



Sorrento-Blind Bay Incorporation Advisory Committee

MEETING SUMMARY

TIME & PLACE: Thursday, April 29, 2021
6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Online Zoom Meeting

PURPOSE: The Sorrento-Blind Bay Incorporation Advisory Committee will meet as part of the analysis phase of the study. The Committee will review budgets, tax comparisons and boundary review assessment criteria.

The Incorporation Committee, which includes the Electoral Area C Director as non-voting ex-officio, will provide oversight and direction on the study process. Once a report is prepared by the consultant, the committee will present the findings to the CSR D Board and then make a recommendation to the Directors on an incorporation referendum or giving further consideration to dividing Electoral Area C into two separate Electoral Areas. This was supported as an alternative option, should an incorporation process not proceed.

A decision on incorporation would have to get the approval of the electorate through a referendum vote before any change could be made.

The 'default option' of dividing Electoral Area C into two electoral areas, is in the event that incorporation of Sorrento-Blind Bay does not go ahead.

PRESENT:

Committee Members:

Brian Butcher (Blind Bay)
Patrick Earley (Blind Bay), Vice-Chair
Lorrie Kelsey (Blind Bay)
Rose Fritz (Blind Bay)
Darlene Lincoln (Blind Bay)
Sandra Heschuk (Sorrento)
Tracy Lundberg-Schimpf (Blind Bay)
Michael Shapcott (Sorrento)
John Smith (Blind Bay), Chair
Larry Stephenson (Blind Bay)
Paul Demenok, Director, Electoral Area C (non-voting ex-officio)

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT:

Allan Neilson, Neilson Strategies
Sherry Hurst, Leftside Partners
Jennifer Sham, Brad Payne, CSR D staff
Erik Lachmuth, Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure (MoTI), Province of BC
Kailey Laidlaw, Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing, Province of BC.

PUBLIC ATTENDEES: Members of the public attending varied from 11-16 during the meeting.

1. Call to Order at 6:05 PM

Chair Smith called the meeting to order and asked for the agenda with the addition of 1A Unfinished Business to be adopted.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Lorrie Kelsey

Seconded by Larry Stephenson

THAT the agenda for the April 29, 2021 meeting be approved with the one noted addition.

CARRIED

1A. Unfinished Business

An omission had been identified in the provincial offer from the April 21st meeting. Erik Lachmuth from MoTI came to clarify that the rehabilitation of some poor/very poor status roads had been missed in the offer. The amount allotted read \$700,000 and should be closer to \$1.4 million. The committee will be sent an amendment to the offer shortly. The committee thanked Mr. Stokes for bringing the matter to their attention.

2. ADOPTION OF MEETING SUMMARY

Moved by Darlene Lincoln

Seconded by Lorrie Kelsey

THAT the meeting summary with for the April 21, 2021 with one change to correct Brian Butcher's name be approved.

CARRIED

3. Change to Committee Membership

Chair Smith updated the committee that Tim Van Den Heuvel had resigned from the committee and that the CSR Board had accepted his resignation. The committee thanked Mr. Van Den Heuvel for his contributions.

4. Incorporation Study Area Boundary

The committee and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs have received requests from two neighbourhoods asking to be excluded from the potential incorporation area. The consultants walked the committee through the Proposed Boundary Assessment Criteria and had a short discussion on how the boundaries were developed.

Chair Smith then opened the meeting to representatives from the neighbourhoods to present to the committee their requests.

First to speak was [REDACTED] from the Hilltop Road area.

Second were [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] from the Hendrickson Road area.

The committee asked questions of all presenters and the speakers were able to clarify some of the committee's concerns. The committee thanked the representatives for their very clear and well spoken presentations and answers.

The committee then had a short discussion amongst themselves on the merits of exclusion and the potential impact on the study area.

HENDRICKSON/WHITE LAKE ROAD AREA

Moved by Brian Butcher

Seconded by Lorrie Kelsey

THAT the Hendrickson/White Lake Road area as identified by the red line in the presented map be excluded from the Sorrento-Blind Bay Incorporation Study Area.

CARRIED

HILLTOP/HUBAND ROAD AREA

Moved by Michael Shapcott

Seconded by Darlene Lincoln

THAT the Hilltop Road area as identified by the red line in the presented map be excluded from the Sorrento-Blind Bay Incorporation Study Area. This exclusion does not include the Hilltop Road properties that are connected to the Cedar Heights water system.

CARRIED

5. Multi-year Budget and Tax Notes

The consultants went over the Multi-Year Budget once more and addressed questions from the committee. The amounts and the assumptions that were made were also gone over. The committee also reviewed the sample tax notices. Discussion ensued about business taxes, lack of commercial land, the current OCP, incorporation area is currently 98% residential (West Kelowna incorporated with 97% residential and is now focused on diversifying their tax base), police reserves, Area C currently contributes 32% of CSRD tax base.

The committee agreed that more discussion is necessary.

6. Questions from Public

Meeting was opened to questions from the public. Four attendees asked questions of the consultant and the committee on concerns about receipt of written submission not being acknowledged in a timely fashion, the need for more balance in presentations about pros and cons of incorporation, the success of accessing grants monies, roads, police, potential inflation with regards to budgets.

7. Community Engagement

8. Updated Incorporation Study Schedule

9. Municipal Classification and Size of Council.

Items 7, 8, and 9 moved to next meeting due to lack of time.

10. Adjourn

Meeting closed at 9:01 PM.

Chair