



Voice of Community and Land Society

Meeting Minutes

November 10, 2008 7:00 PM at The House, Tofield

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Present: Bill Sears, Russel Stauffer, Clayton Maurer, Jon Kauffman, Robert Janzen, Brian Schultz, Norma Williams

Regrets: Owen Forster, Julie Ishida

A. Bill Sears called the meeting to order at 7:23 pm.

B. Agenda

**MSC Stauffer/Maurer: That the agenda be approved as distributed.**

C. Minutes – .

**MSC Janzen/Stauffer: That the minutes from Aug 26<sup>th</sup> be adopted as distributed.**

D. EPCOR Discussion re letter to Epcor/ meeting with Epcor

Brian – received an email from google news stating that Epcor is not currently actively involved in the Sherritt proposal. Epcor quarterly report states that they do not foresee material expenditures in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 08 and do not see further expenditures until Sherritt goes further.

**ACTION:** Russell moves that he draft a brief letter that states who VOCAL is and also states that we would like a meeting with them should the project proceed further in the future.

E. Reports

1. Treasurer's Report: Our billboard advertisement was just recently taken down. **MSC Janzen/Stauffer That the Treasurer's report be adopted as presented.**

2. Greenpeace Conference: Clayton attended and enjoyed the conference this fall.

3. Cumulative Effects – Clayton and Owen are our representatives. Clayton wrote Susan Abells a letter making sure she takes varying points of view into account when she is making the models for the cumulative effects study. Their next meeting is November 25<sup>th</sup>.

4. Chair's Report: Bill attended the Council of Canadians Meeting. The Pine Lake Surface Rights Action Group is interested in helping us. Are conservation easements/land trusts a roadblock we can put up? We need to find out more about this. Perhaps from Linda Duncan and Brian Stazinski. Ron Gallagher has had a conservation easement on his property, which means it always has to stay in its natural state. Bill's letter to Canadian Geographic was printed in October 2008 issue. We should put this on our website.

**ACTION:** Norma will look for the Canadian Geographic letter in the library and scan it, then send it to Jon for the website.

5. Due to increasing responsibilities Russell Stauffer regrettably resigned from the Board of Vocal. He will graciously stay on until our annual meeting in February. Thanks, Russell, for all your work.

F. Correspondence

G. New Business

1. News Articles – Should we put news articles in the papers to keep interest going and provide information to the community?

**ACTION: We need to form a Communications Committee who will meet with the Tofield Mercury to see about running articles on a consistent basis. Robert, Brian, Jon and Bill will be on this committee.**

**ACTION: Norma will talk to Glynnis Hood about getting pictures from the class field trip for our website.**

2. Speakers for Board Meetings - someone about land easements?
3. Meetings with MLA's – put on hold until they can take action, which they can't until an application is submitted.
4. Public Meeting – Our Annual General Meeting should be held on February 25<sup>th</sup>. Guest speakers could be on some alternative energy information. The UofA Energy Club?

**ACTION: Jon will check on his contacts, as he knows a fellow who is off the grid.**

5. Devin Key and Ryan Mason, the Augustana students could possibly ask those in the mine area if they are aware of the proposed plant, and then find out if they are in favour or opposed. Our goal is to find out what people are thinking. Then ask “Do you have any concerns, and what are they?”

Next meeting is November 26<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm at The House.

Respectfully submitted by: Norma Williams