

TIRRA Executive Meeting October 12, 2017

Stu Downey, President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present also were: Ernie Hunter, Treasurer; Claire Hess, Secretary; Vicki Walker, Trails; Graeme Shelford, Highways; Steve Frankel, Solid Waste.

Adoption of the minutes from the June 1, 2017 Executive Meeting as posted, moved by Stu, seconded by Vicki and adopted unanimously.

Trails update: Vicki Walker reported that the committee is formalizing trail protocols that can easily fit on signs to be posted on the trails. Work on the Jollity Farm Trail extension has started. There is a tree that needs to be felled; Ernie will investigate whether an Islander experienced in removal can do the work. The Trails committee has escorted an off-Island group for trail tours; another Islander has also conducted a group walk. Contributions were accepted as there is no desire to make these trails public. Large groups must have committee escort. Trail Committee continue to negotiate on two outstanding trail licenses. A private donor is working with the committee to create flora signage.

Transportation update: Graeme reported on the suggestion of having a radar speed read out signs near the ferry approach. The signs unfortunately are not cheap; the road safety sub-committee is still waiting on input from BC Ferries, as communicated to Graeme by Andy Newall and staff. Graeme to follow up with FAC Keith Rush.

Checking on water movement in the area of the slough which Graeme agreed to investigate at the June GM has not shown any issues. The slough continues to drain adequately and the flapper continues to do its job.

Solid Waste update: Steve reported that the SWC, including Steve, Ernie and Glen Andison will be meeting with the CVRD on November 9 at the Duncan office. This will be an opportunity to work on the proposed Service Agreement, discuss sustainability of the collaboration and update recycling criteria.

Several projects are in progress: improvements to Louise's kiosk; better protection and supports for the workers in the recycle area; and general visual improvements. A survey of staff and volunteers has looked for suggestions going forward.

The committee is investigating the possibility of hiring someone for the summer months. Looking first to the pool of current volunteers.

The new scheduling is helping to keep things covered, but summer is a busy time.

Regular notices need to be issued reminding the community to clean all recycling and to keep lists of products accepted up-to-date.

Cemetery update: Suzanne, not able to attend, submitted the following report by email: All is good at the cemetery. We have begun work on the ditch remediation which will take place over the next month or two meaning there will be disruption to the path through the cemetery. An eSPOKES has been sent out.

Financial/Audit update: Ernie submitted the Auditor's report for 2016. The Auditor has suggesting some changes in accounting but saying that the report was a correct statement of balances. A question was raised as to whether it might be possible to publish the volumes collected on the garbage and recycling haulage. Some concern was expressed that defining what these numbers represented might lead to confusion for people who do not understand the systems. Steve to follow-up with CVRD to see if they can provide recycling volumes in Service Agreement.

Community Info/Pamphlet Committee: Steve, Suzanne, & Sue French with Steve reporting much progress in collecting information and gift certificates. Funds will be required from TIRRA for printing the pamphlet. Discussion on value that pamphlets would provide helping to reduce garbage recycling for TIRRA. Steve to obtain costs.

Although the gift certificates should be delivered by an Islander, the information should perhaps be given by the real estate agents in advance of purchase. If a pamphlet is prepared this should be shared with the whole Island via the Quarterly and other Island communications, to reach all who had never been informed. Further discussion regarding short term and long term renters.

Grants update: Rob reported by email that the process of re-applying for the same grants identified last year has been started. Some of them maybe complete by the general meeting.

Bylaws: Stu moved, seconded by Vicki, and supported unanimously, that Ernie Hunter assume the role of Committee Chair until the work on our bylaws is complete. Kathleen McIsaac has done extensive work on the updates and will continue to work with Ernie to have completed. A draft of their work is being circulated to the Executive for approval to be on the agenda of the October General Meeting for presentation and comment. The final version can them be voted on at the AGM in the new year.

Ferry notice board maintenance: Vicki reported that the fabric has finally been obtained but some trim is still needed. Stu to clear off notice boards prior to new covering being installed. Stu to follow-up on needed trim.

Parcel Tax Rebates: Ernie explained how the rebates are currently working. 18 rebates applied for and approved.

New Business

It was decided that no Nominating Committee is needed for the coming AGM.

Stu moved, seconded by Steve, and approved unanimously, that TIRRA send letters of concern regarding freighter anchoring off Thetis. This request came from ACT. Note that a time of posting minutes, 5 letters have been sent to applicable MPs.

Stu will be circulating an agenda for the next General Meeting on Thursday, October 26.

Vicki raised a concern that plants are being harvested from Thetis properties and killing off native plants. Stu will be contacting the RCMP with the information regarding trespassers.

Vicki also raised issue of deer population on Thetis Island and impacts to native plants.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.