

MWPS TIMELINE (From minutes, letters, news clippings, legal documents)

APRIL, 1993 Noort Developemts buys property and obtains an option to purchase a portion of Newson property which is imperative for his development plans. Releases plan to obtain rezoning for 140 duplexes.

DEC. 23, 1993 MWPS Incorporated Number S-31412 Pattie filed papers using Constitution of Comox Hill which was supplied by Don Burns.

First Board Directors: Carol Neufeld, Fran Johnson, Pattie Baker, Paul Lachapelle, Don Burns, Dorothy Jones. Mailing address of Society is Baker's 138 Croteau Rd. Phone 250-339-2623.

MARCH 22, 1994 MWPS given Charitable Tax Status Official Registration Number 0985440-56 Donations start to come in. Pattie is Treasurer.

MARCH 23, 1994 Noort Developments hosts public information meeting: Rezoning for "high density development" of 140 duplexes.

APRIL, 1994 Emergency MWPS mid-day meeting at Bakers: Fran, Carol, Pattie, Peter, Bob Stiven. We have discovered Noort's option on Newson piece has expired, without it Noort cannot proceed.

"Should we pick up the option? Should we make an offer? We don't have the money for it."

"You can't not do it. It has to be done" Bob Stiven
Meetings with Ted : he's in!

MAY 24, 1994 PUBLIC HEARING by Noort and Town of Comox tonight at 7:00 pm to present his disastrous plans for the Woods. George Newson agrees to our proposal of \$35,000 down on property that Noort had an option on. He says Kella is not sleeping nights. His kids are upset. Ted, Fran, Pattie, Peter and Carol are waiting for approval as Public Heating is getting underway.

****SUCCESS****

Public Hearing shut down when Town of Comox announced Noort no longer has ability to present as he doesn't own the property.

****BEDLAM**** Noort boys storm out, not knowing what hit them.
The contract with Newson: MWPS agreed to purchase 5 acres of Newson property (the same option Noort had) with a \$35,000 downpayment. Total price of \$400,000 with 10 yrs to pay off balance.

Their 140 duplex plan out the window.

JUNE 13, 1994 Alicia Burns, Mayor, writes proposing property exchange to Noort.

JUNE 14, 1994 Town of Comox sends Letter of Support to MWPS.

JUNE ,JULY, 1994 Letter of support arrives from the City of Courtenay

JUNE 22, 1994 MWPS OPEN HOUSE at United Church Comox to present plans. Noort Developments now presenting plans for 34 single residential units, including lots on the waterfront. Realtors are walking through showing the proposed lots to potential buyers.
How to proceed?

MWPS, working with Margaret Lord, Barbara Price presents a plan for a joint purchase of property:

1/3 from Town of Comox

1/3 from Province of BC

1/3 from Regional District

Noort appears interested in selling?

SEPTEMBER 19, 1994 Town of Comox gives preliminary approval for 34 single family units with zoning remaining R1.

NOVEMBER, 1994

Arch. Branch does study. Prepared to go in for 3 days. Come out after hours and say there is no way this midden can be disturbed. It is one of the last protected middens on the coast.

Ministry of Environment does study and releases results “sensitive ecosystem” and a “scarce salt marsh” that needs protection as most salt marshes are already lost. We have full support of Environment Canada. (Nov. 7, 94 letter)

More letters of support:

Margaret Lord MLA

Comox Indian Band

Regional District

School District 71

Moe Sihota, Minister of Environments who accompanies Peter, Margaret Lord and Barbara Price for a walk in the woods.

Comox Strathcona Natural History Society

MWPS continues fund raising

DECEMBER 19, 1994 Noort starts to cut trees. Rainy and windy - chainsaws start. Carol Neufeld, Fran Johnson and Ruth Masters are there and refused to leave. Chainsaws stopped, RCMP arrive. Noort goes to RCMP Station to make a report, more people arrive at the Woods. Noort and his boys return 600' of snow fence has been cut and destroyed. Many people are now present in the woods. They can't cut anymore trees.

DECEMBER 20, 1994 The property is encircled with vehicles. People drop off keys to Baker home - many are unknown to Bakers!

DECEMBER 22, 1994 Fran Johnson, Carol Neufeld, Ruth Masters and Pattie Baker for MWPS are sued by Noort.

JANUARY 3, 1995 Property appraised at \$1.5 million by Bill Jackson

JANUARY 17, 1995

New MWPS Board:

Paul Lachapelle	President
Sandy Masterton	Vice
Pattie Baker	Treasurer
Fran Johnson	Secretary
Anne Gardner	
Peter Baker	
Judy Wilson	
Carol Neufeld	

JANUARY, 1995

Province of BC

Town of Comox

Regional District with MWPS as advisory group work together to raise funds for purchase of Woods from Noort.

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MARCH 7, 1995

Comox Valley Chamber of Commerce gives MWPS President's Merit Award. Accepted by MWPS President Paul Lachapelle.

MARCH, 1995

Coulson of Crown Isle delivers a writ to all directors of Regional District if they proceed with MW purchase. He will sue them individually if they complete the purchase. He threatens MWPS as well. The Regional District folds, MWPS does not.

MARCH 31, 1995

Province of BC, Margaret Lord announces with outrage deal has fallen apart. Anne Gardener steps forward and says we can step up and raise the amount needed to replace Regional Districts obligation. Noort is chomping at the bit to get this done.

APRIL 21, 1995

Province of BC Margaret Lord MLA asks Moe Sihota to come back to table and put the funds up.

Moe Sihota responds the Province will participate in the purchase.

AUGUST 22, 1995

Ted Holekamp representing MWPS makes formal offer to Noort for \$1,675,000.00. A joint offer from Comox, Regional, BC, MWPS.

NEW WRINKLE Regional District getting calls for referendum. Big push by NO side re: tax increase. Developers pushing hard. Bakers maintain society address and phone number and getting threatening phone calls and trucks in drive at night flashing bright lights on house. RCMP have to be called.

JANUARY 27, 1996

Referendum Day - The answer to funding is NO. Back to the drawing table.

MWPS decided to pick up the Regional District's part and raise \$500,000. Sandy Masterton is working with Hugh Noort to negotiate a contract. We have a SIGNED CONTRACT with Noort and will close April 30, 1996. \$1.6 MILLION.

MARCH 26, 2015 MWPS AGM

Major fund raising - raising private donations. Membership is swelling. We need 200 people to ("Friends") contribute \$20 a month until paid for. We have 63. Deal with Noort set to close April 30, 1996. We need \$\$.

New Board Elected: Anne Gardner, President; Sandy Masterton, Vice, Pattie Baker, Treasurer; Diane Maxted, Secretary; Peter Baker, Membership; Fran Johnson, Lorraine Aitken, Lesley Henderson, Paul Lachapelle, Wayne Maxted, David McSween, Carol Neufeld, Patricia Smith, Judy Wilson.

APRIL, 1996

We're in trouble - we need \$\$ to pay our portion. With donations and "Friends" donating we are still short. Many of us are to put mortgages on our homes and MWPS will pay those mortgages off. Sandy, Peter and Pattie go to Credit Union and meet with Simon. He agrees and Credit Union gives individuals mortgages with funds going to MWPS!

APRIL 29, 1996 for release on April 30, 1996

Province of BC News Release confirms 3 way successful purchase of Macdonald Woods.

Province of BC	\$520,000
Town of Comox	\$500,000
MWPS	\$580,000 + \$48,000GST = \$628,000

MWPS Deposit to Newson \$35,000

Original cheque presented \$580,000 presented to Ted in his office by Pattie and Fran. I have a picture of it.

\$48,000 was requested later for GST due. We had to scramble to collect it. I tried to convince Revenue Canada not to implement this tax but had no success. We were not able to claim it as a refund.

WE ARE ADVISED that the NDP government went down just days before and the last piece of business that went through was the contribution to Macdonald Woods. Moe Sihota walked it through to get it done. SO MANY PLAYERS TO THANK For MWPS it isn't done - - and still isn't. There is a huge debt load that now needs to be covered.

