

BOWEN ISLAND CONSERVANCY

Minutes, Annual General Meeting

23 November 2013

Venue: Multipurpose Room, Bowen Island Community School

Chair: Owen Plowman.

Meeting was called to order at 10:15 am.

Announcements from Owen:

- 45 min to 1 hour – Conservancy business (formal part).
- 11:15 am “Howe Sound: Its Natural Wonders and Environmental Change” – Bob Turner.
- Explanation of lifetime membership and others – public invited to join or just listen (Will Husby suggested those with lifetime membership resign and sign up annually, or alternatively, make a donation if you are a lifetime member).

FORMAL PART OF MEETING

1. **Approval of AGM Agenda** The 2013 AGM Agenda was approved.
2. **Approval of Minutes/2012 AGM** Minutes of the 2012 AGM were accepted. (Everhard, Bob Turner)

3. **Report from the Chair**

Fairy Fen Nature Reserve:

In May of 2013, Drake family enjoyed a tour of Fairy Fen. Owen showed photos.

During summer, built first part of a new trail – end of Thompson Road, municipal RoW – new trail constructed June/July /August in conjunction with muni – gravel placed, some trees removed to create trail.

Plan is in 2014 to improve the Crown land part of the trail (permission granted by Province as below)

Funds to build this come from Hikers Trail Fund, which resides with the municipality

Question re. whether or not this is registered ? – yes, a registered easement. Crown block 6 has a conservation notation on it.

Question: does the fact there is a Conservation notation on Crown block 6 mean it would be very difficult to extend a road to access Cape Roger Curtis? Yes.

We applied to Crown for an easement to upgrade the trail - approved in 5 days (probably because reps had attended already) – same type of easement approved for Singing Woods

Inspection visit with Islands Trust Fund who own Fairy Fen (they own, BIC manages), and BC Forests (Crown Land custodians). Forests attended to look at the issue of ATVs in the Fen.

BIC is doing Some monitoring to help prevent the use of ATVs.

BIC responsible for the upkeep of the trail, not the muni.

Singing Woods

Easement granted for this trail at same time as above for Fairy Fen. Inspected by ITF and BC Forests (Crown Land custodians).

BIC discovered part of trail is on private land. Landowner has agreed to provide a formal easement and to sign a "trail license" which means landowner is covered with the insurance that BIC has through the Land Trust Association of BC. Template licence for this obtained from Gabriola Conservancy.

"Small Islands Conference" on Gabriola in May

Owen attended, subsidized by ITF - from islands all over the world. Many common issues. Presentations from several Conservancies, Gabriola, Galiano and SSI.

Collingwood Neighbourhood House tour (East Vancouver)

A non-profit society who do a lot of outreach to residents in the area, as well as focus on new immigrants.

96 volunteers and few staff (PD day); October morning tour of Crippen Park with Owen, stopped at fish hatchery which was kindly opened up by Tim Pardee, BI Fish and Wildlife Club, who showed them some of the work being done at fish hatchery, returned through the Meadows and saw the beaver dam.

They made a donation of \$200 for the tour. Were very appreciative.

Dock Clean-up at Cape Roger Curtis – Saturday, Nov.16, 2013

Organized by Brenda McLuhan – clean-up of Styrofoam from a dock washed up on the coastline – thanks to all who came out to help. Owen read letter from Bruce Russell who helped on cleanup and has since spoken to Brian Biddlecombe, part owner of Barney Mac, tugboat, to help move off the 2 larger sections still on the beach.

Brenda McLuhan – willing to help organize this. Owen will do follow-up on this suggestion. BIC may donate funds to help with this.

Communications:

- NAPTEP (Feb.letter to Undercurrent) – on website
- Draft dock bylaws – letters to UC and Council , UC interview.

Education/Speaker series (Dave Witty's initiative in 2013):

- The OCP: Why It matters
- BI Fish & Wildlife Club
- The Islands Trust
- "Green Fire" Aldo Leopold movie

Possible Education activities for coming year:

- Herons and why important

- Aldo Leopold movie again (different time of day)
- BC Parks program: Apodaca Park visit; possible inner-city school visit? If funding from BC Parks is available
- Continued engagement with Council and Muni when appropriate

Suggestion from Will Husby – understanding **the value of goods and services** from protection (David Suzuki Foundation has done some work on this).

Owen: BIC website – has a report from David Suzuki showing the monetary value of such things.

Wendy Seale- Bakes suggestion – **eelgrass survey** and why it is important, need to communicate results of the ITF survey when published and why protection of this is important.

Financial Report – Everhard van Lidth de Jeude

Attached as Appendix 1; Approved (Bill Granger/Anne Chollat)

Other Business

- **Xmas Bird Count** - Pam Dicer – on behalf of Nature Club, Pam organizes the Xmas Bird Count – will be on Sunday, January 5, 2013 – please contact Pam if interested in helping with bird count.

Election of Board members

Election of Proposed Nominees (moved by Brenda, Will) – list as below acclaimed - all in favour

- Ellen Coburn
- Allie Drake
- Andrea Kaufman
- Owen Plowman, President
- Nerys Poole, Secretary
- Bob Turner
- Adrian van Lidth de Jeude
- Everhard van Lidth de Jeude, Treasurer

All in favour

At 11:20 pm, the formal business portion of the meeting concluded, and was followed by the presentation on “Howe Sound: Its Natural Wonders and Environmental Change” – Bob Turner

Respectfully submitted,

Bowen Island Conservancy
Nerys Poole, Secretary

APPENDIX 1: FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statement of Income and Expenses

July 01, 2012 - June 30, 2013

(unaudited)

Revenue

Memberships	\$ 155.00
Donations, tax receipted	\$ 90.00
Peter Drake Fund	\$ 1,356.00
ITF contract	\$ 5,000.00
Canada Helps	\$ 230.65
Fundraiser	\$ 1,262.20
Interest	\$ 0.64
Total revenue	\$ 8,094.55

Expenses

Operating Bank charges	\$ 42.00
AGM, promo, advertising	\$ 573.97
Membership dues, licence	\$ 215.00
Misc., office	\$ 193.32
Education	\$3,240.08
Thompson Road Trail	\$2,448.03
Total expenses	\$ 6,712.40

Excess Operating Expenses and Project Expenses

Over Revenue \$ 1,382.15

Balance Sheet
As at June 30, 2013
(unaudited)

Assets

Cash

Conservancy \$ 20,968.02

Equity Shares (First Credit Union) \$ 27.00

Funds held in trust

Fairy Fen Project \$ 11,778.65
 (Forward)

Total **\$ 32,773.67**

Liabilities

Undisturbed funds held in trust

Fairy Fen Project \$ 11,778.65

Total **\$ 11,778.65**

Equity

Excess of Revenue over Expenses

For the year of June 30, 2012 \$ 19,612.87

For the year of June 30, 2011 \$ 1,382.15

Total **\$ 20,995.02**

Equity \$ 20,995.02 + Liabilities \$ 11,778.65 = Assets \$ 32,773.67