

West Howe Sound Community Association
General Meeting Minutes of October 12, 2011

1. Call to Order by Mark Hiltz at 7:22 pm.
2. Guest speaker. Michael McLaughlin, Best Coast Initiatives, community economic development for Areas F, E, and the Town of Gibsons. Their role is to increase the competitiveness of the local private sector, by looking at property taxes, development cost charges, business licenses, quality of life, internet access, infrastructure (roads and sewers etc.) quality of education, training of work force.

Costs are \$5 to 10 per capita. They have a budget of \$100,000. HSPP is a major force on the Coast. If it goes, the impact will be enormous. 1,500 jobs will be lost. Vancouver Filming industry is the 3rd largest in North America. Computer entrepreneurs are "hiding in the woods". There is a Strong "Intelligence Cluster". 15% of working people work from their homes.

Pensioners spend most of their dollars on the Coast. 18% of their household income is from investments and private pensions. 14% from OAS, CPP, Baby Bonus etc. What about welfare? Urban vs Rural. Commuting on the Ferry is too costly for medium to lower paying jobs. 1200 to 1500 people commute 2 days a week or more. They are still looking at coast wide economic development.

Mark thanked Mr. McLaughlin for his presentation.

3. Minutes of the June 21, 2011 minutes were accepted as corrected. #6. " meetings will be considered" ,#7 " \$35,000 instead of \$25,000. J. Kenly, D. Holding Carried.
4. Treasurer's Report. There is \$1,073 in the account.
5. Business.
 - (a) The Langdale School PAC received a Grant-in-Aid, under the name of 'Langdale Neighbourhood Learning Society', (this application was supported by the WHSCA,) for an After School programme. Over the past 6 years the student population has been dwindling, and there was talk of closing the school. This year the population rose and there are now 94 students. The school is looking at becoming a grass roots community school. They also have a Strong Start Parent Tot Programme staffed with appropriately trained staff, and a family sports night.
 - (b) Green Waste. SCRD contribution to the "Gibsons Green Waste Facility was \$39,000 in 2010, and \$40,000 in 2011. Chipping is also subsidized by the SCRD. Gibsons is unwilling to change its programme. Residential owners will still have to pay to have their gardens looked after, hedges clipped etc. , and pay to have those clippings transported to the Sechelt landfill, and pay the Landfill charges!!!! The recycle bins have been relocated from the IGA Mall to Buddy Boyd's Gibsons Recycling.
 - (c) The appalling acoustics at Eric Cardinal Hall are responsible for many seniors not attending meetings at the Hall. They cannot hear what is going on. Even those with hearing-aids have difficulty. We will write to Parks and Rec. about this.
 - (d) Six CPR Training Kits were donated to us by the Emergency Response people. They came from Vanoc and Vancouver Coastal Health. Mark used one with his family. One Kit was taken by a member, the others were given to Jason Scott to take to the Langdale School PAC. These Kits can be circulated to community members who wish to learn the life saving techniques in their own time. The Kits include a half- manikin, DVD Instruction

manual, etc.

- (e) Flu Clinics will be held at the Gibsons Legion on Mon. Oct. 24, Mon. Nov 14, and at the Health Clinic on the evening of Nov.23.
 - (f) Richard announced that those who have had annual maintenance on their gas furnaces and/or fireplaces can get a \$25 certificate from Save-On Foods. The maintenance must be done by the end of October.
6. SCRD Area F Director`s Report.
- (a) The Area `F` OCP should get final reading at the next SCRD Board meeting.
 - (b) Area D has submitted the first draft of their OCP.
 - (c) The SCRD is trying to get the Mayors and Regional District Chairs, of areas which rely on BC Ferries, to meet to discuss common problems. The Premier was approached at Union of British Columbia Municipalities convention about the problems.
 - (d) The SCRD Solid Waste Management Report was accepted and forwarded to the Provincial Government. There has been great discussion about who pays for what. The main focus is Resource Recovery. Curbside Pickup will not occur in Area F this year.
 - (e) The SCRD Transportation Plan has been forwarded to the Provincial Government. The priorities are
 - i. By-pass of Gibsons along Cemetery Rd. to Payne,
 - ii. Right turn lane, North Rd. onto Reed going west towards Gibsons
 - iii. Alternate route for any part where the only traffic route is the Highway,
 - iv. Change the traffic pattern in Gibsons,
 - v. Centre turn lane on the Highway to Sechelt.
7. General.
- (a) Wharf Rd in Langdale is in bad shape between Johnson and the Highway. We will write to Don Legault.
8. Motion to adjourn.