

# SVW Road Committee Meeting Minutes

## Call to order

The third meeting of the Road Committee was held at the Community Services Building on 6/28/17 at 7:00 pm.

## Attendees

Committee Members: Matthew Sundal, Shirley Begg, Brian Fleming, Susan Cooper Parker and Jodie Grisdale, plus one resident of the Summer Village.

## Members not in attendance

None.

## Approval of Minutes

The minutes were previously unanimously approved by email and this was confirmed in person. At this time we also approved an agenda.

## Old Business

Matt Sundal reported that Sharon Plett had received a response to our letter to government. Alberta Transportation will have a meeting with the committee at the Cochrane Ranchhouse sometime during the week of July 24<sup>th</sup>. It will be an information session with a Hatch representative present. They will listen to concerns at this time. We then discussed everyone's availabilities. Jodie will not be able to attend due to a prior commitment.

The Initial Resident Survey was completed and 64% of the Village responded and most of those did it within three days. Sharon left the survey open past the due date just to make sure no one else responded. There were three results that were discussed in detail.

One was the fact that 37.78% of residences are new owners since 2001 while 40% were the same. Thus around half of the owners in the Village were present during the Functional Planning Study process and half were not. This is significant as we don't know the preferences of these new residents with regards to the bridge or whether they are truly informed on the impacts.

Another interesting result was that 64% of the properties in the Village have been substantially improved. This will have direct impact on the Bridge replacement budget as well as financial impacts to the Summer Village of Waiparous if properties are to be appropriated. It also confirmed our suspicions that the Village is no longer a seasonal use area with only 900 sq. ft. cottages.

Lastly, we discussed the comments that people gave with regards to the bridge. While this was not quantifiable, it did give us an idea about the type of concerns people had with the existing bridge and the proposed one. Susan Cooper Parker passed out a summary of these comments.

It was decided that the Work Plan was not a priority to get to Council at this time. Thus we would table this agenda item until after we are informed of government updates during the week of the 24<sup>th</sup> as this could change some of our plans.

Detailed discussion of the HWY 40 Functional Planning Study was also deferred.

## New business

It was announced that MLA Cameron Westhead will be briefly attending the Village AGM/Picnic at around 10:30am on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July. We wondered whether we should send a special invitation to Minister Brian Mason and or his assistant. After a short discussion it was decided not to invite him at this time. We talked about using our MLA sparingly until the time we really need his help with government. Lastly we considered whether a concerted effort was needed to get more residents to attend in order to show our MLA numbers.

Brian Fleming thought Shirley Begg should be the presenter at the Village AGM. We agreed that the presentation must be kept to 15 minutes. The tone will be informational without chances for debate. A question and answer section will be handled at the end, but in depth discussions must be after the meeting in order to keep the picnic starting on time. Matt and Shirley explained the need to be thick skinned in response to residents. Jodie will not be in attendance at the AGM/Picnic but she made clear that our purpose is to listen, thank and represent the residents.

Items to be presented were the survey, a brief history, items done to date, our purpose and the meeting with Transportation. Brian consented to putting together a proposed agenda to be finalized at our next meeting.

Susan asked whether we needed to meet with Council to gain approval on our agenda for the AGM. Matt said that sending the agenda to Council will be sufficient.

With regards to our future Cochrane government meeting, Shirley expressed the need to get a firm commitment for future meetings from the government attendees.

We all agreed that the tone of the meeting should be extremely cordial and should start out primarily as a meet and greet. Yet, Jodie Grisdale stated that we must remain loosely cautious when dealing with government. Sharon will be at the meeting as a neutral party. Shirley did not want to give away all our strategy at first and others wanted to make sure government knew that things have changed in the Village.

It was decided that we need a list of talking points about the social impacts to the Village and Shirley mentioned that there was no urban planner involved in 2000. Susan said a good starting point would be the previous list that was compiled for Hatch. Everyone agreed that no charts or maps are needed for the first meeting. Talking points were to be Project Estimates, Private Property Acquisitions, Alignments, Speed, Urban Design, Current Location, Environmental, First Nations Consultations, Access to Water and Safety.

Next we analyzed whether a new bridge was needed and specifically if repairs were made if it could last another 20 years. The majority of committee members felt that we are getting a new bridge and that we need influence into the decision making of where and how it will be done. All concurred that a high level bridge, like the one Shirley had an artist's rendition of, is not wanted in the Village.

Shirley then reiterated her stance that the Alt "A" alignment was 100% favourable in 2001 to Village residents. That West side people at that time did not have a concern that they would have to drive longer. It was noted that this option would divide the Village as Alberta Transport has never sold a bridge in place and they would ultimately tear down the current bridge for liability reasons. However, we could ask if it might be used as a pedestrian bridge. Susan expressed this alignment was not popular with people outside of the Village as this resulted in two bridges with more possible disturbance to the watershed. Matt brought up that because half of the people are new to the Village, we don't know what their stance would be on this issue.

Next we addressed the letter Jodie received from Carmen and Rob Huffman. Jodie said she would thank them and inform them that the MLA would be at the AGM/Picnic.

Next steps were reiterated. Brian would write the agenda for the AGM Presentation. Susan would compile the talking points for our meeting with Alberta Transportation. Jodie would contact Sharon for web site updates and would pass along thanks to the Huffman's.

It was decided that our next meetings would be on July 11<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the same location. Only the Village Presentation and the Government Meeting will be on the agenda for those two dates. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Susan Cooper Parker

7/9/17

Secretary

Date of approval