

West Howe Sound Community Association (S-28115, est. 1991)

www.westhowesound.ca

General Meeting Minutes. 26 people

2014 April 9 Wednesday Eric Cardinal Hall at Shirley Macey Park

Doors opened at 7:00pm (click on the underlined links for more information)

1. Call to order 7:15pm;
2. Adoption of Agenda – added to Announcements: Tibetan resettlement project
3. Mill Talk by Brent Desrocher, Technical and Environmental Manager at Howe Sound Pulp and Paper. He just came from the mill in Prince George. He's been on the job at HSPP for two months. Howe Sound is the oldest mill in BC. Est. 1909. Many ownership changes. Canfor owned it for the longest. In 1989, there was a 1.3 billion dollar investment by Canfor and Oji to put in a newsprint machine and environmental controls. Raw material (woodchips) provided by 100 suppliers on the coast from Oregon to Alaska. Receive bulk residual woodchips from sawmills. Also use pulp logs (rotted) which get chipped up. Construction waste is used in boiler, not as a raw material. Very little pine beetle wood waste being used. Core product produced is paper. The Japanese newsprint market has dried up. Markets: 60%US, 40%Asia, Canada, and maybe Latin America. Bulk of kraft paper goes to China and a little to Indonesia. Howe Sound has a deep sea dock so easy access to Asian Market. 3000 bales of kraft paper sent out a day (250kg per bale). Northern mills have stronger pulp due to tree experiencing a harsher winter. Kraft paper gets re-pulped at destination country. Huge emerging middle class in Asia needs our pulp. Mill had last change of hands in 2010 to Paper Excellence Canada Holdings Corp. based in Richmond. The company operates five mills in Canada, two in Germany and one in France. The parent company is in Jakarta. Green Transformation program: In 2011, the power boiler was upgraded allowing reduction of natural gas usage to more hog fuel usage. The mill has reduced its greenhouse gases by 50% since 1990. Chlorine in wastewater has been reduced to non detectable levels. Audience question about odorous gases in community. Apparently the odour comes from the cooking process when sulphur compounds are being burned. Shutdown May 3 – May 14 for 7-10 days for maintenance and inspections. Mill supplies 80% of its own energy needs. Capital projects coming up include:
 - i) Chloride removal plant to increase the mills chemical loop efficiency in Summer 2014.
 - ii) the use of pure O₂ to bleach the pulp reducing the load of bleach in 2015.Waste wood burning still occurring. Greenwaste not used as new boiler has more specific feedstock requirements. Plastic has to be taken out. HSPP is largest employer on the coast with 529 employees. Company pays 2.5 million in property taxes. Brent Desrocher's # 604-884-2285.
4. [Adoption of Minutes of General Meeting Wednesday Feb 12, 2013](#) General Meeting Minutes Adopted.
5. Treasurer Report - \$914.68 as of March 5
6. Neighbourhood Situations/business:
 1. February meeting (Water Talk) followup. Question from audience about Brian Shoji of the SCRD's comment that once a water system goes on chlorine, it stays on chlorine. Why? What about reversing chlorine in Landgale and in Granthams. Mark will get info about this.
 2. MS Provider derelict ship in Howe Sound for 3 years; towed to the Fraser River Feb 21, sunk March 30; 1500 L spill; refloated Apr 2. Lesson is for the community to watch derelict ships and contact Transport Canada and report any problems.

3. Roads - ongoing. Any reports/service? Email with picture to info@capilanohighways.ca (1-800-665-3135) and cc don.legault@gov.bc.ca ; General consensus is that there was pretty good coverage this winter. Letter sent by WHSCA to Capilano Hwys.
7. Announcements
 1. Incinerator proposal @ Port Mellon. Public information meeting in late May on Sunshine Coast, by Metro Vancouver as reported by Coast Report Mar 28. Nanaimo proposal meeting May 15
 2. [Forage fish egg sampling at Hopkins beach Dianne Sanford 885-6283](#) sampling takes 30 minutes; Hopkins Beach: Fri Apr 18 @10:30, Fri May 9 @ 9 am, Sat May 24 @ 9am, Sat Jun 7 @ 9am; [click here for pamphlet](#)
 3. [Geotechnical area changes in West Howe Sound](#). if your property is in a highlighted map area on table; beach areas, ravines, steep slopes
 4. Next WHSCA meeting June 11; [5th Synchronicity Festival](#) updates for Aug 22-24, (4th year at Shirley Macey)
 5. Tibetan Resettlement Project.: There are 3 families on the Sunshine Coast now and more coming. <http://tras.ca/tibetan-resettlement-project/>
8. SCRD Area F Director Lee Turnbull report: Budget 2014/15 has been adopted. Lee voted against the budget because of issues related to the recreation function and lack of investment into the Gibsons Pool function including maintenance and programming. The Master Parks and Recreation Plan is finished. Mandate for the SCRD is involving the community in what it wants for Parks and Rec. OCP Geotechnical Review is on SCRD website. Granthams Hall septic issues are moving forward. Green Waste became funded through taxation– Lee voted against this; it is unfair for Islanders who do not use this function. The mill was receiving the greenwaste but isn't anymore and now we are being taxed to deal with greenwaste which is being sent to Salish Soils. Brent Desrocher of HSPP going to look into why the mill is not taking the green waste anymore. Association of Islands and Coastal Communities met and discussion highlighted B.C. Ferries and economic impacts and impacts on seniors etc., coal shipments from Fraser docks to Texada Island. Sechelt Indian Band and SCRD made a joint resolution opposing coal shipments. A meeting with the Squamish Nation is coming up. List of discussion items include the incinerator project and plans for the Chekwelp lands. Provincial government is going to start regulating off road vehicles which will need to be registered. Any complaints about roads from citizens must be passed on to Capilano Highways.
9. Meeting adjourned 8:45pm.