

BOWEN ISLAND CONSERVANCY

Minutes, Directors' Meeting 11 January 2016, 7:30 pm

Present: Owen Plowman, Everhard van Lidth de Jeude, Adrian van Lidth de Jeude, Nerys Poole, Allie Drake, Leonardo Frid, Leo Chan

Regrets: Ellen Coburn, Bob Turner

Venue: Everhard's house, 602 Collins Lane.

1. **Approval of Agenda -** approved
2. **Approval of previous minutes** approved
3. **Welcome to new Board members** Welcome to Leonardo and Leo
4. **Forage Fish project**

Everhard – **Bob and Everhard** visited some beaches – Sandy Beach, Pebbly and Tunstall Bay – haven't found anything yet, but sampling 2x/month during winter and 3x/month in summer – Anne and Andre Chollat are coordinating. Next sampling is Jan.14 and there will be some new volunteers. **Leonardo** would like to go.

Melanie Mason and BIM staff are planning an educational initiative to promote protection of the shoreline. **Bob** is liaison on this.
5. **Beach sign project**

Everhard – original signs made by Ramona. Artwork was done by VI children at Bamfield. Will be installed at various beaches.

Suggestion: joint press release with Bonny Brokenshire from BIM – get something in UC OR article in UC with one of the photos.

Question from Nerys: Styrofoam that floats up on beaches from broken docks – huge issue for birds. Perhaps something that the group working on protection of the shoreline should be interested in.

Leo will act as plan B if Bonny reluctant to issue a press release and will contact UC if Bonny doesn't want to do a press release.
6. **Nature reserves**

Nothing planned for Singing Woods.

Fairy Fen – will be putting up directional signs to show Quarry Park, CRC, Thomson Road, along the trail – and a trail stating "Peter Drake Trail"

Re. design from Coral – **Allie** spoke to her about it. Perhaps matching the initial sign with the one identifying Peter Drake Trail. Allie has asked Coral to look at the current sign and to propose a design for the new sign.

Everhard – we should be planning for a platform at Fairy Fen.

Allie - We need first a preliminary design setup before going for funding. We should ask people who built the Camosun Bog boardwalk – out near UBC. **Allie/Owen** willing to follow up on this.

Allie's Suggestion – another person involved with wetlands and SSI Conservancy. **Allie** will follow up to contact this person.

Owen will ask Kate Emmings about whether any \$ available for nature reserves. Bob had some articles showing proposed development for Cates Hill. Possible article re. the resulting natural landscape as opposed to the proposed development with golf course at the time. **Owen** will talk to Wolfgang about what happened.

7. Snug Cove Beautification Committee

Allie – will attend meetings in 2016. Has the Novice Report from 2015.

Leonardo: Question about identifying special places on Bowen – is there something we can do to protect these areas, perhaps have a map that might be just for our purposes. **Leonardo** will speak with Jeremy Howe about this.

8. Speaker Series - winter sessions

Allie – has spoken with Randall Lewis, head of Squamish Watershed Society – Saturday, April 2

Allie is speaking to Merran Smith, Director of Clean Energy Canada, about possibility of speaking.

Nerys is speaking to DG Blair, Green Shores

Nerys and Allie will confirm dates for above.

9. 2016 focus

Owen – what kind of initiative might make Conservancy more relevant to people on the island? Owen would like more communication throughout the year so that people find out about what we do and then become members and support us.

Adrian – a map of special places in Bowen wilderness, we could feature places around the island for UC, identify the places and encourage people to visit them.

Leo's suggestion: a BI passport with stamps and tips about how to be respectful of the natural environment. Owen says management plans for the nature reserves have a lot of information that we could use.

Leo points out the use of social media. **Leo** will create a FB page.

Ask people to take photos of their special places and post on instagram.

Owen will set up instagram account.

Suggestion for a photo contest in the spring or summer. "Where is this?" Identify the photo.

NAPTEP – need to identify a first customer for Bowen. Perhaps a story for Bulletin about one of the NAPTEPs on the other islands.

10. Items deferred/pending

- Apodaca Park visit: stalled
- Land Stewardship Program
- Hikers Trail funds
- Public invitation to Fairy Fen (wait for signage and trails)
- Nominee: Islands Trust Community Stewardship Award – only

11. Other

offered every 2 years, next deadline is Feb.2, 2017.

Branding initiative – **Owen** on the branding Working Group – residents and business survey and visitors survey. Visitors survey emphasized the peacefulness and tranquillity. About 300 stories from Bowen residents, confidential but Owen says they are very moving. WG went to Council who was not very familiar with the branding initiative – presentation and then Q and A; Council was very enthusiastic about the process. Business surveys to be presented to Council this week.

UC article needed, with focus on Styrofoam issue. **Owen** will do article.

Suggestion: article for Bulletin at some point.

Schedule of 2016 meetings:

- February 1
- March 7
- April 4
- May 2
- June 6
- September 6 (day after Labour Day)
- October 3
- November 7

Meeting adjourned at 9:05.