Boston Bar North Bend Enhancement Society

Annual General Meeting
Tuesday June 17th, 2025
6:30 pm at Boston Bar Community Hall

Board Members: Tom Durrie, Lori Walters, Amber Scarfo, Margaret Hendrickson, Howard Johnson, Karen Tillotson
Regrets: Lorna Regehr

Tom called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and welcomed everyone. Briefly spoke of his first meeting with members of the Enhancement Society. He had been told by townspeople that the society was just a 'bunch of old folks trying to run things". Over time, Tom found out for himself that it was not. It was a group of sincere, intelligent, hardworking people. The 'rumour' (about old folks trying to run the town) was totally wrong. A year later, he was asked to take on the job of secretary and has been part of the BBNBE society ever since.

REPORTS:
Tom: Advised everyone what the group has been doing for the last year and a half. *See the attached list ACCOMPLISHMENTS:*
Also spoke of Challenges and Shortcomings:

a. Failure of proposed committee system
b. Difficulty of communicating with entire community
c. Locating isolated seniors and organizing transportation to or delivery of dinners and other services
d. How to increase attendance at meetings. Round table tried without success
e. Creating a fairer distribution of responsibilities
f. Planning for succession on the board as existing members age out – Tom saying he would serve for one more year and he would be 'out'.
g. Dealing with possible decline in interest in foot care
h. Possible delay in renovations on the hall depending on heat pump expense and obtaining a capital project grant from the Gaming Commission.

Lori: see attached report on repairs pavilion doors, renewal of Wi-Fi, Grant in Aid for Cascadia concert, shuttle bus etc. and financial reports.

In Lorna's absence: Tom reasserted how important the job is of taking care of Bingo; managing the funds, the weekly collection that needs to be delivered to the credit union as well as picking up and delivering the tickets: it is a lot of responsibility. Although Lorna is resigning from the board, she has said she will continue looking after Bingo and we are very grateful to her. To date: September 5, 2024, to June 23, 2025 we have collected at total of $127,805.00 – meaning that the 40% which comes back to our community amounts to $51,122.00. A lot of the programs which we have talked about would not exist if it weren't for the Bingo funds…we would not be able to fund them. Since Lorna may not wish to do this job for much longer, we will need someone in the future who would be willing to take care of the Bingo management. The funds have been a tremendous boon to our community. **Thank you** to all the players and the local businesses who are selling the tickets. And OUR THANKS to Lorna for all the work she does!

Better at Home, (Sandra Clark) *regrets***:** Lori was asked to read her report. *See the attached B@H report*.

Food Bank, Kathy Monds, *regrets*. Lori was asked to read Kathy's report.
"We are averaging between 70 and 90 people consistently per month. Milk and egg coupons we give out are now laminated with a hologram sticker so that people can not print off counterfeit coupons. The HUB run this month was 8 pallets of goodies. All the extra food products are being stored in a room in her basement which is now full. A new space is needed. I have spoken to Dustin about renting space at the NB Community Centre (the old school). It will cost $250 per month plus payment for our hydro usage. I will be viewing possible spaces on Saturday. There needs to be some discussion about fundraisers for our Food Bank and bring more awareness of our FB to help meet the growing needs of our community. I am still back and forth with the lady from the Loops Program which is a food recovery program through Save-on Foods in Hope. I hope to have it in place for hamper day in July."
Lori said she wanted to have a discussion later about the rental possibility at NBCC – Tom agreed. Would be discussed in a meeting following AGM.

Update Newsletter (Karen): *See attached Update Editor report*

*Additional discussion involved the deletion of Publisher from the paid subscription in October 2026 and the difficulty of researching and finding a comparable user-friendly program to keep the paper going. The curse we all face now is that programs are no longer offered as a one-time purchase…everything now is downloaded from Microsoft and by subscription only which is getting very expensive. There are other programs with perhaps the correct templates…such as 'Scribus' which might work. Karen will do some research over the next year and try to find something comparable. Jenny said maybe the nice white thick paper could be eliminated to something more like the low-quality paper used by newspaper outlets. Karen said, the paper is really not the problem at this point. The problem is LOSING the program that enables producing the Update. The current Update format can't be duplicated on Word, or PowerPoint, as suggested by techs online. There's a possibility however, that the paper will end up online but using an entirely different format (Word or PowerPoint), but that being said, we still don't have a comparable program nailed down for the people who want to receive a hard copy.

Senior's Committee (Margaret): As you all know, we do a senior's 5-dollar dinner every Thursday night. In this past year we have served 2,000 dinners. And we have other activities that take place. There's the Senior's Tea which takes place monthly. There are bus trips, there's guest speakers, and of course, there's the Lion's Bingo also on Thursday nights. Bingo will end at the end of June, but the seniors' dinners will continue over the summer EXCEPT for tentatively the last week of July and first week of August. It has been going very well, and we also have take-home dinners…sending out approximately 5 per week. We don't want to do more than that because it becomes a logistical problem…

> Having to know in advance, how many people want take-home dinners, how much food to prepare, who can drive, who's going to be dropping it off, who has Foodsafe, and all the other nightmares that come into effect. So we have NOT been pushing the take-home dinners. We try to keep it to the ones who REALY need it and deliver it ourselves.

You may have noticed there are 6 young fellows that come to the hall Thursday afternoons. They are working up at the Scuzzy Plant and are very grateful for a home cooked meal. They are more than happy to pay more than double what the seniors contribute for their meals. If there are any leftover dinners, they ask politely if they can purchase some take-away meals for their lunches during their work week.

> ***Note: months later, BBNBES and the senior's committee was reminded that the Seniors' activities are funded by the New Horizons grant monies and no request for money is allowed. Any monies offered will be donations only. $5 request was removed from any media.*

Tom requested a motion to adopt all the reports. Howard moved to adopt the reports. All in Favour.

ELECTIONS:
Tom: we have 4 people who have terms that have come to an end. Amber, Lorna, Margaret and Howard

So far, we have had resignations from Lorna and Amber. Amber expressed she had commitments that prevented her from serving on the board but would help whenever she can. And Lorna will continue with managing the Bingo.

Howard stated he would stand for re-election.
All those in favour raise your hand. Howard will continue as a board director.

Margaret stated she would stand for re-election.
All those in favour raise your hand. Margaret will continue as a board director.

Tom asked for nominations. Asked the required three times.
Lori and Karen nominate Jenny. Jenny accepted the nomination. All those in favour.
Jenny will be a board director.
Thank you Jenny. Welcome.

Tom asked for further nominations. None were offered.
Tom told board members, that a vice-chair to replace Lorna would be selected by the board. Karen asked if someone could be selected for the secretary position. Tom said the position could be filled by a selection process as well.

Discussion ensued about Canada Day at the Pool. Lori asked if Hall could be used for Canada Day celebration. Confirmed. Willing to pay rent, etc. The FVRD Hope Rec Centre and BBNBES will work together to offer the community a Canada Day celebration.

Howard motioned to adjourn the meeting. All in favour.