

DIRA Executive Minutes
November 4, 2024
Old School

Attendees:

Ron Shepherd (chair), Stirling Fraser, Jenny Balke, Andrew Pringle and Claudia Kroll-Gray

1. Meeting called to order at 4:00 PM.
2. Motion to approve minutes from the October 7th executive meeting - seconded and passed.
3. **Bookkeeping:**

DIRA chair met with the new DIRA bookkeeper, Virginia MacCuspig of Pure Profits Solutions, to discuss DIRA expectations. For example, the bookkeeper will need access to the bank account for bookkeeping and reconciliation, also it is expected the bookkeeper will input electronic funds transfers and an executive member will release the funds.

Training between the current bookkeeper and Virginia MacCuspig will be ongoing during Nov and Dec.

4. **Bottle Depot Finances:**

The bottle depot had losses in 2022 and 2023 and a loss of \$6,000 is expected in 2024 and higher losses are forecasted in future years. Payroll is forecasted to be up 24% in 2024 from \$34,000 to \$40,000.

DIRA and the bottle depot manager need to come up with strategies to break even.

DIRA board member suggestions included:

1. increase bottle donation commissions paid to the bottle depot from 15% (now) to 30%,
2. reduce donation payouts to charities from quarterly (now) to bi-annual or annual,
3. reduce individual donation bins for each charity (now) to one bin for all charities with the equal distribution of funds to each charity annually, and
4. reduce the amount paid to charities by the bottle depot deficit.

DIRA executives will discuss these strategies with the bottle depot manager.

5. Community Dock and Boat Ramp Committee:

The chair resigned in September and there are 6 people on the committee however only 3 attended the recently scheduled meeting with the following agenda items; discuss the chair vacancy, status of maintenance/repairs, mission/vision review and set a time for the next meeting.

The committee has member(s) who have indicated a willingness to chair and they will decide at their next meeting. If they are unable to decide on a chair, DIRA has the authority to appoint one.

The committee is struggling with issues such as, identifying a focal point; recreational boating, fishing, swimming, medical evacuation and BC Ferry use. If the committee decides it needs to reevaluate what their mission should be they will bring the issue to a DIRA general meeting for further discussion.

6. Waste Management , Garbage Pick up Contract:

The new 3 year residential/commercial garbage pickup contract with Strathcona has been signed.

7. Publicity:

Jenny prepared a summary of the last DIRA public meeting which will be published in the next Flagstone. It is expected this will continue to happen after every general meeting.

8. Meeting Schedule :

There will be no executive or general meetings in December.

The next executive meeting will be in January 2025 and the first general meeting in 2025 will be in February.

9. CVRD Letter

The CVRD published a letter of apology to First Nations regarding the disturbance of artifacts during the construction of the Cross Island Trail along East Road.

10. Topics for General Meeting November 18th:

Parks will likely be presenting on the 18th. Due to the time, executives were asked to suggest other committees or topics which residents may like to hear about.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:00.