

BOWEN ISLAND CONSERVANCY

DRAFT Minutes, Annual General Meeting

26 November 2016

Venue: Multipurpose Room, Bowen Island Community School

Chair: Owen Plowman.

Meeting was called to order at 10:08 am.

Announcement from Gillian Drake: BICS class project at Fairy Fen

The Outside 45 program is looking to connect students with community on Bowen. BC has a new curriculum. Learning new ways to implement this new curriculum, and reviewing the management plan for Fairy Fen Nature Reserve. Objective: for students to learn why the Fen has value. Will work with Conservancy members to discuss why this land is important. Claudia Schaefer is involved and will be assisting. Students will do more research and will think about why this is interesting and will work on projects focused on how to tell the world. Will also visit Camosun Bog and Van Dusen Gardens, and will create projects to interpret the value of the Fen.

Students will be visiting the Fen this Tuesday, November 29, 2016.

If anyone knows about mushrooms, they are invited. Students will be looking at Mycelia, how everything is connected and creating this functioning ecosystem, and how this also applies to the community.

Business Part of Meeting

- Agenda approved
- 2015 AGM minutes approved
- **Report from the Chair: 2016**
 - Fairy Fen
 - Trail entrance sign completed for Peter Drake Trail. There will be an official ceremony once additional work is done, including interpretative sign.
 - Crown Riders have installed signs around the boundary of the reserve to discourage dirt bikes and ATVs from entering the Fen. ATV activity has decreased significantly.
 - Current Project: put in place a viewing platform. Need to decide where and what it will look like. Received money from Islands Trust Fund to work with Alan Whitehead; this has been done and we have made the decision on a location. Need to find someone to design and install. Some of us went to Camosun Bog to look at what they have done there. (photos shown) New trail work led by Everhard
 - Other Nature Reserves
 - We manage Singing Woods and other nature reserves for ITF
 - Management Plan needs to be updated, under way now (\$ from ITF). Claudia Schaefer is doing the work, and is hosting an Open House at The Snug, Wed. Nov. 30, 7 to 9, where Claudia will be asking for input on this management plan update.
 - Some work required in David Otter reserve – on the trees – we have a small contract for that.
 - Forage Fish Program
 - Operating for several years, funded sampling project now complete, may have some ongoing involvement with SeaWatch Society and sampling
 - Goals : Document and Protect

- Despite regular sampling, we have found no forage fish eggs: Reason unknown
- Contract from SeaWatch Society (one year period). Ramona de Graaf is the Sea-Watch Society contact and is documenting forage fish presence around the Salish Sea. Sampling is ongoing
- SeaWatch Society, Ricky Belanger, came over a few days ago and sampled.
- Thanks to Everhard van Lidth de Jeude, Bob Turner, and Anne and Andre Chollat for all their work.
- Comment from Anne Chollat: lot of forage fish found at Tunstall Bay in last month or so.
- In August we had a sampling blitz, with 20 or so volunteers, many children involved. Had an opportunity to educate some people already on the beaches. Owen explained from photos how the measurements are done to ensure sampling is done properly.
- Rennison (Grafton Lake) Lands
 - Conservation priorities perspective
 - In 2016 we spent \$4,200 for a study to assess ecologically valuable lands on these lands. Document available on website, created by Nick Page and Claudia Schaefer.
 - John Reid has been doing similar assessment and appears committed to ensuring what we consider important is addressed.
 - Question re. Maggie Cumming fund: there is a new process put in place by the Community Foundation to assess applications. Suggestion: to talk to Sue Ellen Fast when we are ready to apply for funding.
 - Alan Whitehead comment: there is some vague language in the Maggie Cumming documentation re. involving the municipality in any projects.
- Public Education: overview of 2016 speakers
 - February 2016: Report on UN Climate Change Conference: Merran Smith, ED, Clean Energy Canada
 - March 2016: The Green Shores Initiative: DG Blair
 - April 2016: Squamish River Watershed Society; Randall Lewis, President
 - November 2016: The Great Howe Sound Recovery night: documentary films and panel discussion; co-hosted with Suzuki Foundation
- Collaboration with Municipality
 - Beach/marina/dock signage: BIC paid for signs, BIM paid for installation, now in place. Signs are up at beaches all over the island.
 - Visited Bob's Knob in February with members of Parks, Trails and Greenways Committee to assess what is happening in terms of protection of moss and other vegetation on the knob and to assess the view corridor. We had a work party there 6 or 7 years ago and removed vegetation. Probably need to do something again. Meeting in December with BIM staff to discuss this.
- Other activities
 - Everhard attended Mayne Island Conference of local conservation organization
 - Owen attended Municipal climate Action Reporting session
 - Conservancy is now on Facebook and Instagram. Thanks to Leo Chan for this and to Owen for keeping website updated.
- **Outlook for 2017**
 - Fairy Fen: viewing platform and bench
 - Education activities: coming up is Ruth Simons on UNESCO biosphere (February 5 – still to be confirmed) and Tim Pardee (Fish and Wildlife) – outdoor event in March
 - Sue Ellen: Municipality is working on the BI Parks Plan

- **Financial Statements** (attached)
 - Need more money – running a deficit
 - Owen has some ideas for fundraising
 - Question re. “undistributed” funds for Fairy Fen – very few restrictions on this
 - Financial statements approved (moved by Alan Whitehead, seconded by Allie Drake)
- **Election of Board members**
 - Leonardo Frid has stepped down. We go forward with 8 people.
 - No nominations from the floor
 - Election of Proposed Nominees as Directors– list as below acclaimed
 - Leo Chan
 - Ellen Coburn
 - Allie Drake
 - Owen Plowman (President)
 - Nerys Poole (Secretary)
 - Bob Turner
 - Adrian van Lidth de Jeude
 - Everhard van Lidth de Jeude (Treasurer)

The formal business portion of the meeting concluded at 10:45 pm

Guest Speaker: – **Jae Mather**, Director of Sustainability, Carbon Free Group

“Is Sustainability still an option or is it now a necessity for business?”

(NOTE: video of Jae’s talk available on YouTube and link to it is on Conservancy FB page as well as Conservancy website)

Meeting adjourned at noon

Respectfully submitted,

Bowen Island Conservancy
Nerys Poole, Secretary

Bowen Island Conservancy

Statement of Income and Expenses

July 01, 2015 - June 30, 2016

(unaudited)

Revenue

Memberships	\$ 325.00
Donations	346.08
Peter Drake Fund (interest)	1.08
ITF Contract	<u>2,250.00</u>

Total Revenue \$ 2,922.16

Expenses

Operating	Bank charges	\$ 42.00
	AGM, promo, advertising	217.36
	Membership dues, licence	275.00
	Misc., office	190.05
	Education	681.85
	Rennison Land Study	4,200.00
	ITF Contract	2,426.00
	Liability Insurance	1,175.00
	Trail signs	<u>274.00</u>

Total Expenses \$ 9,481.26

Excess Operating Expenses and Project Expenses

Over Revenue \$ 6,559.10

Bowen Island Conservancy
Balance Sheet
As at June 30, 2016
(unaudited)

Assets

Cash

Conservancy	\$ 5,818.81
Equity shares (First Credit Union)	26.00
Peter Drake Fund	2,154.64

Funds held in trust

Fairy Fen Project	11,778.65
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Total **\$ 19,778.10**

Liabilities

Undisturbed funds held in trust

Fairy Fen Project	<u>\$ 11,778.65</u>
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Total **\$ 11,778.65**

Equity

Excess of Revenue over Expenses

For the year of June 30, 2015	\$ 14,558.55
For the year of June 30, 2016	<u>\$ 6,559.10</u>

Total **\$ 7,999.45**

Equity \$ 7,999.45 + Liabilities \$ 11,778.65 = Assets \$ 19,778.10