

Rutland Residents Association Meeting Minutes

Sept 19, 2023 / 1132 Findlay Rd from 6:30-8:00pm

Present: 34 – 29 Members and 5 Guests

- Lynn J., Lorena M., Lynn S., Sharlene D., Christopher B., Gene C., Marianne B., Pearl M., Shelley M., Nick A., Cindy S., Roxanne C., Daryl C., Bal G., Elliot P., Murray M., Don M., Phyllis W., Gwen B., Chuck D., Elisabeth D., Tracey P., Lesley Z., Jean B., Claudette C., Candace G., Eileen K., Karen M., Dianne K.
- 5 Guests: Audrey P., Anna B., Jeanne B., Adina H., Wally H.

1. **Call to Order:** Lynn called the meeting to order at 6:34pm
2. **Quorum / Roll Call (10% of membership):** Quorum established.
3. **Welcome to all members and guests.** Lynn welcomed everyone.
4. **Adoption of the Agenda for this Meeting.**
Moved by Roxanne C, 2nded by Nick A., to adopt the agenda as presented. CARRIED
5. **Adoptions of Minutes of the Previous Monthly Meeting**
Moved by Gwen B., 2nded by Shelley M., to adopt the minutes as presented. CARRIED
6. **President's Report:** Lynn thanked everyone for coming appreciated attendance. July we sent a letter to the Rutland Stakeholders group (Rutland Business Association, City Community Safety Mgr, RCMP, Bylaws, Gospel Mission ED, Rutland Residents Assoc.) regarding homeless services possibly moving to Rutland and the movement of the Social Development and Poverty Reduction office to Rutland. Noted safety concerns expressed by people with disabilities having to wait in line with homeless addicted people when cheques are issued. Letter also noted lack of transparency in regard to BC Housing low barrier housing being built in Rutland and the moving of the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction office into Rutland. Stated "we do not feel that Rutland is the place for permanent homeless services and that Rutland residents deserve and expect the same degree of safety, protection, and value as people who live in other areas of Kelowna". In June an RMS committee was formed regarding renovating vs building a new RMS. This is still in process and Sharlene will speak to this later on. An August Town Hall was hosted by Norm Letnick and Renee Merrifield the Rutland Residents Association was well represented and several members presented their opinions. Noted a rumor about a homeless shelter being built on Dougal Road and response from Norm Letnick and Darren Caul, director of Community Safety, indicated no shelter coming into Rutland. Free to join the Rutland Residents Association as a member until January 2024. Rutland Residents Association will be meeting with the Mayor in October, feedback is being collected to share with him. Thanked Claudette and group for letting us use the Okanagan Villa Clubhouse as our previous meeting place has been sold.
7. **Treasurer's Report:** Lynn S. reported that the Rutland Residents Association has total assets of \$2049.62. Noted grant money received and then expenses also paid out. Balance in Gaming Account is \$13.67.

8. Committee Reports

- 8.1 RMS Committee (Letter regarding RMS renovation.): Sharlene noted that due to family issues and such committee had been put on hold. Stated that there is a draft of this letter being passed around and that people could add their comments or additions on this draft. Sharlene asked that the draft letter be brought back to her before or at the end of the meeting and this will be used to create a final draft. Asked if any other individuals wished to become a part of this committee. Nick A. and Chuck volunteered to participate on committee. Sharlene will complete draft based on input from this meeting and committee will meet to review it prior to distribution. Sharlene will advise all committee members of a meeting date to discuss draft letter.

9. Old Business

10. New Business

- 10.1 Possible change of meeting times: Lynn noted change in meeting location and wondered if meeting time was okay. Members agreed to same meeting time – 6:30pm to 8pm.
- 10.2 New Membership offer – Free membership from Now until the January AGM
- 10.3 Open Discussion: anything can be discussed.
 - Gene noted talking to people living in Belgo or Ellison and wondered if our organization could incorporate them into the Rutland Residents Association somehow. Lynn J. noted each area may have established groups, but some have dissolved or gone online. Lynn suggested if there is a Town Hall for all areas what topic(s) should be addressed. Topics that came up included transportation, safety, and several others. Nick suggested Executive get together and create a plan, Lynn suggested that a committee work on a plan for a Town Hall including other adjoining neighborhoods like Ellison, Black Mountain, Kirschner.
 - **Motion that the Rutland Residents Association form a committee to create a plan and organize a Town Hall to address common issues shared by adjacent neighborhoods. Moved by Roxanne C., 2nded by Gene C. CARRIED**
 - Try to have meeting before next meeting.
 - Individuals who volunteered include Sharlene, Lynn S., Gene (& Sisters) Lynn J, Lorena M
 - Group discussed ideas relating to moving the Rutland Residents Association forward. Sharlene noted that Lynn J. has done a fantastic job moving us forward and thanked Lynn J. for all of her hard work and dedication in getting us to where we are now.
 - Lynn J. noted rescinding of City Policy 305 relating to Mayor/Council interactions with Residents Associations as well as the possible use of an Affiliate Agreement to replace it. Noted that these could limit Resident Associations ability to represent residents if in disagreement with City plans. Group discussed a few items relating to this topic.
 - Lynn J. will put together a list of contacts for residents to contact regarding various issues.

11. Motion to Adjourn: Moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:26pm

**Next General Meeting: Tuesday October 24, 2023. 1132 Findlay Rd
All Rutland Residents are welcome to attend.**