

Committee members standing for re-election:

Gemma Colin (Chair)
Judith Anastasia
Ian Palmer
Margaret Pethick
Larry Smith
Tina Wai
Eva Wetzel

We are pleased to have Ian Palmer join the committee. He is replacing Lyle Chambers, who kindly is continuing as a volunteer.

Cemetery Committee Report for April, 2017

In the past year there has been one full body burial and one interment of ashes.

We are fortunate to have hard working committee members with many practical skills. We have had two work days, one in November and one recently in March to maintain and up keep the cemetery. On site we also discuss and make decisions regarding maintenance and other issues.

Our recent workday was originally scheduled for Family Day in February. We were encouraging families and community members to join us in cleaning up the cemetery and burning leaves and branches downed in the winter. And quite a winter it was. We had to reschedule three times because of the snow. 3rd time lucky, as the saying goes. Finally on March 17th, the luck of the Irish prevailed and we were able to have a very productive work day. We had 6 of our 7 committee members and 4 community members working together. Many branches, more than usual, were burned on the bonfire, the encroaching salal was cut back in many areas, some small dead alders were removed, and leaves were raked. We would like to encourage more community members to come again next Family Day to tend to their own family graves and help others.

Projects Completed

- The first bronze memorial plaque was placed in the portal. This is a new way in which to remember community members who are not buried in our cemetery. Information about how to have such a plaque placed on the portal is available on the HIRRA website and from committee members.
- A donation of \$1,000 was made by an individual to help with maintenance and care of the cemetery.
- We are very happy to have the ad hoc committee researching the possibilities of land for a new cemetery. This new group is comprised of Ellen Leslie, chair, and 3 other committee members. Eva Wetzel will act as liason with the Cemetery Committee.
- Professional removal of three large overhanging fir and alder trees and pruning of the cherry trees was completed in the Fall.
- Numbered markers have been placed in the ground to mark the sites for ashes.
- Several new head stones have been added to graves. We strongly encourage families to make sure headstones honouring their loved ones are in place within one year of burial in order to identify their grave sites.
- Work continued on updating the new cemetery brochure.

Upcoming Projects

- We plan to complete the new cemetery brochure and have it published and posted on the HIRRA website in the next few months. It will also be available at the Clinic and the Home Support building.
- Further removal of encroaching salal on the east and north sides will take place.
- Investigating possible removal of large leaning and aged alder trees.
- Continue to encourage community participation at two annual work days in Fall and Spring.

Hall Committee Annual Report 2016-17

Members: Vicki Bale, Ben Berkeveld, Wendy Burton (Chair), Clair Cronia, Melisa Devost, Judith Lawrence, John McLachlan, Derek Ward

The roof replacement was completed in early 2016, with the exception of some aesthetic work and some repairs to the roof over the porch facing Sollans Road.

The heat pump was installed in the Round Room. Completing this project lead us to discover some interesting electrical anomalies in the Round Room: There was insufficient depth to run the electrical line from the chair room to the Round Room, so Ian Emberton managed, with difficulty, to run an electrical line from the main panel. The heat pump mechanisms had to be placed on the parking lot side of the chimney in the Round Room, not our first choice.

Beginning in January, 2016, the committee has been working on the acoustic improvements in the main Hall and purchasing a public address system. Based on reports and consultation beginning in 2014, in late October the criteria for a public address system was produced by the sub-committee of John McLachlan, Judith Lawrence, and Clair Cronia. The process to gather expressions of interest and requests for proposals was begun by Wendy Burton with the guidance of the HIRRA Administrator. In order to comply with CVRD requirements for projects above \$5000, our first step was to determine the "ball park" cost of the proposed public address system based on the criteria the sub-committee produced. The advice of three companies was sought, using the sub-committee's criteria as the basis for discussion, in order to determine the projected cost of the public address system. One 2014 estimate placed the cost at \$15 000.

This process was halted by the Executive in early November. The funds for this project were moved into the 2017 budget. A public meeting was held in February at the request of the Executive to present the plans for acoustic improvements in the main Hall. At the February HIRRA meeting the assembly approved two motions to do with extending the stage (completed) and the alterations to the stage to improve acoustics (underway through a contract with Ted Tanner, based on his proposal).

The issue of governance has engaged the Hall Committee for much of this year. Starting with conflicting directions about how to restore the number of the committee to five, through seeking clarification about the role and responsibility of the HIRRA Executive liaison to the committee, through last-minute budget changes as a result of perceived inability to complete the acoustic improvement/pa system project in 2016, through questions about what constitutes approval to proceed with aspects of the project, the Hall Committee has had three resignations and one interim appointment. The Hall Committee remains unclear about the responsibility of standing committees with relationship to the HIRRA Executive and the Assembly.

Wendy Burton (Chair)

March 2017

Resend
from Wendy

