



DISTRICT OF SOOKE
Sooke Community Centre Advisory Committee Minutes
Meeting held May 21, 2015
at 10:00 am
Council Chamber, 2225 Otter Point Road

Committee Members Present:

Lee Boyko, Sooke Region Museum, Chair
Councillor Ebony Logins
Dave Clark, Sooke Community Association
Paul Van Bergen, Sooke Community Association
Charlie O'Donnell, Sooke Community Association
Karl Linell, Sooke Community Association
Sharon Bussard Grove, Sooke Community Arts Council
Karen George, T'Sou-ke Nation
Trevor Colley, Sooke Rotary Club
Sandy Pednault, Sooke Elderly Citizens Housing Society
Ellen Lewers, Sooke Fall Fair
Marlene Barry, Sooke Region Volunteer Centre
Jeff Bateman, Sooke Transition Town Society
Steve Knoke, SEAPARC
Nicky Logins, Sooke Region Community Health Initiative

Staff: Bonnie Sprinkling, Corporate Officer
Sarah Temple, Finance and Administration Assistant

Councillor Logins called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

1. Approval of the Agenda:

MOVED and seconded to approve the agenda as circulated.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Introductions

Members of the Committee introduced themselves and the organizations they represent.

3. Selection of Chair

- Lee Boyko volunteered to be the Chair of the Committee.
- Mayor Tait will ratify the selection of the Chairperson.

4. Review:

- ***Committee Structure and Function Policy***
- ***Committee Terms of Reference***

Committee Discussion:

- The Committee Terms of Reference states that the membership "will include, but be *limited to*, the following Community Groups" which is an error. It should be "will include, but NOT be limited to".
- Discussion regarding the 15 voting members of the Committee. The Terms of Reference state that representatives of 15 organizations are voting members.

MOVED that each organization has one vote by its representative on the Sooke Community Centre Advisory Committee.

CARRIED

- Clarification that although Committee membership includes specific community groups, the meetings will be public (open to all) and the Committee will solicit public feedback through “Open Spaces” meetings and sub-committees.
- Discussion of flexibility of meeting days and times. Open Spaces meetings can be held on weeknights or weekends to engage all members of the community. The Committee will consider alternate meeting dates if Thursday morning becomes too restrictive.

Action Item: Bonnie Sprinkling to correct error in Terms of Reference.

Discussion

- **Project Phases**
- **Next Steps**

Committee Discussion:

- Discussion of project phases. The Committee will focus on the first phase as outlined in the Terms of Reference, section 2.1.2, which is to develop a plan.

Roundtable Discussion:

Each organization in attendance shared their perspectives on what the needs of the community are, what their organization's needs are and what they may be able to contribute.

- Sandy Pednault shared that Ayre Manor is currently looking at expansion and that they have a large property that could potentially be suitable for community amenities.
- Ellen Lewers shared a vision of a renovated Sooke Community Hall as the hub of the community, with a functional community kitchen, upstairs washrooms etc. The surrounding area could include the new library backing on to Ayre Manor, with a fountain, additional sidewalks, an arts and cultural centre and improved traffic flow.
- Steve Knoke shared that SEAPARC is currently undergoing Strategic Planning for the next 5 years and is open to branching out and creating new partnerships in the community.
- Karl Linell spoke on behalf of the Sooke Community Association and stated that there is a lot of potential for redesign in the basement of the Community Hall. The upstairs does have one of the largest intact floors on the island and to should be preserved; soundproof curtains or moveable walls could create smaller spaces.
- Mr. Linell also spoke to land that is owned by the Sooke Community Association adjacent to SEAPARC.
- Nicky Logins spoke on behalf of the Sooke Region Community Health Initiative (CHI) and stated that CHI's role could be to provide leadership in moving the planning process forward. Ms. Logins shared that CHI has the capacity to be broad as they don't have a specific agenda other than supporting community health as a whole.
- Trevor Colley spoke on behalf of the Sooke Rotary Club and stated that the role of the Rotary Club is to help where they can through fundraising.

- Marlene Barry spoke on behalf of the Sooke Region Volunteer Centre. Ms Barry co-authored the “Getting it Built” report and believes the next step is to do a thorough assessment of community spaces and how they are used currently. The Sooke Region Volunteer Centre has funding available to do this assessment for the purposes of bringing training to the community. Ms. Barry also believes that an important first step is a Functional Use Plan of the Community Hall.
- Jeff Bateman spoke on behalf of Transition Town Sooke and stated they are in support of community facilities.
- Sharon Bussard Grove spoke on behalf of the Sooke Community Arts Council. Ms. Grove stated that it is important to get people involved in the creation of art, especially young people as there is not a lot of art instruction in school anymore. Ms. Grove also spoke in support of art as a form of community beautification and a means of attracting tourists.
- Lee Boyko spoke on behalf of the Sooke Region Museum, who is looking at opportunities for expansion. There is some space for community use, but parking is limited.
- Discussion of the benefits of the Sooke Community Hall, there are great acoustics for theatre or musical performances and multiple storage spaces, as well as a central location and a large gathering space.
- Discussion of additional community groups whose feedback and insight would be useful on the Committee. Suggestions included the Vancouver Island Regional Library board and the Sooke School District.
- Suggestion that it would be beneficial to learn the expertise of people in the room, outside of the community groups they represent.
- Reminder that the Sooke Region Cultural Plan was completed in 2011 and has relevance to this process.

Next Steps:

The Committee discussed potential next steps, including:

- Research on how community facilities are currently being used.
- Discussion of important questions to ask each facility in order to provide an accurate comparison of each facility. Marlene Barry collected a list of questions to be used in her research when contacting facilities.
- Research what the needs of each group are – what are people looking for in a community space?
- CASA was created in a similar manner, to meet the needs of multiple groups. There are lessons to be learned from their experience.
- The Vancouver Island Regional Library should be approached to determine their level of interest in shared community space.
- Having proposals “grant ready” will allow for funding applications to be sent out when the opportunity arises.

Action Item: Marlene Barry to complete inventory of community spaces and report back to Committee.

Action Item: Committee members to submit ideas for “next steps” to Lee Boyko. Lee will then assemble an agenda for the next meeting to discuss the process moving forward.

6. Public Input

- There was no input from members of the public

7. **Next Scheduled Meeting:** June 11, 2015 at 10:00 am

8. **Adjournment:**

MOVED and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 11:46 a.m.

Lee Boyko
Chair

Bonnie Sprinkling
Corporate Officer

Ebony Logins, Councillor