

MINUTES OF SIFCo BOARD MEETING

May 21, 2009 Thursday, 4 p.m.
SIFCo Office, Winlaw

Board Members Present: Bruce Charlton, Stephan Martineau, Lisa Farr, Phil Larstone, Luce Paquin & Marc Septav

Regrets: Madeleine Perriere & Alix Flavelle

Board Members Absent:

Guests: Bob Fuhrer & Tom Bradley

Proposed Agenda:

Minutes from Last Meeting

Agenda

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|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. J.O.P. Field Trip | 2. Business Manager Report |
| 3. Woodlands Manager Report | 4. Admin. Coordinator Report |
| 5. Safety Committee Report | 6. Value Added |
| 7. House-keeping | |

Minutes from Last Meeting

Agreed; *that the minutes from April's Board Meeting are correct as they stand.*

Agenda

Agenda is accepted as is.

1. J.O.P. Field Trip

Stephan and Tom gave the board a tour of the Winlaw wildfire interface project. This section is almost complete. It is approximately 4.7 hectares in size. The projected time frame is 14 days to complete. The average pace of this area has been .35 hectares daily. Small fires have efficiently dealt with debris. We have rented 2000 feet of 1 ½" and 2000 feet of 5/8" water line. Every fire has water right to it. The crew has all completed the S-100 fire training course. Steph thought Stew did a good job of delivering the material and keeping the crew engaged. This site is easily accessible and is first finished so it can stand as our flagship project. Stephan is planning to erect a 4x8 sign/poster on the site. He will call Valley Voice about an article. Interest has been expressed by one local land owner in having similar work done on their land. Steph will contact local Village councils with regards to viewing our work and possible collaboration.

The board was unanimously impressed with the work.

GREAT JOB!

[Stephan will contact Village councils or administrators with regards to possible collaboration.](#)
[Stephan will contact the Valley Voice with regards to an article on our J.O.P. project.](#)

2. Business Manager Report

A. JOP Grant

Stephan initiated a conversation about a mountain bike trail accessed off the Trozzo Creek forestry access road. The trail was constructed without permit by the staff and students of the Wilderness program from W.E.Graham School so its status is unclear. The trail is on SIFCo tenure. Area residents are expressing a variety of opinions about the appropriateness of its location and possible solutions. The trail is beginning to garner interest beyond local use. This led to a conversation about SIFCo's responsibility with regards to public access to our tenured lands.

Agreed; *to strike an ad hoc committee to assess and develop a gating policy. Members of the committee are Phil Larstone, Lisa Farr and Bob Fuhrer.*

3. Woodlands Manager Report

Not a lot of activity for Tom right now. Bob Varileau contacted SIFCo with an interest in us logging the land below his private residence. Tom will assess the possibilities. The markets are not good right now, the land is steep and there is some OGMA in the vicinity. These factors, among others, need to be considered when appraising the situation.

4. Admin. Coordinator Report

Lisa presented the year end financial report.

Lisa plans on having Maureen Meunter, our book-keeper, spend some time with her at the SIFCo office to do some more training.

We will undergo an audit on our Invasive Plants F.I.A. project, which will be facilitated by PricewaterhouseCoopers. This will happen on Wednesday, June 3 in the morning. Lisa, Tom and Stephan are feeling well prepared for this process.

5. Safety Committee Report

The safety committee (Marc, Stephan and Lisa) attended a few hours of the first roll out of our safety plan. This occurred Thursday, May 7 as the JOP crew was being introduced to the plan. Stephan was present for the complete orientation. Our site supervisors Caleb and Andrew are conversant with safety plans and do a good job of adhering to safety procedures. They have facilitated an on site first aid drill already with good results. Communications are all in place.

6. Value Added

i) ECozy Homes

Marc and Stephan have continued with design work with Chris Nichols. An article done by Valley Voice has generated significant interest.

The relationship between Ecozy and SIFCo needs to be defined and will become a template for future associations. This process will aide SIFCo in developing a strategy for supporting value-added businesses locally. ECozy would like consideration for first bid on high value wood that could go into the homes. Association with a community forest is a valuable marketing tool.

Lisa has a brother-in-law well versed in custom partnerships/commercial relationships. She is willing to call him and then facilitate a conference call if called for.

[Lisa will phone connection and proceed from there.](#)

ii) More discussion ensued as to great value-added ideas that SIFCo could help bring to life.

7. House-keeping

i) Meeting Time

Agreed; *to keep Board Meetings at 4 p.m.*

ii) Cheque Signing

Lisa outlined the need to change from requiring two signers on each cheque, to requiring only one signature.

Agreed; *that SIFCo require only one signature on a cheque.*

We will still have three people with approval to sign cheques.

Currently those three people will be Lisa Farr, Stephan Martineau and Phil Larstone.

Lisa Farr will be responsible for the day to day signing of cheques. Stephan Martineau and Phil Larstone will sign only in Lisa's absence or in an emergency.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, June 18, 4 p.m. at the SIFCo Office

Stephan Martineau, President

Lisa Farr, Secretary/Treasurer