

TIRRA General Meeting Thursday, Oct 27, 2016

Chair: Stu Downey called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. 18 people attended including Stu Downey, Chair; Ernie Hunter, Treasurer; Claire Hess, Secretary; Graeme Shelford, Highways; Stephanie Cottell, Solid Waste; Suzanne Sarioglu, Cemetery
Keith Rush moved the approval of the minutes from the TIRRA General Meeting June 23, 2016 as posted online, seconded by Stephanie Cottell. Passed unanimously.

The chair announced that the TIRRA Exec was hoping to make a presentation to both Andy and Ann Keir but they were unable to attend tonight's meeting; a thank you card had been sent.

Committee Reports and Updates

FAC: Keith Rush

Reports are posted online

Gratitude was expressed by the meeting for the work of Keith and those working with him both for the Ferry Advisory with the return from BC Ferries and for the work on improvements to the Fire Department.

Transportation: Graeme Shelford

Following meetings with Highways and BC Ferries, some progress has been made. Moore Hill has been resurfaced and so far there is no undulation or cracking of the pavement. Grant had painted safety lines at the intersection of Pilkey Point Road with the ferry road and North Cove Road. The safety signs at the ferry have been relocated for better visibility.

Trails: Vicki Walker

Much gratitude from the meeting was expressed for the work of Andy Keir who has now moved off Island. Vicki will be taking over Trails Lead with Andy's departure. Currently we have two licences signed and more are in the works. Work has started on the trail going down from the Fire Hall. Four Capernwray students have been doing a great deal of excellent labour on their community service hours. There is still a lot of fence to erect and more work to be done to create the closed trails. The trails will be Pedestrian Only, due to the livestock in neighbouring fields.

Solid Waste: Stephanie Cottell

Stephanie's report is posted online.

There was some discussion of improvements to the Solid Waste site.

The TIVFD thanks Vicki Walker and Andy Lamb for issuing Fire Permits and fire safety counselling at the Recycle Centre.

**Ron Bannister moved "That the Solid Waste Committee create terms of reference for presentation to the community at a TIRRA General Meeting."
Seconded, Suzanne Sarioglu Passed.**

Finance, Parcel Tax Rebates: Ernie Hunter

Ernie reported that the finances are solid and the Parcel Tax Rebates are completed for this year.

To an unrelated question about Hydro services, he gave some history and explained that Hydro has been attempting to reroute wires along the roads to improve their ability to service the wires and poles, especially in power outages. This would give us potential to make a hydro connection to the recycle centre.

Cemetery: Suzanne Sarioglu

The hopes for development are on hold while the committee finds funds to address the bank erosion issues. The committee is working on funding for this assistance.

TI Community Fund: Ellen Rush

Ellen Rush presented her report from the Thetis Island Community Fund. Ellen is one of two TIRRA appointees to the community fund, Tim French is the other.

The Thetis Island Community Fund has invested the \$100,000.00 that the Thetis Island Community Association received from BC Ferries for the expansion of Forbes Hall. This money is with Raymond James in Victoria, \$75,000.00 is in a one year GIC and \$25,000.00 is in a cashable Money Market Fund. The Community Fund and the Community Association have a written agreement regarding this arrangement.

The Community Fund has also contributed \$25,000.00 directly to TICA for the expansion of Forbes Hall. This money can be used for early stage expenses related to the hall expansion without TICA needing to access the \$100,000.00. This is the largest gift of money the Fund has ever contributed to a single cause.

Ellen reported that the Community Fund board now has 7 members; the board has a good mix of gender, age and the members are compassionate and community aware.

This spring the Thetis Island Community Fund increased the bursary paid to graduating students from \$1,000 to \$1,500. The board also paid out 7 bursaries of \$500 each to students who graduated in the past few years and are continuing with their education. The Phoebe Spurgin Bursaries are drawn from a bequest from Ms. Spurgin.

Phoebe's life was devoted to education and the board felt she would be very pleased with the use of her bequest.

Neighbourhood Golf Carts: Stu

Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure recently announced a pilot project allowing golf carts to operate on certain approved roads in Qualicum Beach and Chase. Although this initiative has just been delayed, Stu led a discussion that the TIRRA Exec look at the possibility of Thetis Island being included in an expanded pilot roll out. Rob will follow up with provincial government.

Follow/up to resident's concerns raised at June's GM: Stu

Reports of unauthorized late night parking, littering and noise occurring at various locations was reported to the Ladysmith RCMP. The RCMP were supportive in curbing the activities and during the summer months placed an unmarked cruiser on island to attend any further complaint areas.

New business

Peter Luckham reported that progress is being made towards an Islands Trust road safety review. Some discussion of the need for obedience to speed limits and road safety laws emphasized the need for community training and the importance of continuing to develop walking trails separate from the roadways.

It was noted that the Notice Boards at the Ferry are not as manicured as formerly. There may be some issues of structural upkeep to discuss with Capernwray.

Jeannine Caldbeck, the Fire Chief of TIVFD, recorded the passing of Harry Armstrong, one of the architects of our Fire Department. A celebration of life will be held in Forbes Hall on November 26 at 2pm. The TIVFD thanks Andy Lamb and Vicki Walker for issuing fire permits at the Recycle Centre. Their assistance raised the number of permitted fires and the awareness of the need for vigilance and care during fire season. There will be a Flu Clinic again this year.

The meeting adjourned at 8:51 PM.