

**White Sands Hall Society and Rural Crime Watch
General Meeting Minutes
October 5, 2021, 7:00 p.m. (via zoom)**

Present:

Hall Society Board: Tamara Dawson, Heather Zyerveld, Judy Peelar, Cheryl VanDusen, Vicky Sanchuck, Sue Showers
 Crime Watch Board: Dale Kitcher, Karen Stewart, Evan Kainz, Tish Holliday
 Members at Large: Geri Horne, Damien Hebert, Larry Robinson, Lois Robinson, Jim Marke

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by President Tamara Dawson.

Cheryl VanDusen outlined the Zoom format and meeting procedures.

Additions/Changes to the Agenda:

Under New Business, Tamara Dawson asked that Signage Update be added.

Motion to accept the Agenda with the above change was made by Sue Showers. Seconded by Cheryl VanDusen. Carried.

Approval of Minutes for June 8, 2021 Annual Meeting

The minutes from the Annual Meeting were distributed with the notice of this meeting. Judy Peelar asked if there were any changes or corrections to the minutes. Hearing none, motion to accept the minutes as distributed was made by Heather Zyerveld. Seconded by Tish Holliday. Carried.

Financial Report

Heather Zyerveld reviewed the following Financial Statement:

**White Sands Community Hall Society 2021
Financial Statement for the Period Ending September 30, 2021**

Income	Budget	YTD			
Bashaw Bottle Depot	\$8,000.00	\$9,806.35			
Misc Income		\$0.00			
TOTAL	\$8,000.00	\$9,806.35			
Disbursements			* Social Events		
Community Improvements	\$6,800.00	\$100.79	July 1st Celebration	\$1,400.00	\$389.42
Ins, Bank Fees, Admin	\$110.00	\$86.27	Golf Tournament	\$800.00	\$1,619.43
Flower Beds	\$300.00	\$182.64	Garden Party	\$0.00	\$126.15
Social Events *	\$5,200.00	\$2,135.00	Year End BBQ	\$1,400.00	\$0.00
Cards & Coffee	\$200.00	\$0.00	Winter Activities	\$800.00	
Bottle Shed Expenses	\$300.00	\$0.00	Christmas Party	\$800.00	
Misc Expense	\$500.00	\$0.00		\$5,200.00	\$2,135.00

TOTAL	\$13,410.00	\$2,504.70
Assets (Cash)		\$19,291.72
Liabilities		\$0.00
Net Income		\$7,301.65

We were not able to hold the Canada Day BBQ or the Fall Wind Up BBQ so our expenses are low. Bottle Revenue is also higher than budgeted leaving us with a larger than normal bank account. Heather Zyerfeld made the motion to accept the Financial Report for the Period Ending September 30, 2021 as presented. Seconded by Sue Showers. Carried

Heather Zyerfeld also reported that she has set up e-transfers into the Hall Society Account. This will facilitate payments for activities like the Golf Tournament or Christmas Party where residents pay a fee. It will also provide an accurate accounting of who has paid and avoid the handling of cash. Bank Fees may be higher if we exceed the maximum number of transactions allowed within a month, but the value is worthwhile.

Crime Watch Report

Dale Kitcher, President of our Rural Crime Watch Association thanked the members of the Crime Watch Board: Ed Waugh, Karen Stewart, Bobbi Jo Ferris, Tish Holliday and Evan Kainz for their input and participation to date. The Board will be meeting quarterly.

Dale met with Village Council to determine what their expectations were of Crime Watch in our community. Key to everyone was resident awareness on ways to protect their property and assets. Messages will be fanned out on a monthly basis. They have been using What's Up at White Sands Facebook page for some messages. The electronic sign board will also be used.

Crime has been at a minimum throughout the summer. Working with the RCMP, they advise that when the population is high in the community, it deters theft. Now that many seasonal residents have left, there will have to be a higher awareness by those left in the Village.

We have reached out to Rochon Sands. They do not have a Crime Watch Program but do want to remain in communication to put our a unified front on crime watch and keep each other posted on any incidents.

Old and/or Unfinished Business:

1. Tent Enclosure at Jack's Pond – Judy Peelar reported that the Village Council had sent out a request for input on this project. Response was primarily positive. Council wants to explore options in more detail, set budgets in the new year and look into grant money opportunities.

Once they have a plan, they will hold an open house with the public for final input. This will not occur until next year.

Currently the Hall Society has set aside \$5000 for this project. As we have a lot of money in our account it is not stopping us from continuing with our usual expenditures. A gathering structure at Jack's Pond would meet the Objectives of the Hall Society in both matters of enhancements to the Village and the offering of social activities. The Board has therefore determined to hold the \$5000 aside and once the Village Council proposes the final plan, we will then determine if the money should go to that project.

2. Golf Tournament – Heather Zyerfeld reported on the Tournament which took place in July. We had 96 golfers of all ages. A good representation of our Village and the highest number to date for this event. Prize donations were incredible and we ended up spending very little for prizes. Due to the increase in golfers and the possibility that we may not be as fortunate to have so many prize donations, we will be increasing the budget for the Golf Tournament in the coming year.
3. Canada Day Parade Report – Cheryl VanDusen reported there were 26 entries this year making for an awesome parade. A group of youths did the judging. We have made notes on how we might make this an even better event in coming years. All and all a successful event.

New Business:

1. Discussion on other annual events hosted by the Hall Society and Discussion on expenditure options – improvements or projects in the Village.

Judy Peelar introduced the idea of querying our residents on their thoughts for other activities or Village enhancements. We did this a few years ago and had some interesting feedback. As we have been unable to hold our normal social events for the last couple years, we have some money in our accounts that we could look at some new ventures. Currently the Hall Society has 4 major events: Canada Day Parade, Golf Tournament, Fall Wind Up and Christmas Party. One resident suggested that we have a teen/youth dance and BBQ.

The Hall Society also pays for benches and picnic tables and the flower gardens throughout the Village. Perhaps residents have some other ideas for community projects or enhancements.

We will solicit the information now so we can budget accordingly for the new year.

2. Candidate's Forum – Tamara Dawson advised that with the recent election, many residents commented they would like to meet the Candidates and hear from them on what they stand for. Though we are 4 years from another election, the Hall Society has taken on this initiative for the future.

3. Electronic Sign – Tamara Dawson reminds everyone that the sign is available for personal messaging – birthday/anniversary greetings. To have a message placed on the sign, simply send an email to svwssign@gmail.com. This email address also appears on the sign as a constant reminder that our residents can make use of this.

Tamara thanked the volunteers who program the messages: Heather Zyerveld, Geri Horne and Cheryl VanDusen.

Dale Kitcher mentioned Crime Watch messaging. He will send in some new messages for resident awareness. Would like to have something circulating each month.

Jim Marke asked why the notice for this meeting was not up on the sign. It was acknowledged that this was an oversight. He also questioned why the messages appear so small and are not using the full screen. Tamara Dawson advised that we do struggle with technical issues on an on-going basis and asked if Jim was willing to assist in this regard. Jim agreed and Tamara will be in touch with him.

4. Spirit of Christmas – Cheryl VanDusen reported that last year’s food bank and toy drive campaign was a huge success. This year we will also explore the option of adopting a family. Cheryl will be in communication with FCSS in Stettler as we get closer to the season of giving.
5. Christmas Party – Tamara Dawson advised that it is too soon to determine if we will be able to hold the annual Christmas Party. If health restrictions permit, it is still our intent to proceed.
6. Signage Update – Tamara Dawson provided this update on 2 projects.

The Take It or Leave It Shed has proved frustrating at times for our volunteers who maintain it. People are leaving items they shouldn’t, resulting in our volunteers having to load the items in their personal vehicles and take them to the land fill. Though there is signage on the Shed door, it goes unheeded. She is getting quotes on larger, brightly colored signage for the door and outside wall.

For display at Hall Society Events, we are getting pricing on signage stating: “Thank You. Your donations of bottles make this event possible”. We have sandwich boards in the Hall that are used for “Private Functions”. We are just going to make covers for those existing boards so they provide dual functionality.

Next meeting date: December 7, 2021

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. was made by Cheryl VanDusen.