

Pre-Construction Coordinator Report

Tuesday July 22, 2014

Hornby Island Fire Hall Project Preliminary Design Meetings

Location:

New Horizons Centre

Sunday, July 20, 2014 2:00 - 5:30 pm

Monday, July 21, 2014 7:00 - 9:30 pm

Community Announcement & Advertising:

A Fire Hall Project newsletter was sent out through Canada Post on July 10th to provide an update and to announce the *Preliminary Design Meetings*. Also, a quarter page ad was placed in the Hornby Island monthly July newspaper *The First Edition* and a full page insert was placed in both *The Grapevine* weekly newspaper and *The Tribune* weekly newspaper for distribution on Hornby Island. Additionally, an email was sent to the members that have joined our email database for Fire Hall Info.

Attendance:

There were 51 attendees for both meetings with the majority (41 attendees) coming for the Sunday afternoon session. Of the 51 attendees, 31 or 61% were female and 20 or 39% were male.

The Monday evening meeting was poorly attended due in part to the "Robert Bateman community fund raiser" which was held at the hall and attracted 120 locals and tourists.

In addition, the members of the Select Committee - Andrew Carmichael, Jim Garton, and Tony Quin - as well as Bill Uhrich and Marko Simcic of SUA and Tor Nawrot, PCC were in attendance.

Presentation:

SUA provided 5 poster boards (attached) describing the Fire Hall Project as follows:

Poster 1. General Overview of the Project with Past and Future Timeline/Schedule

Poster 2. Site Planning - Identifying the slope, siting, orientation, and connections of the building.

Poster 3. Programming - Layout of the two story building with size of rooms and adjacencies

Poster 4. Cost & Structure - Tax Implications of Preliminary Design & Cost Estimate plus Wood, Steel, Hybrid, Timber Structure Analysis

Poster 5. Sustainability - Project goals according to LEED Silver standard and

Passive House standard

In addition, a model was on display to capture the scope and siting of the 8500 sq ft building.

Attendee Response Summary:

Overall, the attendee response was very positive to the preliminary design and cost estimate. Of the 51 attendees, 49 were in favor, 1 was non committal and 1 was undecided.

Of those in favor, there were 5 attendees that expressed concern about the tax increase as a result of the construction of the new fire hall. They are aware that there have been recent increases in the fire services component of their property taxes and are not pleased about further increases. When the benefits of lower fire insurance premiums upon achievement of STSA accreditation were discussed, four of the attendees were pleasantly surprised and one still had mistrust and will pursue the matter further.

Common themes among the attendees are as follows:

- Very supportive of the volunteer firefighters and their inclusion in the design of the fire hall.
- Design is well thought out, very functional, and SUA presentation materials were excellent.
- Taxes are increasing again - concern about further increases in fire services portion, especially expressed by off island residents.
- Use local tradespeople.
- Concern about process of off island residents voting in a referendum.
- Appreciation expressed for community meeting room.

Sample responses and comments were recorded and are as follows:

Looks good - we're assuming these were designed following input from the firefighters. We are very impressed with the information and process to date - Good work / thank you.

Really well thought out.

Using local tradesmen and contractors is important for a different kind of sustainability (i.e. the local economy)

My concerns are regarding the costs. Right now the fire hall is the highest (costliest) item in the property taxes. Will they be higher yet to pay for this? I don't want property taxes to be raised. The \$22 increase is too high an increase.

I've supported the new fire hall for a long time. The sooner, the better.

Great... I'm all for it.

I think more light would be beneficial, maybe clerestory windows on the upper north side.

Lots of thought and design value have gone into this.

Would like to see a fire pole. :-)

I really like the presentation.

We are off island residents - will we be able to vote in a referendum if we are not on Hornby Island? What will the process be?

We should focus on the STSA and the lower insurance premiums.

Design looks expensive for a Volunteer Fire Department.

Keep the costs down.

Does this design make the firefighters happy? Do they want to be there? Will it look good? I want to be proud of the building when it is complete.

I really appreciate the meeting space for the community.

I don't trust the tax numbers and will look over the figures more. I would like the budget to be lower, 1.4 million or even 1 million.