

Orcas Highlands Association Board Meeting

Oct. 19, 2021, 5:00

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87639783346?pwd=Sk1meklXSVZpSTlWVUd1TkNFZEJOdz09>

I. Roll Call: Bob Burke, Mike Shivers, Jens Kruse, Lee Goodwin, Brian Ehrmantraut, David Turnoy. Guest – Roxy

II. Call to order: 5:00

III. Approval of minutes from August 30: Approved.

IV. President's report: We will govern by committee until the annual meeting. Brian will run meetings, David will receive communications and forward them to the rest of the board as needed, Brian and David will prepare agendas.

V. Treasurer's report: Mike - as discussed in the last Board meeting, we will utilize our general operating funds account on the initial expenditure for fire mitigation. As he recalls, we were comfortable maintaining an operating account at 10-15 thousand. As a practical matter (and to simplify accounting), Mike suggests moving whatever amount of "excess" operating funds we have to fire mitigation as an initial deposit, not to be reimbursed to the operating account. Mike will do quarterly updates. We have \$66,000 in reserves (primarily in the road fund) and \$28,000 in operating account.

VI. Old business

A. Road use fee – Youngren paid yet? Mike has not seen it. Mike will follow up with Chris, as Chris was the main contact.

B. Plan for mailbox addition – We can add a tier, but we have to move a whole bunch of boxes. No immediate need.

C. Next step in implementing the forest plan: We need to go as much as 20 feet into some members' property to do the shaded fuel breaks properly. The problem is where we have to go 35 feet from the road and the road is off center. How hard are we going to try to implement the plan as presented? We can go as far as the property line ourselves, and will have to coordinate with homeowners about how best to implement the shaded fuel break if the desired design extends across the Association property line onto private property. Cooperation with the owners will be necessary. Different approaches were discussed. Moved and passed to begin phase 1, doing shaded fuel breaks on Highlands and Colorado.

We need to send out a request for proposal. Bob says he will draft a scope of work and draft proposal, will submit to board, then advertise for bids from contractors.

VII. Committee reports:

Policy:

Architecture: Makeup of committee – Roxy agrees to join Brian and Lee.

Nominations:

Firewise:

Roads:

VIII. New business

A. Board opening - We will ask Steve Pettyjohn first. If he is not willing, we will ask Roxy Marck, who agrees to serve if Steve will not.

B. Policy for use of Burn Pile – Bob recommends that certain board members must be present during dumping and burning. Brian suggests a short safety training for anyone who wants to burn. Keep records that we can share. We will require all pieces of wood be trimmed to 10 feet in length or less. Bob will write up something that we can put out to the membership with the policy. We will send out a note and put it on the website.

C. Fall Cleanup Day / Burning – Saturday, Nov. 6? Instead, publicize a week of burning.

D. Insurance – We could proceed to look for some kind of coverage for burning, but it is not clear that our current policy doesn't cover our burning.

E. Longdon request – Talk to realtors, get on their vendor list. Use Chamber of Commerce, flyers in town on bulletin boards.

F. Disposing of material on Highlands: Piggyback with our contract on Highlands to chip and perhaps get a break, or have it hauled off. We don't have room at the burn pile, and the weather is going to be too wet. We will need to meet these owners at their property to talk to them about their options. Document this in writing.

IX. Next meeting: Dec. 13.

X. Adjournment: 6:15.