

Friends of the Rossland Range Society (FoRRS)
Annual General Meeting

October 24th, 2015

Minutes

(A) Meeting in United Church Hall, Rossland, B.C.

Call to order by the President at 7:10 pm.

Confirmed a quorum of members were present (5 required; of the 22 in attendance, 12 were members in good standing. The balance were all long-time past members and currently active but, who have failed to re-sign as Life Members following 2015 AGM).

(B) Agenda: Motion to approve. Seconded. Approved by unanimous vote.

(C) Minutes of the 2015 Annual General Meeting (held November 25th, 2015). Motion to approve. Seconded. Approved by unanimous vote.

(D) President's Report: Kim Deane

Overall, a busy and successful year with the society and the community working well together. Much accomplished during the second year following authorization of the Rossland Range Rec Site and the 2nd year of the current 3-year major project underway.

As a reminder, this is within the Rossland Range Rec Site, that is 'owned' by Rec Sites & Trails BC (Justin Dexter our main contact) and managed by FoRRS (on behalf of the community).

The second year of the 3-year initial project plan is nearly complete.

Total 3-Year Project Plan (2015, 2016 & 2017) has budget of \$260,000 & 10,000+ volunteer hours.

Components of the 3-year major project are:

"Canada 150 Project" (\$170,000) (trails/thinning, signs, demolition, parking, upgrading new cabins & Old Glory lookout restoration); and

"9 New Cabins (incl. Red Dog) Project" " (\$90,000) (Viewpoint, Lepsoe Basin, Mosquito, Red Dog, Chimo (old Rock&Roll), Booty's (old Surprise) , Sunspot, Not-So-Secret & Igloo)

1st Year 2015: "Canada 150 Project" – no expenditures. "9 New Cabins Project" – 4 (Viewpoint, Mosquito & Lepsoe Basin all new & upgraded Red Dog) - \$31,000.

2nd Year – this year 2016: "Canada 150 Project" - \$81,000. "9 New Cabins Project" – 2 (Sunspot & Chimo new) – \$ 25,000.

3rd Year 2017: Plans. "Canada 150 Project" : \$89,000. "9 New Cabins Project" : \$34,000

Overall, the total 3-year Total Project Plan is tracking with respect to revenues, expenditures and outcomes. More detail in the Financial Report for this meeting.

Chainsaw course taken by 10 FoRRS members .

FoRRS Website, operated by Sheree Sonfield continues as a major FoRRS asset with excellent 'Newsletters' communicating effectively with members and the community.

Accounting/book-keeping support (part donation) by van der Ham Accountants – Cate & Thomas. This is working well.

Interpretive forest effort – getting underway. Innovative approaches being developed.

Bonanza Rec Site off Hwy 3 to the west – Christina Lake group supported administratively by FoRRS.

(E) **Financial Report:** Presented by Kim Deane

Noted that all expenditures are by cheques controlled by van der Ham's staff and double-signed by two authorized FoRRS signers (all of whom are Directors). All expenditures are made against receipts and invoices kept on file. Bank balance fluctuates 'wildly' as expenditures occur and subsequent reimbursement claims are received. Bank balance is monitored closely by Directors (primarily Kim) and by van der Ham's staff. van der Ham's provide FoRRS with book-keeping summaries as required.

Revenues: Over the 3 year duration of the current projects, \$260,000 is to be received:

C150 \$85k CBT \$42.5k LCIC (Lower Columbia) \$50k RS&T BC \$40k
 Kootenay Mountaineering Club \$10.7k Donations: \$32k

All of the above planned revenues have been received or are considered secure; except, at the time of this meeting the C150 funding to be claimed as 50% rebates after costs have been incurred and paid for, remain to be claimed and received. No problems are anticipated – first claim to be submitted within days.

Expenditures:

2016 (this year):

“Canada 150 Project” 6 Activities: \$81,000 (At time of AGM: spent or committed)

<u>Trails & Thinning:</u> (Gerry & Kim) Drone photos, chainsaw course,	\$57,000
Seven Summits Trail work contracted, seed, etc.	\$ 7,000
Excavator: 6 km roadside brushing, 4 km trail links	\$24,000
Thinning: Greenpeaks Silviculture Ltd. (Chris DeRosa)	\$26,000
White Owl Pass, Lepsoe Basin & in timber above Mosquito Cabin	
<u>Signage:</u> (Laura) 25 posts through Emcon & signs obtained & installed	\$ 3,000
<u>Demolition:</u> (Les) Berry Ridge Sunspot Rock&Roll	\$ 3,000
Buffalo Jump (Alternate School group & Chris)	
Lost (sled & machine utilized)	
<u>Upgrading New Cabins:</u> (Les)	\$ 4,000
Lepsoe Basin woodshed (Dave & Bob)	
Viewpoint stair treads, insulation & ceiling (Rob & Bob)	
Red Dog porch, woodshed & outhouse (Don)	
<u>Additional Parking Spaces:</u> (Kim)	\$ 1,000
Crowe Rd. expansion by Emcon at no cost; Hanna Creek expansion by BC Timber Sale licensee at no cost; Murphy Creek clean-up by excavator. Parking in Pit discussed with Highways – next summer?	
<u>Old Glory Lookout Restoration:</u> (Demitri): Helicopter utilized. Foundation walls reinforced; new windows & door; lightning grounding cables repaired [\$2,500 paid directly by RS&T BC]. Open toilet. Interpretive signage. Project and costly helicopter use was organized very well by Demitri.	\$13,000

“9 New Cabins Project”: \$25,000

Sunspot: Community group led by Larry , Hobi, Ray & Roly. Clark's (Jeff & Esther) will pay the cost of this new cabin & Lepsoe family for its new stove.
Chimo: Army volunteers group led by Bart Fyffe (replacing old Rock&Roll shelter).

(F) Special Resolution:

In accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Friends of the Rossland Range Society, the following Special Resolution is submitted to the membership:

“ Resolved that Section 2 of the Society's Constitution be deleted in its entirety, and replaced by the following:

2. The purposes of the society are:

a) To provide a public amenity by establishing and maintaining a network of day-use cabins within the Rossland Range; and

b) To do all such things as are incidental or ancillary to the attainment of the above purpose.”

Motion by Les Carter. Seconded by Laura Mackay.

Discussion

Approved by unanimous vote.

(G) Fees for 2016 Motion that \$5 lifetime fee be continued. Seconded. Approved by vote.

(H) Election of Directors:

5 continuing: Colin Adamson, Les Carter, Kim Deane, Gerry Heacock & Stewart Spooner.

6 to be elected: Nominated by Board committee: Bob Bechaud*, Troy Colautti*, Larry Doell, Laura Mackay*, Demitri Lesniewicz and Rob Richardson. *Current Directors

Further nominations were asked for (3 times). None received.

Those nominated declared elected by acclamation.

Meeting expressed appreciation of members to retiring directors: Max Bankes, Jenny Coleshill and Rejean Paquin.

(I) New Business:

(i) Idea of a community meeting next March/April after this winter's 'testing' of work done to date: to provide guidance for next year's project works and to assess the overall strategic direction of the Rec Site. Supported by meeting.

(ii) Question: how to better engage volunteers more broadly in the Rec Site? Member noted there was success in the past having publicized 'work days' with multiple diverse groups gathering at work day's end for a potluck. This idea was well-received by the meeting.

(ii) Suggestions from floor for Board consideration:

- a) Insurance for new cabins
- b) Director's insurance
- c) FoRRS-owned power tools (ie: brush saw(s)) for use by members
- d) Warning signs on rat-infested old shelters

(J) Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm