfoot**

Barbara thanked everyone for attending and offered thanks to all our volunteers.

Bus trips offered trips to different overnight venues. These have been very successful. 4 days to Bakerville and 2 night trips to the Okanagan and Harrison Hot Springs have all been very well received. A return trip to Chemainus is also being planned. Rick McGowan and Garry Noble have received glowing reports and Rene Betts is doing a great job making the reservations.

The audio/visual equipment has upgraded, thanks to a New Horizons grant. A SC Community Foundation Grant will be used to upgrade the electronic sign at the front roadside of our building. The work in applying for these grants was undertaken by Mo Farn. Barbara thanked Mo for all his fund raising efforts.

Other significant upgrades include new lighting fixtures throughout the Centre and a face-lift for the Sherlock Lane side of the building.

Emily, our cook, continues to provide excellent, inexpensive and nutritious lunches. There are also frozen entrees available for purchase. A big thank you to our hard working, sometimes overworked food preparation/servers and dishwashers. More kitchen volunteers are required. Christmas Lunch will be on December 15<sup>th</sup>. This is always a “sold out” event and promises to be a lot of fun as well as an Emily feast.

The Front Desk is managed by Irene Jankovitz who works tirelessly to keep the desk covered and train new recruits. Thanks to Irene.

The Board is very grateful to all the Activity Chairs who give extra time and effort organizing their activities.

The Craft and Quilting activities are an integral part of the Centre. The items they produce are displayed in the 2 display cases in the foyer and are available for sale. All proceeds are donated to the Centre. The annual craft and bake sale will be held on November 29<sup>th</sup> Please support this event.

The “Return to Dixie” vaudeville last Saturday was a resounding success. Spectacular décor, talented performances and cabaret style seating. Thanks to all who took part in the event and to those who stayed behind to return the auditorium to its normal condition. This ad hoc volunteering helps make the Centre the success it is.

Fiscally, the Centre is in good standing. This is due to the cost effective and efficient manner in which the Centre is run. We are indebted to Brigitte Horn, Treasurer and Joan Fleetham and Maureen Heaven who undertake to count and itemize the money in all those little plastic bags that get deposited into the slot behind the front desk.

There is now an Automatic Electronic Defibrillator (AED) in the foyer, by the door to the Heritage Room. If you would like to learn how to use it, upcoming training will be given by Ursula Schmidhauser.

A baby grand piano has been generously donated by Tom Wood.

Anyone who would like to, is welcome to play it.

We have much to be thankful for. Personal thanks go to the Board for their dedication and friendship and particularly to Joanne Rykers, who is an outstanding Vice President.

#### **6. Treasurer’s Report: Brigitte Horn**

Copies of the Treasurer’s report were available to members. Questions were invited. Brigitte explained some of the income lines on the report, including a grant, the activity fees and membership fees. Brigitte closed by confirming that the Centre continues on a sound financial footing.

#### **7. Maintenance Report: Ron Atkinson**

Ron reported that the maintenance team, consisting of Bill Brown, Tony Stroud, Don Ficko, Thorne Underhill and himself, has been very busy.

Two main areas dealt with:

- A) The replacement of the wooden planter walls and realignment of the entrances to allow better access. Cost \$16,500
- B) Lighting throughout the building and outside have been upgraded for greater efficiency. Cost \$26,930, partly offset by grants received and a BC Hydro rebate. Our cost about \$5,000. Savings will be monitored over the next few years. Lighting in the auditorium has been changed to allow lights in each individual row across the room to be individually controlled.

An ongoing problem is the proper management of the auditorium cooling/heating controls. Please leave the setting on AUTO at all times. Adjust the temperature by selecting heat or cool controls to the right of the thermostats. Select "cancel" (located at the lower right) before leaving the building in order to reset the program. We are wasting enormous amounts of energy.

There are lots of keys out there. The key log has worked well, but it is time to reestablish the list. Ron will be requesting individual keys be returned so that they can be stamped with a number and registered to the user.

#### **8. Questions from the Floor.**

The president invited questions from the floor.

Carol Mollerup made several statements regarding her personal disagreement with the decisions of the Board and the PickleBall (PB) Working Group. When asked if she had a question, Carole asked if President Barbara Lightfoot, had agreed to the decision to cancel PB for one month, Barbara replied, that while she regretted the necessity for the decision she had reluctantly agreed to it.

Joanne Rykers commented that the decision to suspend was made by the PB Working Committee because of recent events and numerous complaints about the behavior of some players.

Peter Claydon wished clarification as to which Board Members had voted for this suspension of PB.

Joanne replied that both she as Vice-President and Barbara Lightfoot as President had been included in the meeting. The decision to suspend PB was the decision of the Working Committee and has the support of the Board.

Gillian Smith pointed out that the Working Committee was authorized by the Board

Coleen Anderson mentioned that space in the auditorium is an issue.

Don James and other Members commented that they had not been informed of these issues. They felt the Board should have kept members informed.

Joanne Rykers, Vice President of the SSAC, explained the background, leading up to the decision to suspend PB for one month. There had been complaints that the activity was not being run fairly for all members. In April 2014, the Board began to investigate complaints regarding the management of the activity and a lack of SSAC control. The Board made moves to take back the running of the activity. On August 12, after a Special Board Meeting, a Working Group was organized with Rick Carton as Chair and Joanne as Board Liaison. Good progress was made by Rick and his Working Group. Feedback was welcomed and efforts were made to include everyone. Unfortunately continuing negative backlash impeded the Group's work. As a result, Rick Carton, who had been working very hard to include everyone, resigned as Activity Chair. The other members of the Working Group, after much deliberation and with the full support of the President and Joanne, moved to cancel PB at the Centre for one-month "cooling off" period. Joanne stressed that in all these actions, the Board has carried out its mandate to ensure that all activities are well managed and run for the benefit of all members.

Elizabeth Candlish spoke in support of the previous PB leadership and level play. Elizabeth presented a petition to the Board.

Peter Claydon asked that the Board reconsider this decision. After much discussion, Peter put forward the following motion:

**Motion: That during the one month closure, the Board allows groups of 6 to 8 people to reserve the auditorium and play PB.**

The motion was seconded.  
The President called for a vote by a show of hands of the membership.

**Motion defeated.**

Bernie Gee mentioned that the Funtastics will be back in the spring.

Don James commented that the Canadian flag is back, but that the pictures of the Queen and Prince Phillip have been removed. Ron Atkinson reports that the pictures are in storage for safe keeping. Don would like the pictures rehung. A show of hands was called for. The majority was against the rehanging of the pictures.

The President called for a motion to adjourn.

Moved: Wilma Lorimer

Second: Lewine Hughes

**Motion Carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 2:50