

BOWEN ISLAND CONSERVANCY

Minutes, Annual General Meeting

22 November 2014

Venue: Collins Hall

Chair: Owen Plowman.

Meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm.

Announcements:

Bill Granger – on invasive species and Lyme disease

Lyme Disease (Bill diagnosed in 2005) – has been following the lyme disease issue, diagnosis through a blood test sent to a lab in California, prescribed a long dose of antibiotics. BC group – following Centre for Disease Control – numbers are increasing – used to be 600 cases; 10 years ago up to 6,000 cases; in last 2 years, 600,000 cases across US; numbers in Canada unknown, doctors here are stymied by position of Centre for Disease Control who deny that it exists here; be aware – watch in the garden, woodpiles; can hide away in your system and then surface years later when stresses occur.

Websites: www.canlyme.com; vancouverlymeawareness@hotmail.com

Invasive Species Council of Metro Vancouver – Bill attended this week at Van Dusen, big scare is fire ants, closely related to southern species of fire ants; Van Dusen has six spots where they fire ant infestation, showed the treatment – they tried fire (didn't work), up to 20 queens per nest; very good at protecting their queens; queens will survive and create new colonies; something to look for when bringing plants home from garden centres – e.g. Garden Works had to discard a large number of potted plants last summer. The ants like to live in piles of leaves, soil, very aggressive, will live under stones, colony can be protected by paving stones, don't make tunnels, the just emerge when threatened . Only effective way to get rid of them is a pesticide called Ant Off – 5 mm. bright red – have 2 spikes and segmented waists. Neem is being tested as a plant based alternate to get rid of them.

More infor www.alienbusters.ca

Business Part of Meeting

- Agenda approved
- 2013 AGM minutes approved (corr: Thompson Road with a 'p')
- **Report from the Chair: 2014**

Islands Trust Fund

Hosted ITF inspection visits to Fairy Fen, Singing Woods, and David Otter Nature Reserves:

- Received minor recommendations for future work
- ATV activity in Fairy Fen has lessened

Submitted an \$18,000 funding proposal (at ITF request) for work in Singing Woods and Fairy Fen:

- Signage, trails, management Plan update for Singing Woods
- We received \$500 (budget cuts)
- This cramped our efforts

Singing Woods:

- Trail work has started
- Bridge constructed and brush clearing under way
- IPS students have helped with work multiple times

Forage Fish program initiated in May

- Goals: Document and protect
- Forage fish are foundation for marine food webs
- Ramona de Graaf provided introductory talk and followed up with sampling workshop
- Sampling is ongoing
- Workshop in August at Sandy Beach – samples examined there at the beach

Public education:

- BICS “outside 45” class session in February
- “Why should we care about Heron’s?” (April)
 - Ross Vennesland, Parks Canada
 - Co-sponsored with Nature Club and Eco-Alliance

Other activities:

- Board retreat in May
 - Learning and thinking exercise
 - Thanks to Alan Whitehead and Sue Ellen Fast
- EDC invitation to sit on Branding sub- committee (May)
 - Ongoing activity
 - Where this will go with new Council?
- Rennison Lands: what are Conservation priorities?
 - Ongoing activities

Our Protected areas

- Parks: 3%
- Reserves: 9%
- Community watershed: 34%
- Covenants: more than 1%
- Total: 53% of island has some form of protection
- Issues: heron nest buffers, some covenants

Outlook for 2015

- Fairy Fen and Singing Woods
 - Trail improvements on private and crown land
 - Signage
 - Continued monitoring of off-road vehicle activity
- Rennison Lands
 - Conservation priorities
- Education activities
 - TBD
- BC Parks program: Apodaca Park (deferred from this year)
 - “Inner city” school visit

- Engagement with Council and Municipality when appropriate

Financial Statements (attached)

- No questions
- Financial statements approved

Election of Board members

No nominations from the floor

Election of Proposed Nominees– list as below acclaimed - all in favour

- Ellen Coburn (2 year term, renewed)
- Allie Drake (midpoint of 2 year term)
- Andrea Kaufman (2 year term, renewed)
- Owen Plowman, President (2 year term, renewed)
- Nerys Poole, Secretary (midpoint of 2 year term)
- Bob Turner (midpoint of 2 year term)
- Adrian van Lidth de Jeude (2 year term, renewed)
- Everhard van Lidth de Jeude, Treasurer (midpoint of 2 year term)

The formal business portion of the meeting concluded at 3:38 pm

Guest Speaker: – Stephen Foster presented “Howe Sound’s Moment is Now!”

Overview of what different organizations are doing with respect to Howe Sound

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Bowen Island Conservancy
Nerys Poole, Secretary

APPENDIX 1: FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statement of Income and Expenses

July 01, 2013 - June 30, 2014

(unaudited)

Revenue

Memberships	\$ 245.00
Donations, tax receipted	\$ 487.71
Peter Drake Fund (interest)	\$ 1.07
Bowen Island Municipality (Deposit refund)	\$ 1,000.00
Fundraiser	\$ 80.00
Total revenue	\$ 1,813.78

Expenses

Operating Bank charges	\$ 42.00
AGM, promo, advertising	\$ 211.17
Membership dues, licence	\$ 200.00
Misc., office	\$ 183.75
Education	\$ 319.31
Liability Insurance	\$ 1,605.00
Thompson Road Trail	\$ 923.42
Total expenses	\$ 3,484.65

Excess Operating Expenses and Project Expenses

Over Revenue \$ 1,670.87

Balance Sheet
As at June 30, 2014
(unaudited)

Assets

Cash

Conservancy	\$ 17,145.66
Equity Shares (First Credit Union)	\$ 26.00
Peter Drake Fund	\$ 2,152.49

Funds held in trust

Fairy Fen Project (Forward)	\$ 11,778.65
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Total	\$ 3,102.80
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Liabilities

Undisturbed funds held in trust

Fairy Fen Project	\$ 11,778.65
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Total	\$ 11,778.65
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Equity

Excess of Revenue over Expenses

For the year of June 30, 2013	\$ 20,995.02
For the year of June 30, 2012	\$ 1,670.87

Total	\$ 19,324.15
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Equity \$ 19,324.15 + Liabilities \$ 11,778.65 = Assets \$ 31,102.80