

APPROVED
04/24/25
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Northwest Nanoose Residents Association

Director's Meeting Minutes

1478 Madrona Dr., Nanoose Bay, B.C

March 27, 2025

Chairman's Call To Order: 10:03 a.m.

Roll Call For Quorum: Wendy Sears absent, all other directors present.

Review/Approve Feb 28, 2025 Meeting Minutes: Moved by Rudi Widdershoven, seconded by Wayne Stark they be approved as circulated, in lengthy detail. Unanimously approved.

Chairman's Report: Rudi Widdershoven provided details of a lengthy meeting schedule for the past month and a brief commentary on key developments contained elsewhere in these minutes. Refer attachment #1)

Treasurers Report: Bill Marsh advised \$2,550.55(chcq) + \$31.50(sav) +\$4,000(gic)= \$6,582.05 Total Funds on hand.

Discussion ensued around the good fortune of donations and it was decided a separate ledger be maintained for an estimated \$1,765 of such funds received.

Rudi Widdershoven submitted for reimbursement PQB News & Nanoose Directory ads paid regarding pool referendum plus Alliance website costs, total \$712.24.

Moved by Neil Watson, seconded by Gerry Theberge that the Treasurer's Report, donation recommendations made and reimbursement requests be approved, as discussed/submitted. Unanimously approved.

Membership Report: Gerry Theberge submitted:

Membership Report March 21, 2025

125 Total Paid Membership which includes one lifetime membership

Members	91	Paid for 2027	37
Assoc. Members	27	Paid for 2026	72
Guests	7	Paid for 2025	15

<u>Renewals</u>		<u>Expired</u>	
Members	11	Members	6
Assoc.	2	Assoc. Members	5
Guest	<u>1</u>	Guest	<u>0</u>
	14	+	11= 25

Moved by Neil Watson, seconded by Rudi Widdershoven this report be accepted as submitted. Unanimously approved.

Communications Report: Wendy Sears absent, no report.

Priority Committee Reports

#1) Property Taxes: Wayne Stark and Rick Ehlers reported a “moral” victory evidenced by the RDN failing to meet the 2/3’s Board By-Law approval threshold of the 2025-2029 Financial Plan on March 20th. NNRA succeeded at convincing 7 directors to not vote in favour. After a clamorous episode in RDN Chambers, a reduced Plan was eventually approved for the March 31st deadline. Rudi Widdershoven recommended and drafted a thank you letter to those RDN directors that eventually understood and supported NNRA’s steadfast positions and recommendations. Kudos to this Committee for their efforts and achievements were expressed by all. It was agreed, this year was a learning experience and we are now best prepared to deal with the 2026-2030 RDN Financial Plan this fall. A rest now well deserved by this Committee was the consensus.

#2) RDN Taxpayer Alliance: Wayne Stark & Gerry Theberge provided a full membership update advising 7 other Resident Associations have signed on. Zoom meetings occur every 2nd Tuesday. Remainder of report requested to be “in camera”. Consent granted by Chairperson.

#3) NRGH Expansion: The NRGH Board adopted a 21% increase per year rather than the 28.2% that was scheduled. This makes the payment time longer however levels out the tax acquisition and does not exceed \$100 per \$100,000 of assessed value.

#4) Pools in Oceanside: (Rudi/Neil) Most RDN public info sessions were attended. As in Coombs/Errington, seemed to have been sparsely attended and no real visible level of support. Recent federal grant of \$7m impact to be assessed and discussed. NNRA motion of non-support to be reiterated despite receipt of senior government funding.

#5) Water: (Rudi/Neil) No Report

#6) Beach Accesses: Neil Watson Attended Parks and Open Spaces Committee (“POSAC”) on March 12, 2025. Summary report circulated 03/22/25. Discussion ensued escalating MOTI concerns and use of BC Wildfire Service assessments as leverage with MOTI. Refer Attachment #2).

#7) Sign Boards: (Neil) Finished version for review & discussion. Donated wood including treated 4x4 posts (no more costly steel posts) now sufficient for 6 of 9 posts required, originally thought only 4 possible. Cost per post, installed now reduced to \$120/post vs original 01/10/25 estimate of \$200/post.

Old Business: Share the Roads signs (Wendy Sears) No Report

New Business:

Donations: Amounts received to date reviewed, as per Treasurer's Report above. Conversation ensued around do we want to encourage more? If so, how? We should keep such funds for specific purposes. i.e. "seed" of RDN Alliance.

NRGH: It was moved by Rudi Widdershoven and seconded Bill Marsh that the Nanaimo Regional Hospital District Board direct staff to write a letter to the Boards of Directors of Island Health, Minister of Health, Minister of Infrastructure and the Premier to request that, since the Premier announced in 2024 that a new hospital tower and cardiac catheterization lab will be built for the Nanaimo Regional General Hospital, that they agree to approving the concept case and to starting the Business Plan in 2025-2026 and further that the cost of the Business Plan will be paid for by the Nanaimo Regional Hospital District as part of the funding agreement for the hospital construction. Carried Unanimously

Next Meeting: April 24, 2025 10:00

Motion To Adjourn: 12:35

END

Meetings+ Attended by the Chair+
February 28th + and Future Scheduled Meetings

March 1st – sent out email reminders to Members & Associate Members of Pool Info Session on the 3rd

March 3rd – Neil and I attended the Pool Info Session at Nanoose Place

March 4th – Attended the RDN Strategic Plan Meeting

March 5th – Neil & I attended the Pool Info Session at Craig Street Commons

March 6th – Attended the Nanaimo Hospital District Board special board meeting

March 6th – attended The Alliance zoom meeting

March 10th – attended the Pool Info Session at Qualicum Beach Community Hall

March 11th – attended and presented at the RDN Board meeting

March 12th – attended Pool Info Session at St Columba Church

(at the Pool Info Sessions a 11x17 poster was displayed on an easel stated Vote April 5th – VOTE NO and an outline of the reasons – other than at Qualicum due to weather)

March 18th – Wayne & I attended and presented at the RDN Committee of the Whole

March 18th – Wayne and I attended and presented info on the Pool, Taxes and Alliance at the San Pareil Property Owners & Residents Association

March 20th – attended The Alliance zoom meeting

March 25th – Wayne and I attended and presented at the RDN Board meeting

March 25th – Wayne and I attended and presented at the Arrowsmith Residents Association

Pool presentations and presentations to the RDN Board were prepared as well as an ad submitted to the Nanoose Business Directory and the PQB News, posters were posted on our Notice Boards.

Future Meetings Scheduled:

?? Alliance zoom meeting

#29)

TO: NNRA BOD
Beach Access Committee Report

FROM: Neil Watson
Director, NNRA

March 22, 2025

RE: MOTI Beach Accesses – It's Only About Safety

- #1) RDN's "Promotional" Discussions
- #2) MOTI Obstinance To Safety Issues Raised.

#1) RDN's "Promotional" Discussions

I attended the March 12th Area "E" Parks and Open Spaces Advisory Committee ("POSAC") meeting. Since November, RDN staff had attended all beach accesses and implemented a numerical rating system previously agreed to in order to determine their Top 5 recommended accesses for POSAC consideration. Safety of parking, site and beach access were key considerations. See attachment "A" for their selection, in preference order. Only the bottom 3 priority accesses fall within the NNRA footprint and will thus only be captured further in this report.

The conversation then shifted to POSAC instructing staff to consider where and how best could the limited 2025 budget of \$65,000 (only) be spent, all or in part involving these 5 identified priority beach accesses. A staff report to POSAC, addressing this request, is to be made by the June 11th next Committee meeting was agreed to. A caveat to this request; if more finances would provide a more desirable outcome, holding over the 2025 budget and combining with 2026 would be considered for approval. I am scheduled to attend the June 11th POSAC meeting to determine & advise an outcome.

Of particular note, staff were instructed by POSAC to advise effected adjacent property owners when they were on site and discuss these plans with those property owners.

Chairman Bob Rogers then generously gave me an opportunity to speak to RDN staff & this volunteer Committee, as follows:

1. It was good to see RDN consideration for beach access promotional activity being directed away from relatively higher traffic areas. i.e. Madrona Dr.
2. We will remain interested in RDN staff's final recommendation, exact Committee decisions and timing. i.e. "we'll see you on June 11th."
3. I reiterated a long stated personal opinion, if POSAC is that short of money, consider selling off RDN owned and seemingly abandoned "Community Parks". i.e. Amelia Cr., \$605k assessed value. Bob Rogers, again, bristled over this. I said that sale has to be getting easier than asking property taxpayers for more and more money. Two Committee members cornered me in the parking lot after the meeting to discuss what I meant.

#2 b)

/.....2

4. Their #4 Priority; Coastal PI/1469 Bay Dr is a very narrow corridor, with what appears to have a seasonal stream on one side limiting safe parking. It is also adjacent Craig Bay Development that was already subject to a first Nations Land Claim. This seemed to Surprise staff. On behalf of NNRA, I keep Craig Bay Village apprised of this RDN matter.

#2) **MOTI concerns regarding their lack of maintenance**

Windfall, falling trees and wildfire threats continue to exist on these seemingly abandoned pieces of crown land. The latter "wildfire" threat is somewhat a shared concern of NVFD. Their discussion with RDN have consistently pointed them back to MOTI, to no avail.

MOTI's steadfast publicly stated policy: If it is not black topped MOTI has no mandate for public safety, adherence to Fire Smart protocols nor invasive species management.

In Sept, 2024 this file was "put on hold till 03/24" pending change of the provincial government This has now occurred & I **thus recommend and request guidance** from the Board to:

- Elevate to this discussion: to Stephanie Higginson, MLA
- Follow-up on whether B.C. Wildfire Service should be engaged to assess.

Respectfully Submitted,
NW.

Average ratings were calculated for all sites visited by at least two subcommittee members (39). Twenty-seven sites were rated by only one person, not rated yet, or not rated because they are part of, or immediately adjacent to, existing parks, wildlife areas, or under DND lease. #2C)

Water access sites that ranked in the top five all had an average score above 17.5, and the average ranking by members was either listed as their 1st or 2nd choice. The top five water access locations in Area E identified by the subcommittee are:

- 1) E4 Rowland Road Community Park
- 2) E34 Between 1613 and 1605 Dorcas Point Road
- 3) E65 At the end of Terrien Road
- 4) E66 Beside 1469 Bay Drive
- 5) E57 Between 1985 and 1995 Seahaven Road

Prepared by: Kari Nelson, Area E POSAC member, 11 March 2025