

CADBORO BAY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Special Board Meeting # 1

Time: 6:30 pm

Date: May 20, 2009

Place: Goward House

1. **Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm by President Irene Stewart.
2. **Present:** Irene Stewart, Bill Dancer, Peter Eckhard, Leah Kinarthy, Dave Lynn, John Sawka, Elizabeth Borek, Deborah Dickson, Anke Venema
Absent: Brenda Pare, Eric Dahli
Guests: Harry Drage, David Langley
3. **Welcome:** Newly elected board members, Elizabeth Borek, Deborah Dickson, and Anke Venema were introduced and welcomed to the board.
4. **Order of Business** (as captured in the draft AGM minutes) – to discuss and implement the motion on the floor from the 2009 CBRA AGM- to request a Town Hall meeting format instead of Open door/workshop format by the Capital Regional District for the June 11 neighborhood community consultation.

Background: The Capital Regional District (CRD) proposed several sites and sub-options and various sitings for sewage treatment plants and these options were discussed. A Saanich East plant has been proposed in all siting options for a sewage treatment plant. A May 27 meeting of the Core Liquid Waste Management Committee will decide on the various siting options. Option 1 is for one large facility or possibly two sub-options due to concerns about the size of Macauley Point; Option 2 is for 3 facilities; and Option 3 for smaller 10 facilities. The decisions made on May 27 will not specify sites or the communities affected although it was noted that a Saanich East location is proposed in all options presented by the CRD.

It was mentioned that the public have had no input into the option selection process and given the expense, the treatment of sewage should be also be removing endocrine disruptors and other pharmaceuticals in addition to secondary treatment. It was mentioned that there have been attempts for citizens to provide input into the option selection process but the CRD had been unresponsive. It was reported that Kim Fontaine of STAG (?) had analyzed the public consultation process and had written a report that described a flawed public consultation process.

Options for Haro woods were discussed as a potential location for a Saanich East treatment plant. It was pointed out that CRD had purchased a section of Haro Woods for \$6.5 million. A discussion ensued as to what options the local residents have - either to accept a sewage treatment plant of some kind or perhaps purchase the land. Concern was expressed that the land could accommodate up to 40 units for housing development and be sold to developers. A suggestion was made to compromise in order to save as much of Haro Woods as possible from development. It was also suggested that depending on the size of the sewage treatment plant, there could be large areas of forest destroyed in the process. Opinions ranged from no sewage treatment plant at all in Haro Woods to a possible compromise.

Other sites for treatment plants in the area were; the University of Victoria (UVic) graylands, Gyro Park, or the open land across from the Henderson Recreation Centre – the latter has the advantage of close proximity to UVic for possible resource recovery.

It was mentioned that there were already some holding tanks in Haro Woods, and that without a treatment plant the CRD was going most likely going to increase the capacity over the years. It was emphasized that there has not been any consultation or justification or explanation of why Saanich East needs a secondary sewage treatment plant. It was pointed out that the University of Victoria plans to add another twenty thousand students by 2017 and they will need to expand sewage treatment facilities in order to accommodate this kind of growth.

Upcoming June 11th CALWMC meeting: The board considered whether we should ask the peer review committee to attend the meeting, but the suggestion was dropped due to the costs that would be involved. It mentioned that while the peer review committee had criticized the CRD's assumptions with regard to costs and resource recovery, they had not questioned the Haro Woods option.

It was suggested that for the proposed Town Hall meeting, the CBRA request that the CRD prepare a visual presentation including architectural renderings. It was also suggested to add an architectural footprint as well. A list of additional items was requested from the CRD in their presentation including:

1. Why the need for an East Saanich plant and to justify the need for a secondary treatment plant, tanks, and pumping station in this location.
2. Land requirement including odor control facilities specific to each site.
3. Piping system

It was added that the publicity from the Town Hall meeting could be used to support the purchase of the section of Haro Woods that the CRD currently owns. A discussion occurred about possibly hiring a moderator. A moderator from the CBRA board was suggested. There was a concern that many, if not most, residents were unaware of what was being proposed for Haro Woods. Information to the public was discussed. A mailed flyer, survey and media involvements were proposed.

Motion: Leah motioned that: The CRD is advised that the CBRA needs a change in format of the June 11 meeting to an information session with visuals including architectural renderings followed by a town hall forum. Elizabeth amended the motion: To advise the CRD that CBRA could not attend a meeting if the if the meeting was not in the format CBRA is requesting because we are required to act in accordance with a motion passed at the recent AGM which rejected the format proposed by the CRD in favour of a town hall forum. Secondly, that the CRD be requested to provide, at a minimum, the following information:

1. An analysis that demonstrates the need in East Saanich for each of: tanks, pump houses, secondary sewage treatment plant ,
2. Architectural renderings of potential facilities,
3. Architectural footprint of potential facilities,
4. Odor control and noise abatement proposals,
5. Land requirement including odor control measures,
6. Piping system.

The motion was seconded by Peter Eckhard. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION: Board members will develop a Q&A sheet which CBRA can distribute to the community.

It was mentioned that there are two separate issues, the sewage treatment and the future of Haro Woods. Should there not be a sewage treatment facility in Haro Woods, it was cautioned that we need not lose sight of the need to plan to preserve Haro Woods for public use.

The board was reminded that CBRA will not be taking a position on the need for sewage treatment plants because it is already a legally mandated project from the Federal government.

A discussion took place as to the efforts to save Haro Woods as a place for public use. It was emphasized that the CBRA needs to work together with -- Saanich, CRD, and UVic -- as each owns a portion of Haro Woods. It was reported that as a local resident a board member will be making a presentation to UVic's Board of Governors to bring attention to the fact that UVic is seen as a direct beneficiary from a sewage treatment project and might be participating in the destruction of Haro Woods.

It was suggested that CBRA board members have to maintain a common position with regard to the sewage treatment issue that respects our community residents. If individual members on the board have personal opinions that are not reflective of this position, they must make it very clear that they are speaking on their own behalf and not on behalf of the CBRA board.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm