



Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District

Alberni Valley Committee Minutes

Wednesday, November 18, 2009

Regional District Board Room

Present: Chairperson: Glenn Wong, Directors: Hira Chopra, Penny Cote, Patty Edwards, Mike Kokura, Ken McRae.

Staff: Rob Sabine, Chief Administrative Officer, Wendy Thomson, Deputy Corporate Secretary, Tom Gowan, Manager of Finance, Don Anderson, Manager of Environmental Services.

Other: Russell Dyson, City Clerk, City of Port Alberni

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

Minutes

2. Moved by P. Edwards, seconded by P. Cote, "That the minutes from the Alberni Valley Committee Meeting held on September 16, 2009 be adopted as circulated."

"Carried"

Correspondence

3. Letter dated October 6, 2009 from the Heiltsuk Tribal Council requesting temporary solid waste disposal at the Alberni Valley Landfill. The Manager of Environmental Services advised that he referred this request to the Tseshah First Nation for comment. He said a formal letter has not been received from the Tseshah First Nation, but he was advised by their Chief Operating Officer that the Tseshah Council cannot support this request and their position is unchanged regarding accepting solid waste at the Alberni Valley Landfill from outside the region.
4. Moved by M. Kokura, seconded by P. Edwards, "That the request from the Heiltsuk Tribal Council to temporarily dispose of solid waste at the Alberni Valley Landfill be denied."

"Carried"



Administration

5. Letter from the City of Port Alberni dated October 27, 2009 and Regional District Administrative Memo regarding the Regional District's contribution towards the purchase of the building on Elizabeth Street for the Pacific Rim Health Care Cooperative.
Moved by M. Kokura, seconded by P. Edwards, "That this correspondence be received."

"Carried"
6. The City Clerk provided an overview of the City owned building at 4711 Elizabeth Street, the former Government Agents building and the current location of the Pacific Rim Health Care Cooperative. The Pacific Rim Health Care Cooperative has requested the City of Port Alberni gift the land and building to the Cooperative for the operation of their Doctors offices and recruitment of new Doctors to the Alberni Valley. Ownership of the building would provide the Cooperative with an asset and enable them to invest in required improvements to the building. Port Alberni City Council has proposed that the Regional District contribute to the city, a portion of the value of the building. The City Clerk said the Cooperative provides a service which benefits all of the Alberni Valley, not just City residents. The City of Port Alberni requests the Regional District agree in principle to fund 40% of the value of the building at 4711 Elizabeth Street in order that it can be donated to the Cooperative. The City of Port Alberni is willing to explore different options for accommodating this request, in order to satisfy the Regional District's funding options. The City Clerk said the appraisal of the building conducted in 2006 was \$425,000.00 based on roof and HVAC improvements and includes 4706 Elizabeth Street. He advised that only a portion of the improvements have been completed. The City Clerk said the City of Port Alberni requests the Regional District to consider cost sharing with the City of Port Alberni on an updated appraisal. The City Clerk answered questions from Directors.
7. Discussions ensued regarding funding options from the Alberni Valley Electoral Areas to participate with the City of Port Alberni in turning over ownership of the Elizabeth Street building to the Pacific Rim Health Care Cooperative.



8. Moved by M. Kokura, seconded by K. McRae, "That the Alberni Valley Committee agree in principle to fund 40% of the value of 4711 Elizabeth Street in order for the building to be donated to the Pacific Rim Health Care Cooperative and instruct staff to work on an agreement with a caveat that if the Cooperative dissolves, the funds be refunded back to the Regional District."

"Defeated"

9. Moved by M. Kokura, seconded by P. Cote, "That Mr. Hugh Anderson be invited to address the Committee-of-the-Whole."

"Carried"

10. Mr. Anderson thanked Directors for the opportunity to speak this afternoon. He said that he is here today speaking on behalf of himself and his family. Mr. Anderson said his wife and daughter lost their long time doctor in the Alberni Valley and for 4 years they had no Doctor. He said many people in our community do not have family physicians. Mr. Anderson said he is a supporter of the Pacific Rim Health Care Cooperative. He said that people without Doctors have to go to the emergency room at the hospital for prescriptions etc., this is using up an important resource. Mr. Anderson said its critical for people in our community to have health services. He said its beneficial to the Region and the City of Port Alberni to move this proposal forward. The Cooperative is filling a very important need in the community. Mr. Anderson said it will be difficult to attract businesses to the community without proper health services. Mr. Anderson said its up to the Directors to decide if they think this is an important service in the Alberni Valley.

11. The Chairperson thanked Mr. Anderson for his presentation.

12. Moved by M. Kokura, seconded by K. McRae, "That Ms. Bev Denning, President, Pacific Rim Health Care Cooperative be invited to address the Alberni Valley Committee."

"Carried"

13. Ms. Denning said she is deeply disappointed by the decision of the Committee today. Ms. Denning circulated copies of a fact sheet prepared by the Pacific Rim Health Care Cooperative. The fact sheet outlines who the Cooperative is and why they are operating the clinic. Ms. Denning asked



Directors for clarification on whether defeating the motion to approve in principle means that the Regional District's participation in the proposal is dead?

14. Moved by M. Kokura, seconded by P. Edwards, "That the Alberni Valley Committee re-consider the previous motion to support in principle to fund 40% of the value of 4711 Elizabeth Street for donation to the Pacific Rim Health Care Cooperative."

"Carried"

15. Moved by M. Kokura, seconded by K. McRae, "That the Alberni Valley Committee agree in principle to fund 40% of the value of 4711 Elizabeth Street in order for the building to be donated to the Pacific Rim Health Care Cooperative and instruct staff to work on an agreement with a caveat that if the Cooperative dissolves, the funds be refunded back to the Regional District."

"Carried"

16. Moved by H. Chopra, seconded by M. Kokura, "That the Alberni Valley Committee recommend that the Board of Directors approve the Alberni Valley Electoral Areas cost sharing with the City of Port Alberni on an updated appraisal on the building at 4711 Elizabeth Street in Port Alberni."

"Carried"

Ongoing Business

17. Director Cote reported on discussions with Mr. Pat Deakin, City of Port Alberni Economic Development Officer regarding a proposal by Coulson Group to extend the Alberni Valley Airport runway. She said the Coulson Group is looking at bringing more business into the valley, creating approximately 17 more jobs. She said they are looking at putting in a funding proposal to the Island Coastal Economic Trust.

New Business

18. The Manager of Environmental Services advised that the West Coast Committee is investigating the possibility of hiring a manager for the Tofino/Ucluelet Airport and asked Alberni Valley Directors if they would be



interested in cost sharing a manager for both airports. Discussions ensued. The Alberni Valley Directors agreed that they are not in favour of an airport manager for the Alberni Valley Airport at this time.

19. Moved by M. Kokura, seconded by K. McRae, "That this meeting now stand adjourned."

"Carried"

20. The meeting adjourned at 3:02 p.m.

Certified Correct:

Glenn Wong,
Chairperson

Robert Sabine,
Chief Administrative Officer