

# Slocan seniors' housing gets go-ahead from members

*submitted*

The annual meeting of the Slocan Valley Seniors' Housing Society unanimously endorsed a motion to proceed with planning affordable rental housing, with a focus on seniors, in Slocan.

The motion, proposed by the society, and moved by Slocan Mayor Madeleine Perriere, was the highlight of the September 23 AGM at Passmore Lodge.

Members were greeted with large colour prints of the draft plans, which design architect Eric Clough explained at the meeting.

The rental housing, as many as three pods of four units, may vary from bachelor suites to two-bedroom units, depending on a needs survey which could be done as early as January. Clough told the meeting that if fundraising,

community input, mortgage financing and all necessary work is in place on schedule, eight of the units could be completed by the fall of 2016. Clough will donate all his time, *gratis*, to the project.

Land behind the wellness centre/ Slocan library is the site under consideration.

The society also held an open house in Slocan September 25 in conjunction with the seniors' lunch, with good results. Preliminary feedback shows a preference for one-bedroom units with or without a loft. A second open house will be held October 8 from 5:30 – 8:30 pm at Passmore Lodge.

In other business, the AGM passed constitutional amendments restricting tenants and staff from sitting on the board, though board meetings are open and tenants are encouraged to participate

in board committees and to re-activate the Tenant Liaison committee.

The AGM elected a full board; for one-year terms: Don Currie, Ruth Hackett, Lynda Moore, Wilf Rimmer, Penny Tees, and Paul Wilkinson; for

two-year terms: Eric Clough, Mabel Kabatoff, Lydia Kania, Sally Mackenzie, Rita Moir, and Willie Harasemow.

“With a board of this calibre, and with the support evident in the community, I'd bet dollars to doughnuts

we can pull this off,” said board president Rita Moir.

For more information about the Slocan Valley Seniors' Housing Society, please call administrator Nora Lilligren at (250) 226-7136.