

**Firesmart Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**April 24, 2018**

Order: Chairman Drybrough called the meeting to Order at 10:30 am at the home of Allison Jackson.

Attending: Gordon Drybrough, Mike Buda and Allison Jackson.

Discussion:

Given there was a brush fire (reeds in Westcove) on April 21, 2018, the issues of wildfires, fire prevention, emergency egress and other fire related topics were discussed.

The Committee developed some suggestions arising from that discussion.

Suggestions:

1. Super Sucker attended the fire and had a full load of water on board. It was suggested that this provider maintain a full load of water daily in case of fire and that the Summer Village reimburse for water used in any fire.
2. Although the Alberta Emergency Alert system will identify any emergency reported via various media (and after May 1, 2018 via cell phone) the Committee wondered whether a more localized warning might be appropriate. It was suggested that a siren or similar device be installed within the Summer Village and used as an emergency warning to residents.
3. The Summer Village is advised to establish Muster Points for residents in the Village to gather during an emergency. It was suggested that the following locations may be appropriate:
  - a. Boat launch area for Westcove Drive residents;
  - b. Day Park for Lakeview( east of the causeway) and Lakeshore residents;
  - c. Administration parking lot for Blue Heron Drive and Lakeview (west of causeway) residents.
4. To assist in providing resident information and directions, it was suggested that "block captains" be recruited as volunteers on each road to direct residents to the nearest must point and ensure that elderly and non-ambulatory residents have been evacuated. It was also suggested that these volunteers be equipped with information sheets to guide them in providing directions and answering questions.
5. Given this recent fire was in the reeds it was suggested that the Summer Village investigate or authorize a cleared barrier, (such as grass or sand) around the perimeter of the lake between resident properties and the reeds, in order to reduce the progress of a wildfire toward resident homes.
6. Emergency egress is still a priority within the village and needs to be addressed.

Committee Tour:

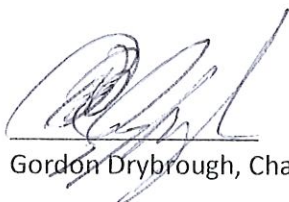
The Committee members toured the area at the end of Westcove Drive and observed how closely the fire came to the wooded area within the Summer Village. It was noted that fire service vehicles were able to access the brush fire from a property located within the Summer Village of Sunrise Beach. It was observed that access between that property and the turnaround on Westcove Drive is a very short distance.

The Committee suggested that the adjacent landowner be contacted to determine a willingness to access his property and driveway as an emergency egress route. Some road construction at the end of Westcove Drive would be required to construct an emergency egress route, but at a much lower cost than building a new road or cutting through the wooded areas.

Future Business:

1. The Committee will begin completing the firesmart audit/survey for discussion at the next meeting.
2. The Summer Village Director of Emergency Management should be invited to participate in the next Committee meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:30 pm



Gordon Drybrough, Chairman