

**GABRIOLA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
GENERAL MEETING - September 06, 2023**

A General Meeting of the Gabriola Fire Protection District was held September 06, 2023 with five Trustees, Corporate Officer and Fire Chief in attendance.

Attendees: Paul Giffin (Chair), Erik Johnson, Diana Moher, John Moeller, Kent Moen, Jessie Longo (Corporate Officer), Will Sprogis (Fire Chief)

Regrets: Charleen Wells, Chris Windess

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m. by Chairperson Paul Giffin

Kent Moen gave the opening greeting, "The GFPID acknowledges that we are gathering within the traditional lands of the Snuneymuxw Nation"

Erik Johnson motioned to accept minutes from August 02, 2023. Kent Moen seconded. Carried.

Correspondence: N/A

Financial Report: N/A

Communications Committee: N/A

Planning Committee: N/A

Finance Committee: N/A

Business Email Committee: N/A

Land Use Committee: N/A

Election Committee: Work is on-going.

Question from the public, Please explain why you have an accountant position posted?

The board advised the greatest factor is the amount of FOI requests, and more recently that individuals complaints to the Privacy Commissioner. It was advised it is affecting the administration's ability to keep up with the day to day business.

A suggestion to make the accountant position open-ended without a fixed term was made.

At 4:10 Trustee Charleen Wells and Trustee Chris Windess arrived.

Fire Chief Report:**Calls for the month of August 90**

False Alarms 1

Hydro related 2

MVI 1

Investigations 3

Burn complaints 30

First Responder 45

Other 8

Calls for the year 413

The New Deputy position is posted on our website with the full job description and on the Fire Chiefs Association of BC.

Deployment:

Gabriola was deployed to the Adams Lake fire near Kamloops on August 16 and served 14 days on the fire. We swapped out our 2-member tender crews after 7 days. We sent our Type 2 tactical tender nicknamed the little donkey. It is our oldest truck in the fleet but still very capable. Our 4-crew brought back a lot of wildfires fighting knowledge, experience, connection and revenue to better serve the community of Gabriola Island.

Prevention report:

Fire Safety Net campaigned with local businesses to distribute youth fire safety resources.

Fire safety week is October 8-14. We will be at elementary school that week.

Firesmart team has been busy throughout the month of August.

- Attend 3 community events.
- 6 neighborhood emergency presentations, 5 more pending
- 52 homes sign up for home assessments
- 26 home assessments completed and 20 more booked for September.

Training:

Gabriola is hosting an IAFF Hazmat course at the end of November that is free of charge to Gabriola. I have invited our mutual aid partners to this training.

Practices for the month:

Sept 5 FR, EMR Naloxone

Sept 12 Rope Rescue

Sept 19 Rope Rescue

Sept 26 Fire Attack

Our 10 Recruits are working on their NFPA Practical exams.

Recruitment drive is underway and will be closing on the September 15

UMBC Grant for composite fire departments, equipment and training grant up to \$30,000. Gabriola will be applying for equipment for our next engine. I need a resolution approved by the Board to support the grant application.

John Moeller motioned for a resolution to approve UMBC training grant. Charleen Wells seconded. Carried. Trustees Thanked Fire Chief Sprogis for his forward thinking.

The Fire Department is keeping the third bay of the old hall in reserve for their use. PHC request for use of the old firehall's third bay declined.

In review of a complimentary article in the Sounder, the Trustees asked the Fire Chief to convey their Thanks and KUDOS to the Fire Department members.

Association: N/A

Old Business:

Land Use Policy:

Chris Windess motioned to approve GFPID Land Use Policy. Kent Moen seconded. Discussion. Carried. Erik Johnson motioned to approve Facilities Use Policy. John Moeller seconded. Carried.

New Business:

Accountants Position:

John Moeller motioned to change the 6 month term to open ended and review as needed with a three month review period. Chris Windess seconded. Carried.

Late Items:

The Chair advised the Land Use Policy has been passed and the Land Use Committee is disbanded.

On May 03, 2023 the Board passed the motion "to agree John Moeller presents the financial report and is treasurer of the group". It was suggested the wording be changed from Treasurer to Chairman of the Finance Committee.

John Moeller motioned to rescind the motion at the May 03 meeting. Charleen Wells seconded. Carried. Erik Johnson motioned John Moeller will present quarterly financial reports. Chris Windess seconded. Carried.

Diana Moher motioned to appoint John Moeller as Chairman of the Finance Committee. Kent Moen seconded. Carried.

Erik Johnson motioned to amend the word treasurer in the investment policy to Chairman of the Finance Committee. Carleen Wells seconded. Carried.

Lengthy discussion with the public about the on-going FOI and Privacy Commissioner Complaints; fees, the time involved, and the burden on the departments administration.

Charleen Wells motioned to adjourn. Diana Moher seconded. Carried.
Adjournment: 5:03pm

Minutes approved at the October 04, 2023 General Trustee Meeting