

**THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF SLOCAN**  
(Minutes of Council)

Slocan, British Columbia  
August 10, 2020

**The Regular Meeting** of the Municipal Council of The Corporation of the Village of Slocan, elected for the years 2018-2022, was held at the Slocan Legion Hall, 502 Harold Street in Slocan, B.C., on August 10, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:**

Elected Officials

Mayor Jessica Lunn  
Councillor Burly Van Bynen  
Councillor Joel Pelletier  
Councillor Madeleine Perriere  
Councillor Ezra Buller

Appointed Personnel

Michelle Gordon, Chief Administrative Officer

**Call to Order**

Mayor Lunn called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**Waive Provision**

2020/137

Moved by Councillor Perriere, seconded by Councillor Buller,  
And Resolved:

WHEREAS Council has established, by bylaw, provisions to govern the proceedings of Council;

AND WHEREAS Section 10.0 of the Village of Slocan Council Procedures Bylaw outlines provisions for location of Council meetings;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that due to COVID-19 social distancing rules and isolation protocols, that the provisions of the Village of Slocan Council Procedures Bylaw be waived for the Regular Meeting of Monday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 7:00pm to allow for Council to hold a meeting at the Slocan Legion Hall, 502 Harold Street, Slocan BC.

**Adopt Agenda**

2020/138

Moved by Councillor Buller, seconded by Councillor Perriere,  
And Resolved:

That the agenda be adopted as presented.

**Minutes:**

2020/139

Moved by Councillor Van Bynen, seconded by Councillor Perriere,  
And Resolved:

That the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 13<sup>th</sup> and Special Meeting of July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020 be adopted as presented.

**Audience:**

ONA - Fisheries

Michael Zimmer, Okanagan Nation Alliance, presented to Council on *incorporating ecosystem function from a First Nations lead and perspective, and Springer Creek access restoration and habitat improvements.*

**Recommendations:**

Annual Report  
2020/140

Moved by Councillor Perriere, seconded by Councillor Van Bynen,  
And Resolved:  
That Council receive the 2019 Annual Report as presented.

Legion Update  
2020/141

Moved by Councillor Pelletier, seconded by Councillor Van Bynen,  
And Resolved:  
That the CAO's Legion Hall Heritage Restoration Project Update be received for information.

UBCM Minister  
Appointments  
2020/142

Moved by Councillor Perriere, seconded by Councillor Van Bynen,  
And Resolved:  
That Council direct staff to schedule the following appointments with appropriate Ministers during the 2020 Virtual UBCM Convention:

MINISTRY	TOPIC
Energy, Mines & Petroleum Resources	Springer Creek Hydro Project
Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development	Access to Provincial Parks
Municipal Affairs & Housing	Affordable Housing Project
Public Safety & Solicitor General	Rural RCMP Service
Transportation & Infrastructure	Rural Transportation
Minister of State for Child Care	Rural Child Care Services

**Info Items:**

2020/143

Moved by Councillor Pelletier, seconded by Councillor Buller,  
And Resolved:

That the following items be received for information:

- 1 RDCK – July 2020 Board Highlights
- 2 IHA – Healthy Communities July 2020 Newsletter
- 3 RDCK Release – Regional Energy Efficiency Program Update
- 4 RDCK Release – Why Did RDCK Change Recycling in the District?
- 5 RDCK Release – Indoor Fitness Centers to Reopen with Restrictions
- 6 RDCK Release – Water Safety Ambassador Program
- 7 RDCK Release – Recycling Depots to be Operational by August 2
- 8 IHA – Preparation for Extreme Heat and Wildfire Smoke
- 9 CEA – BC Climate-Aligned Stimulus Survey
- 10 CKISS – Invasive Species Funding Opportunity
- 11 Province of BC – Guidance for Ministerial Order 192
- 12 Ben Pires – Colonial Name of our Province
- 13 UBCM – Response to Building BC's Recovery, Together
- 14 Village of Kaslo – Strategy for Rural Economic Development Through Healthcare
- 15 Fort St. John – BCUC Approval of Net Metering
- 16 Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing – COVID-19 Consultation

Fitness Center  
2020/144

Moved by Councillor Pelletier, seconded by Councillor Perriere,  
And Resolved:

That staff be directed to contact the Fitness Center Advisory Commission to discuss options for potentially reopening the Slocan Fitness Center.

CKISS  
2020/145

Moved by Councillor Pelletier, seconded by Councillor Perriere,  
And Resolved:

That staff be directed to investigate submitting a grant application to the Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society's (CKISS) \$5,000 environmental education grant funding stream, to fund invasive species inventory and management planning for local governments.

**Bylaws:**

Affordable Housing  
2020/146

Moved by Councillor Perriere, seconded by Councillor Van Bynen,  
And Resolved:

That third readings to the Village of Slocan Zoning Amendment Bylaw, Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw, and Road Closure & Dedication Removal Bylaw be tabled to the next meeting, and that staff provide more information to the public about the project.

**Items brought  
forward from In-  
Camera**

**CAO Report Addressing Council's Concerns on Issues in the Village:  
BC DAY LONG WEEKEND**

Over the BC Day long weekend, Slocan saw a record number of visitors. Although the community and our amenities were enjoyed respectfully by most, several incidences occurred, including disruption at the waterfront/gazebo and disruption at the Campground. The two incidences were related to the same group of visitors in Slocan, and the RCMP were dispatched for both. It was also alleged that two needles were found at the beach. Staff were able to meet with the RCMP after the long weekend to debrief. It was deduced there was a probable link between the needles found on Slocan beach and the unruly weekend visitors, and could likely be considered an isolated incident - it is not usual that needles are found on Slocan beach. Installation of sharps containers in the beach washrooms was discussed – there are both benefits and negative impacts to this (ie: users should have a safe place to dispose of sharps in a proper manner but it is not guaranteed they will be used; how do we keep our beach-goers, including children, safe around the containers; is this encouraging more use of needles at the beach; who will be responsible to collect the sharps containers and how often will they be checked). Of note, there are currently sharps disposal containers at the Wellness Center, WEGCSSS, and at the Village Office. Staff intend to work with all stakeholders (including RCMP, Campground Contractors, Beach Washroom Contractor, Public Works, Anchors) to strategize how to better manage future long weekends when we can anticipate an influx of visitors. Campground protocols were again reviewed and discussed with the Campground Operators:

- COVID rules are still in effect – absolutely no group bookings are to be accepted, no exceptions. If visitors have any issues with this, they are to be directed to call the office.
- If there are any confrontational (or suspected confrontational) issues that should arise that may put the operators or campers at risk, they are to call the RCMP immediately, and should not try to diffuse the situation on their own.

**ILLEGAL CAMPERS**

No camping and no parking signs have been placed on the waterfront and old highway road. We are seeing an increased number of campers this tourist season due to COVID-19 and traveller restrictions. The Springer Creek RV Park & Campground is returning record revenues this season, and has been at capacity during most weekends. The operators collected over \$20,000 in revenue during the month of July alone. Staff are working with the Slocan Valley Outriders to accommodate an overflow area at the grounds. This will take some time as systems must be put into place prior to this. The Outriders grounds are

insured strictly for club member use – the Society will need to draft a lease agreement for the Village to use the grounds for this purpose, and the Village will need to acquire insurance specific to this use. Operations and revenue cost-sharing will also need to be discussed. Staff are working on a draft “No Camping in Public Places” bylaw, which will better enable RCMP assistance. It has been brought to our attention that it is not only Slocan that is facing this issue, but also many other communities across BC.

### **SWIMMING AT BOAT DOCK**

Swimming around and jumping off the boat dock and breakwater has become an issue, mainly due to the absence of the swim dock. Signage is posted at the boat dock advising “no swimming”, yet the signs seem to go unread. The public, and parents, need to be reminded of the dangers of swimming around this area and why it is prohibited. Staff are working on more prominent signage – perhaps a sandwich board or series of sandwich boards on both the boat dock and breakwater, advising that swimming is not permitted in this area. There is certainly great concern when boaters are coming in off the water and trying to dock their boats, and people are swimming in the area the boats need to come in.

### **SWIM DOCK**

The swim dock will be put back into the water once the boom logs have been placed. The Municipal Insurance Association (MIA) has unfortunately ordered us to remove the diving board from dock. They identify this as a major liability for the Village as we can not guarantee there are no deadheads under the water. In addition, the Village does not currently have a lifeguard on duty. It was noted by MIA that if someone dove in and were to hurt themselves, the Village is 100% liable.

### **LOG BOOMS**

During the storm in June, the log booms in the swim area were detached from their underwater anchor chains, and a few sections were disconnected from the boom link. Over the years we have noticed the boom ends deteriorating, and have patched as necessary. The booms were beached from the storm and Public Works have since cut the ends of the booms off and ordered a special bit to re-drill the chain anchors. In order for the booms to be put back into the water, the Village will require a boat strong enough to tow the link back out. Unfortunately, with the work that is required to re-connect the links, this cannot be done in the water, but in advance on land. There may be budget implications to this endeavor, and Public Works are currently trying to source a boat.

### **OWL WALK GARBAGE**

A report was received that the Owl Walk garbage can was full. Historically, this garbage can has been maintained by WE Graham Community School through their outdoor classroom program. Due to COVID-19 and the school being closed, it was an oversight that the bin was not being emptied. Public Works were notified and have since cleaned the area and removed the bin, until such time it can again be maintained.

#### Resolutions:

- That staff be directed to provide a draft “No Camping in Public Areas Bylaw” for Council’s review.
- That staff be directed to provide Council with cost estimates to complete re-installation of the log booms and swim dock, and that staff investigate alternate swim dock options and pricing.
- That staff be directed to draft a policy for Council review, outlining annual beach cleanup, inspection, deadlines and procedure.
- That staff be directed to install more prominent signage at the boat launch advising the public that swimming in this area is NOT permitted.
- That staff continue to work with the RCMP on protocols, procedures, and solutions to minimize illegal camping within the Village, and inappropriate behaviour on the waterfront.
- That staff research enforcement costs and options, to be considered during 2021 budget discussions.

**Public Participation:**

Dufault	Denise Dufault requested info items #11 and 12 for information.
Fields	Daphne Fields commented on info item #10 (CKISS Invasive Species Funding Opportunity) and wanted Council to ensure any treatment would not include glyphosates, and the importance of not using to treat invasive knotweed.
Bouliane	Dave Bouliane pointed out the number of people that attended the Affordable Housing public hearing that were opposed. He appreciates Council's decision to postpone third reading, a "commendable move on Council's part". Concerned with high traffic area, assessments decreasing due to the development, anxiety around not knowing project's future.
Klassen	Judy Klassen questioned if this was the best area in town for a housing development. Asked Council how they will move forward; who will be paying for the project; if a social assistance program. Concerned with busy intersection. Agrees questions from the public hearing were valid.
Buzolitch-Roy	Jeremi Buzolitch commented that the housing vision is good and building nice is good, but still need to consider worst-case scenario. What is the plan for resolving conflict, drug use, etc. What is the action if so? Came to Slovan to raise kids, avoid this. The whole province has demonstrated a need for affordable housing, not just Slovan. Feels the need to see the future of the project, see impacts on the community.
Fredrickson	Dave Fredrickson commented that he is concerned with the beach and what direction it is going, feeling of concern spreading over to the affordable housing proposal. Dave offered help to the Village, if need be, for restoring the waterfront.
McGreal	Patricia McGreal commented on the housing project – the public cannot see what's in Council's head, might be a great vision but no one can see this. Feels the process is backwards, usually plans are presented before rezone. Hard to approve without a vision.
Lindsay	Devin Lindsay came to listen to the presentation by Michael Zimmer, ONA. Lindsay commented that there are a lot of changes happening in town, could be a good idea to take on planning on a larger scale, and interaction with public.
Tennant	Judy Tennant inquired why the dock at the waterfront had not been put out. She commented that kids are using the boat dock for swimming and is dangerous. Suggested putting "no diving" signs on the boat dock.
Hird	Delaine Hird inquired on the status of the Main Street Paving Project.
Adams	Linda Adams asked if Public Works could level out the potholes on Main Street.

**Adjournment**

2020/147

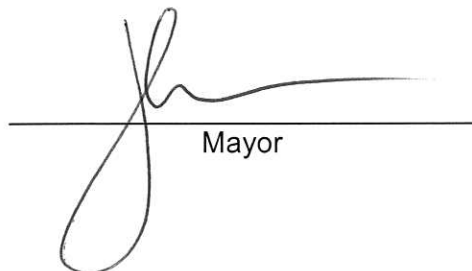
Moved by Councillor Van Bynen,  
And Resolved:

That the meeting be adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several loops and a long tail, positioned above a horizontal line.

Chief Administrative Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, featuring a large loop and a long horizontal stroke, positioned above a horizontal line.

Mayor