

SATURNA RECREATION CENTRE SOCIETY

EXECUTIVE MEETING

APRIL 02, 2009

CALL TO ORDER: 7:10 PM

PRESENT: M. Gaines, J. Money, B. Ziegler, I. Smyth, M. Vautour, G. Dickey

ABSENT: A. Stonehouse

GUESTS: Jacques Campbell, Dawn Wood, Richard Blagborne

AGENDA:

A facility for the ambulance and a home for SIR.

The following is the result of considerable discussion regarding SRCS's position and legal standing .

UPDATE ON SATURNA ISLAND RESCUE

Executive members of the Saturna Community Club (SCC) and the Saturna Recreation Centre Society (SRCS) met on April 2, 2009 to discuss the new developments regarding the construction of a permanent home for Saturna Island Rescue (SIR), with funds accumulated by donation to the Saturna Recreation Centre Society (a registered charitable society) on behalf of the Saturna Community Club (a registered society but without charitable status)). The amount of these cash donations from individuals is now just over \$80,000.

1. The issues:
 - a. In our collective zeal to construct a home for the Ambulance and its crew we neglected to fully explore and understand the constraints of the Income Tax Act as they apply to registered charities.
 - b. The constitution, bylaws and purposes of SRCS do not allow the SRCS to expend their funds (ie: \$80,000 raised) or provide land on which to build the Ambulance Shelter for SIR. SRCS can not give those funds to the SCC or provide land for SIR, because the SCC is not a charitable society.
 - c. The SRCS is required by law to rent or lease property to a non-charity such as SCC at fair market value, but it can lease property to a registered charity, such as the Saturna Island Fire Protection Society (SIFPS) below market value.
2. Some options:
 - a. Abandon the project (not in the best interests of the community)

- b. Return monies raised to donors (very complicated and not very practical)
 - c. Transfer funds to another charitable society which does have the mandate to provide medical emergency services, which would include:
 - i. SCC Health Committee or SIR could form as a registered charitable society to receive funds, build a facility and provide emergency medical services; or
 - ii. SIFPS which could build on the SIFPS leased land.
1. Discussion:
 - a. We had a very lively, entertaining, sobering, insightful, inspiring, mostly positive, sometimes complicated, but a definitely a brainstorming session.
 2. Outcome agreed by everyone:
 - a. Need to find a way to build a home for the SIR, ambulance and crew
 - b. Need to develop a new and innovative governance model that will enhance the service already provided by the SCC Health Committee
 - c. Need to stabilize the funding stream for emergency medical services, as well as all health related infrastructure.
 - d. We do no need to create another organization which would further deplete the resources that we currently have.
 - e. Need to approach the SIFPS to research the possibility of restructuring their current governance model, by expanding their active mandate to include emergency medical services and required infrastructure as a separate function of the society. This could possibly include a name change.
 - f. The SCC needs to approach the SIFPS with a proposal for discussion
 3. Some obstacles, questions and topics that need further research;
 - a. Creating another organization on Saturna would have the additional insurance costs that any Society has to bear.
 - b. SIFPS might not want to change their name or governance structure
 - c. Referendum, for fire and ambulance – for capital or operating – cost of going to a referendum, whether it passes or fails – legality of tax funds going for emergency medical services
 - d. Can the Medical Clinic be included in any way with a new approach
 - e. Can any medical services emergency or otherwise be funded through taxation
 - f. Would the CRD, VIHA and other funding agencies continue to fund in the current way if the governance model was changed

1. The group meeting agreed that this is an opportunity to be more creative about emergency services, and to become more collaborative, and to tap resources that we had not considered previously.

