

**BOUCHIE LAKE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING #2 MINUTES**

File No: 6481-02

Meeting Date: August 27, 2019

Location: CRD Office, 410 Kinchant Street, Quesnel

Present: Area B Director Barb Bachmeier; Nigel Whitehead, CRD Senior Planner; Elizabeth Montgomery; Neil MacDougall, Stephanie Hanes, Peggy Smith, Robert Ross, Sybille Muschik.

Regrets: Stan Hall, Tony McHale.

The meeting was called to order at **6:05 pm**

Committee Members reintroduced themselves.

N. Whitehead reviewed project tasks completed to date and currently underway.

N. Whitehead discussed June 30 Public Engagement Event held at the community sale at the Bouchie Lake Community Hall. It was a successful event with good feedback.

N. Whitehead presented a summary of the Draft Technical Background Report. Committee discussed the following topics and concerns:

- Discussion on archeological values in the area. Discussed Telegraph Trail. Need confirmation from Backcountry Horseman society. Other motorized group using or maintaining portions as well?
- How to encourage investment in telecommunications infrastructure? Discussed previous BC Gas program where residents paid additional taxation for a period of time after install. Can CRD develop a taxation service to partially fund cell infrastructure, with potential for federal grants and private funding? Telus set up a tower at pinnacles road, but only seems to be directed at the small area serviced by Shaw. What areas are serviced by Shaw? There is a fibre optic line to Nazko, but don't think any users are connected.
- Discussion on sewage treatment options. Concern with outfall, and size of systems. Require discussion with someone with expertise in the subject. Discussion about potential incentives to replace failing septic systems, especially along lakes. Concern that an incentive program would be time-limited. Development of affordable housing could leverage sewage treatment, or have its own system.
- Discussion on safer pedestrian/multi-use of road right of ways. Many options to improve off-road travel. Requires discussion with MOTI. Survey #1 indicated definitive need for pedestrian crossing at Nazko/Blackwater junction. Pedestrian activated signal strongly desired (including push button at horse-rider's height!). Norwood Rd and Blackwater Rd also have needs for pedestrian improvements.

- Discussion on public transportation options. Concerns with previous Handy Dart expansion proposals. Looked at expanding service area in the past, but proposal was not sufficient. Very low densities make viable public transit difficult to achieve. Challenges with BC Transit being Victoria based. Nazko First Nations have their own private bus, maybe there is collaboration opportunity. There is regular bus service to Wells – how is this achieved?
- Discussed desire for identification of areas for environmental reserve, especially nesting sites around lakes. Discussed undevelopable lots for sale that could be purchased. Bouchie Lake Stewardship Society looking at options. Steering committee will conduct a mapping exercise to identify potential sites at a future meeting.
- Discussed opportunity for improving tourism facilities, such as RV pullout and eventual rest stop and sani-dump along MOTI ROW on Bonny Rd. Agreed that septic disposal would need to be considered.
- Discussed history of community events at the hall and changes in fee structures over time for the use of the hall leading to less events. Management and fee structures have changed, but hall use has not picked up. Committee generally agreed that this is a complex subject that may be outside scope of land use study.
- Discussion around Hangman's Springs recreation area. Possibility to convert the area to a community forest.
- Discussed affordable housing. Need to identify and zone (or soft zone?) potential site and work towards future development. Start small and expand. Need to collaborate with currently in progress North Cariboo Housing Strategy. Generally agreed that aging homeowners desire to stay in neighbourhood, but require smaller housing options with less maintenance. Also opportunity to diversify housing and reduce concentration of facilities in downtown Quesnel.

Committee reviewed in detail Survey #1 results. N.Whitehead will analyze and summarize the long answer questions and bring to next committee meeting.

Discussed plan priorities. N. Whitehead will bring initial priorities list for review at next meeting. Committee will develop key questions and identify partner government and community stakeholders for each subject and plan policy workshops accordingly.

Next Steering Committee Meeting set for Monday, October 7, 1:00 PM, at Bouchie Lake Hall or Fire Hall.

Meeting adjourned **8:30 pm.**