

Voice of Community and Land Society
Meeting Minutes June 9, 2010 7:30 PM at Round Hill Rec Centre

In attendance: Scott Stauffer, Evangeline Zubryckyj, Jane Oracheski, Bill Sears (Chair), Clayton Maurer, Norma Williams

Regrets: Robert Janzen, Jon Kauffman, Brian Schultz, Julie Ishida

A. Call to Order : Bill Sears called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

B. Additions to the Agenda :

MSC Scott Stauffer moved that the agenda be adopted as distributed. Carried.

C. Approval of the Minutes

MSC Clayton Maurer: That the Minutes from January 13th be approved as circulated. Carried.

D. Old Business

1. Stories for newspapers – Bill brought the Tofield Mercury story on our Annual meeting.
2. Augustana Conference Fall 2010 is a go. October 21 – 23. John Parkins would like to meet with VOCAL.

E. Reports :

1. Treasurer's Report: Jane reviewed the bills we have to be paid. Must keep selling new memberships. Our current balance is approximately \$8,000.00.

ACTION: Jane will look into getting VOCAL charitable status.

2. Chair's Report: Bill met with the Tofield Chamber of Commerce last week, where he gave a presentation to the Tofield businesspeople. When Bill talked about the size of the project and how the mine is over twice as big as the largest mine currently in Canada, the people there were surprised. It was a very worthwhile event and Bill was given a good reception.

3. Heartland Industrial area tour: Clayton attended this tour that took place on May 29th. The area involved is huge – if all permits are given it will cover 300 KM area of prime farmland.

F. New Business:

1. Ackroyd LLP: Bill recently received an invoice from the law firm billing us for services to date. Currently we owe \$7,578.00 in fees, and \$420.46 in disbursements. Discussion followed on this. Bill McElhanney sent a letter explaining that he understood our current situation and was hoping to be paid for the disbursements now as a show of good faith.

Jane suggested that we file the annual return required by corporate registry papers ourselves next year, instead of involving Ackroyd and this might save us some money in the future.

MSC Jane Oracheski moved that we pay Ackroyd LLP \$750.00 to cover any disbursements they have had in addition to a nominal amount towards the fees the Bill McElhanney has incurred working on our behalf.

ACTION: Norma will write a letter to Bill McElhanney explaining that we will be filing our own Annual Return to the corporate registry in 2011, and she will mail the payment on our account along with the letter.

2. Annual Return for Alberta Registries:

ACTION: Norma will sign the Society Annual Return for 2010 and mail it back to Ackroyd LLP with the necessary attachments.

3. Coal leases

ACTION: Bill Sears will contact Bill McElhanney and ask him to meet with us in July so he can explain the significance of the lack of current Coal leases in the area by Sherritt.

4. Wild Oats and Notes: Needs volunteers and would like our email list.

ACTION: Norma will send out an email to our members and ask Jon Kauffman to put this request on our website and facebook page.

5. FOIP re: correspondence between Sherritt and Alberta Environment

This was an idea put forth by Bill McElhanney.

ACTION: Bill Sears will ask the staff at Environmental Law Centre about this and what they think we can do to find out this information.

6. Land Use Framework- Regional Advisory Council -VOCAL representative: We need to follow up on this idea that was presented to us last summer when meeting with the premier.

ACTION: Norma and Bill will write a letter to Premier Stelmach to ask about this. We will copy the letter to the Minister of Environment (Renner) and Andy Lamb. Bill will email Norma about this and we will put a letter to Stelmach together.

7. Laura Bowman ELC – We should thank Laura for her time at our Annual Meeting.

MSC Jane Oracheski/Norma Williams That we send Laura Bowman a cheque for \$75.00 as an honorarium and a note to thank her for her time.

ACTION: Jane Oracheski will do this.

G. Next Meeting Time: We will meet in July with Bill McElhanney, sometime the week of July 4 – 9th if he is available. Meet at The House in Tofield, as it is closer to Edmonton.

ACTION: Bill Sears will contact Bill McElhanney and make arrangements for the meeting.

H. Meeting Adjourned.