

**SECHELT SENIORS ACTIVITY CENTRE SOCIETY
5604 Trail Avenue Sechelt B.C.**

GENERAL MEETING

MINUTES

Thursday October 15th, 2015

1:30 pm to 3:00 pm

Board Members present: Joanne Rykers, Barbara Lightfoot, Ron Atkinson, Maureen Heaven, Wilma Lorimer, David Marsh, Donna Marsh, Barry Pruden, Gillian Smith

Absent: Dorothy Fraser, Linda Stroud

42 members were in attendance meeting the quorum requirement.

1. President Joanne Rykers called the meeting to order and Barbara Lightfoot led the singing of *O Canada*.

2. Moment of silence was observed to remember those Members who have passed away

3. Agenda was adopted
(Moved Rick McGowan/ Seconded Eva Wall – CARRIED)

4. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting – February 19, 2015 – were adopted
(Moved David Lightfoot/ Seconded Kassie Ranchie – CARRIED)
Minutes of the General Meeting – October 16, 2014 – were adopted
(Moved Kassie Ranchie/ Seconded David Lightfoot – CARRIED)

5. President's Report
Joanne Rykers thanked everyone for attending and gave the attached President's Report.

6. Directors' Reports to Members
Maintenance Chair Report – Ron Atkinson
Ron gave an update of improvements to the building and property and maintenance issues, including the renovations over the summer.

Treasurer's Report – Donna Marsh
Donna advised that the SSAC is in good financial shape. The Centre brought on an accountant this for information and reporting purposes. Financial reports were made available.

7. New Business

a) Adoption of amended Constitution and Bylaws
Motion: Move to adopt the revised Constitution and By-laws
(Moved Bert Carswell/ Seconded David Lightfoot)

Questions taken and full discussion.

MOTION CARRIED with over 75% of those members present and voting, voting in favour.

b) Proposed name change for Front Sign and Marquee

Full discussion regarding the advantages and disadvantages of having the word “Seniors” on the marquee and signage at the front of the building.

Motion: We keep the wording on the marquee and the signage on the front of the Building.
(Moved Helmut Haas/ Seconded Cheryl Cason)

CARRIED

3 Opposed

8. Comments and questions from the floor

9. Adjournment

(Moved Barry Pruden/ Seconded Eva Wall)

CARRIED

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

General Meeting – October 15th, 2015

The 8 months since I was elected president have been challenging. Throughout, I have felt very fortunate to have a Board that is supportive, comforting, and reliable. I have also enjoyed the support and well wishes of all the volunteers, and membership.

My report covers the year to date, ie the end of September. Membership numbers are consistent with other years. At the end of September, our membership complement was over 1150. This will increase to close to 1200 by the end of the year.

Our activities roster continues to be robust, with Bridge, Pickleball, Exercise, and Yoga continuing to be our most popular. Many other old favorites keep on doing their part to contribute to the mental and physical well-being of our members. All are led by hard working volunteers, and we owe them a large vote of thanks for their dedication. We are adding a fitness class, “Keep Moving,” for those with mobility issues, and this looks like it will be very popular. We also hope to generate interest in an ongoing Chess group by staging a one-day introductory workshop on November 10.

Bus trips are an important feature, and we are fortunate to have Rick McGowan as the new Bus trip coordinator. Multi-day trips to Tofino, and Victoria/Chemainus were sold out. Tea and Trumpets is almost full, and most of the one-day trips are doing well.

A new, exciting venture is planned by our Chair Actors. They are partnering with the Driftwood players to stage a Noel Coward play, “Blithe Spirits,” with several performances to be held both at the Heritage Playhouse and the SSAC in April. And our own famous stage troupe, the Funtastics, are staging “Return To Broadway,” in November.

Our kitchen has had a spectacular year. Revenues so far have increased by \$13,000 over the same period last year. This is largely due to the hugely popular “Fozen Entrees,” which have been a hit not only within our Centre, but in the whole community, and we can be justly proud that we are providing a good service by making these available. Of course, there are increased costs associated with this revenue, so the profit margin is not so great. I think we all agree that the kitchen provides more than fabulous food – it is a place of community and social connectedness.

Our outside rentals are modest, but steady, generating revenue of over \$16,000 so far this year, which is down from \$23,000 for the same period last year. Our new rental coordinator, Cathrine Fuller, is working on this.

Our total combined income for the period January – Sept. 30, including activities, membership, and rentals, and other, was over \$202,000, which resulted in a net income, after expenses, of \$34,000. This is a decrease from the same period last year, when gross revenues were \$222,000, and the net income was \$58,000. The biggest portion of the decrease results from the decrease in grant money, and rental income, although there was a slight decrease in overall activity revenue. But, this was offset by the increase in net kitchen income.

Summer was a busy time for maintenance and renovations, as Ron Atkinson will explain in his report. We are very grateful to the Sunshine Coast Community Foundation for their grant of \$4,000 which went a long way to pay for these improvements to our Centre.

Your elected Board, and various committees have worked hard this year to provide good management for our Centre. A committee was struck to review and update our Constitution and By-Laws, and you will be voting on this proposal today. While it is longer than the current document, we believe it gives much more detailed and specific direction to the Board in carrying out its mandate.

Other committees are very much involved in the day-to-day operations of the Centre and its activities. The Kitchen committee makes sure that the kitchen is running smoothly. We have a hard working Membership Committee, who have just staged a very successful “Open House,” which had over 170 participants. They also make sure that all new volunteers are welcome and connected to their activity of choice. The Bus Committee ensures that we stage the type of trips that the membership wants. The A-V and Technical committee maintains the technical equipment, arranges training, and provides support to the rest of the Centre. And of course the Maintenance committee does a herculean job of maintaining the building and grounds.

Some committees are “ad hoc”, and work when needed. The planning and legislative committee will be working on revising the “Policy and Procedures” manuals. Another committee will be committed to long term strategic planning. All committees report to the Board, and have a board chair/representative, but membership from anyone interested is welcome!

Financially, as you will hear from the Treasurer, the Centre is in good shape, with an operating surplus of over \$40,000 for the year to date, and a solid foundation in term deposits. This situation enables us to begin the process of strategic planning for the future. We have an aging building, and our activities are expanding, requiring more space for both administration and activities. We are working with a planning committee to look at what kind of expansion/renovation is needed and possible. We should have a preliminary report for you at the AGM in February.

In all of the above described work that goes on by volunteers, be it Board members, committees, activities, we are always in need of more help, and would welcome input and involvement from any of you. I thank you for your attention, and for taking the time to come to the meeting today.