

Gabriola Fire Protection Improvement District
Annual General Meeting

April 19, 2023

The Annual General Meeting of the Gabriola Fire Protection Improvement District was held April 19, 2023 at No. 1 Fire Hall with six Trustees present.

Attendees: Paul Giffin (Chair), Fred Apstein, Diana Moher, Chris Windess, John Moeller, Jessie Longo (Corporate Officer), Will Sprogis (Fire Chief)

Not in attendance: Sean Lewis

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 p.m. by Chairperson Paul Giffin.

Diana Moher gave the opening greeting, "The GFPIID acknowledges that we are gathering within the traditional lands of the Snuneymuxw Nation"

Moved by Chris Windess that the 2022 AGM minutes be accepted as presented, seconded by Fred Apstein, carried.

Financial Statement:

The Audited 2022 Financial Statement was presented by Doug Parkhurst from KMA Chartered Accountants Ltd.

Fire Chief Report:

I'd like to ask everyone to please take a moment to remember our fallen firefighters. Tom Upton passed in a training session in Comox April 8 2006, and Jay Dearman was tragically struck by a vehicle while jogging January 24 2018.

2022 call outs: 554

2023 year to date call outs: 140

Gabriola was successful on a UMBC community emergency preparedness fund grant of \$30,000 for equipment to protect structures from wildfire and in-coming wildfire. The membership has completed accretion and in-house training in structural protection from wildfire.

There are 14 members with the emergency medical responder (EMR) training. The fire department will be operational soon to the level of EMR and responding to calls at that level.

The third year of the day firefighter program is to:

- provide a 90 second response time
- keep building and maintaining apparatus

The RDN will be applying for a firesmart grant and the Gabriola fire department will have its own firesmart coordinator for electoral area B. The plans include:

- Fuel management and looking into chipping with a collaborations of GALLT, an Islands trust representative and Gabriola futures
- We will be attending the farmers market distributing FireSmart material

Gabriola's leaders from the Fire Department, RCMP, BCEHS and Doctors are meeting to collaborate about emergency response. The first objective is to improve communication.

Burning Bylaw 102 has been approved by the Trustees and I would like to commend them for all the time and energy that went into the ByLaw.

Membership is 37 members strong. We are full at 40 members, a few applicants on a waiting list for the January intake.

The Operational Review has been posted to our website gabriolafire.ca We have started implementing some of the recommendations, and look forward to improving the fire department and making it one of the best in BC.

Milestones

Nicolas Read - 5 years full accreditation NFPA fire fighter.

Jethro Baker 20 years of service, Jethro rose to the rank of Captain/Training Officer and First Responder Instructor.

I would like to take the time to thank the membership and their family for their dedication to Gabriola Island and to the residents of Gabriola for their ongoing support.

Training Officer Report:

- Air Brakes Course held at GVFD with 6 new members
- The last 2 people in entire department taking exams this month for their class 3 drivers licenses
- 2 GVFD instructors completed WSPP-WFF 1 Train the trainer course. GVFD can now teach Wildland Firefighting to a provincial Certification level
- Entire dept is certified from the province as Wildland Structural Firefighters
- OHS Committee members undergoing occupational Health and Safety courses
- 3 new Fire Officer level 1- Fire Leadership and Emergency Scene Management
- 4 members currently doing ICS 200
- 4 members completed HazMat training with IAFF
- Training Officer sitting 2nd term as chair for Zone 1A Vancouver Island- Training Officers Association of BC this helps us network for external courses

- 15 members certified in SP-115 Sprinkler protection by Wildfire Service of BC
- 4 new fully certified 1001 firefighters this year, 1 more just wrote last exam
- 10 more firefighters are registered with VIERA for NFPA 1001 training
- 2 officers certified to teach Emergency Scene Traffic Control for BC Municipal Safety Association- Entire department certified in Emergency Scene Traffic Control
- 2 new EMR instructors Trained
- 1 Member currently taking Fire Inspector Level 2 Course
- GVFD on site Burn Building used for in house live fire level 1 and 2 certification

We received a grant for

- 10 members to participate in 2 days of Team leader/strategies and tactics course-
- 11 members to participate in 2 days Incident Safety Officer course

Captain Report Hall#1 - Elisha Bandel:

- Firefighters overall are doing great
- Trying to get together for events outside of firefighting; cheese making.

Captain Report Hall#2 - Geoff Goodall:

- Big Thanks to all the members
- 10 members report to hall number 2
- Hall #2 is 40 years old, engineer to review seismic
- Thanks to the Fire Chief and Training Officer

Trustee Honourarium:

Fred Apstein moved that the honourarium remains the same. Seconded by Diana Moher. Carried.

Auditor Report:

James Arends moved to accept the 2022 Financial Report from KMA Accountants. John Moeller seconded. Carried.

Chris Windess moved to appoint KMA Accountants of Lantzville for the auditor of 2023. Diana Moher seconded. Carried.

Fred Apstein motioned to adjourn the meeting pending the announcement by the Returning Officer that the ballots have been counted and the results are available. Diana Moher seconded. Carried.

Meeting adjourned 8:36pm

Meeting recommenced 10:57pm with all seven Trustees in attendance.

Election of Trustees:

Six nominations were received for the three open Trustee positions. The voting for Trustees was between 12:00-7:00 pm. The election was historic in attendance with 882 ballots cast. Tom Flynn, Returning Officer, announced the election results:

Diana Moher - 568
John Moeller - 527
Erik Johnson - 520
Sean Lewis - 358
Robert Rooks - 307
Douglas Hains - 301

Moved by Fred Apstein that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Chris Windess. Carried.
Meeting adjourned at 10:59 pm

Paul Giffin

Matt Dow

Minutes approved at the April 24, 2024 Annual General Trustee Meeting