

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SAFER NANAIMO WORKING GROUP HELD
2009-JUN-23

PRESENT:

Councillor Merv Unger, Chair
Randy Churchill, Bylaw Services
Gary Franssen, Public Works
John Horn, Community Planning
Marg Fraser, VIHA
Sharon Welch, DNPS
Andrew Tucker, Planning
Tim Davidson, Bylaw Services
Inga Nielson-Cooper, Tillicum LeLum
Dave LaBerge, RCMP
Bill Kiselbach, Bylaw Services
Chris Sholberg, Community Planning
Jeff Ritchie, Parks
Matt Hussmann, DNPS
Gail Honeyman, Recording Secretary

Delegation re: Wellington/Long Lake concerns

Mr. Brian MacDonald stated:

- he has lived in Apsley Arbour for close to 10 years
- there is a real problem at this location with youth and he is seeking an alternative
- on Friday and Saturday nights youth gather at the church property and disturb the neighbourhood. There is noise, drinking, and vandalism. There is sometimes violence.
- having a caretaker on the church property has abated problems
- RCMP have been called
- does not want the caretaker in the rv to leave as having someone there takes away the spot for the youth to congregate

Tim pointed out that the zoning does not allow recreational vehicles to be inhabited on the property. He met with a representative of the church and the caretaker and discussed options for security, lighting, etc. There are not much to offer in the way of solutions to the problem.

Mr. MacDonald noted that alcohol is a problem. The youth tend to swarm and there is a potential for violence.

Councillor Unger thanked Mr. MacDonald for attending and said that the matter would be investigated further.

Round Table Discussion

- this problem affects the whole neighbourhood
- "Block Watch" may be an asset to the neighbourhood

- a strategy is needed regarding crowd movement and access to liquor
- the RCMP Youth Response Team could target this area
- Cpl. LaBerge and Tim Davidson will visit the neighbourhood and work with the delegation to identify any actions which may alleviate the problems.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

The next public meeting will be held on Tuesday, 2009-Oct-20 at 10:00 a.m.