

SOUTHERN GULF ISLANDS
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING, May 27th, 2015
Agricultural Hall, Mayne Island, BC

Attendance: Ian Dow(Chair), George Harris, Paul LeBlond, Priscilla Zimmerman. Guests: Brian Crumblehulme, Ed Andrusiak, Carl Bunnin, Bruce Colegrave, Pacific Industrial & Marine Ltd., Wave Attenuator, Irene and Nigel Barrett, Melody Pender - recorder

The meeting came to order at 12:30 pm.

The agenda was approved as circulated, by consensus.

Minutes of the April 21st meeting were approved.

Ian Dow reported he no longer required \$7,500 for a wave study. George Harris moved to return the \$7,500 to the budget. Ian Dow seconded.

The terms of reference study was discussed. It appears Salt Spring Island would like to participate at a smaller level. Paul would like to see movement on the document; would it be feasible to do our own transportation study? SSI already has transit so wants out of that expense. Would like to see a SGI transportation committee be formed; SSI and SGI to include land base, trails, water and docks. Connecting all the island with water transportation, can it also combine Solid Waste Management and Recycling? One commission could oversee it all and make decisions.

Ian Dow moved to add to terms of reference for discussion and a decision by EDC on how to involve SSI and Sidney in transportation and include solid waste and recycling, with a focus on integration and consolidation of services.

George Harris seconded. Passed

Brian Crumblehulme spoke regarding Islands Trust meeting to speak to a vision for interconnected Island transportation – for all Gulf Islands. Brian reported by Hornby Island Trustee Tony Law requested the Trust Programs Committee, which Brian is the Chair, to call a special meeting of all Island Trustees and invited guests to discuss buses and water transportation for all islands – including Howe Sound, Lasqueti, Denman & Hornby Islands and the central islands just north of the Southern Gulf Islands. Tony asked that the SGI model be examined with a view to collaboration with other regional districts.

On another note Brian stated the next Islands Trust Council will be meeting with Mike Corrigan for a round table discussion of ferries.

Reports from Commissioners and Guests:

George Harris reported they have a very good town council meeting with Sheila Midgley.

Priscilla Zimmerman reported on the Lyall Harbour Dock extension, they want to extend the dock by 90'. There seems to be some problems to do with the water lease, there was some breaking news coming in from Larry Peck, Priscilla will update us at the next meeting.

Ian Dow reported on the Local bus. It has been working out very well. Local bus costs \$7,200, donations have been \$6,500. It is well used and needed by visitors and the disabled, the system works well with being able to call ahead, it has kept drunk drivers off the road (232) – unfortunately they now have to look for a new structure as the freight company they had the bus with doesn't want it anymore and you need to have a NSC# for insurance. Looking into a van or bus to be donated, Paul Brent has offered van or bus to use until there is another one in place. The drivers are still very keen to volunteer.

Brian also discussed community buses - each island will pursue getting funding, getting a bus and a roster of volunteers similar in principle to the Mayne Island Community bus but with local differences.

SSI might be willing to share expertise and help facilitate SGI buses. SSI wish to join the ETGI project with a view to link their existing and proposed paths and trails to the SGI ETGI, this in turn would include the local community docks and help facilitate sea buses and water taxis.

ETGI update: With the support of Ed Andrusiak, Brian discussed the possibility of marine extension of the Transcanada Trail. He would like the EDC to consider a proposal that each island have a marine pathway extension for people only. Not everyone has a kayak or a private boat therefore they will walk, cycle or drive which means they will not experience a water view of the islands except by ferry or water taxi. A Marine pathway is a dock like structure constructed just above the high tide mark specifically for pedestrians. It is completely wheelchair and stroller friendly. Sooke has great example of a marine pathway if you get a chance to look at it. The proposal is to include it as a representative image for the ETGI such that all the SGI include at least one Marine Pathway for residents and visitors to walk, relax and view their own islands from a safe distance over the water. An example would be Miner Bay, at the end of the proposed Village Bay Road pathway for the ferry terminal, a short road called Naylor Road meets the sea at a low bank where there is a very short path to the beach, without any interference for beach access, and without intruding on any private property, a Marine Path could be extended out across the water and link up with the existing Miners Bay dock.

Mayne Island demonstration trail update:

Village Bay to Miners Bay demonstration trail field meeting was attended by Ed Andrusiak, Irene and Nigel Barrett, Judith Engelhardt, Bill McCance, Jeff Ward and Dave Chase. Please see notes attached as well as presentation.

EDC Website update:

The new website is up and running, if you haven't already please take a look. It is still a work in progress. If we want to attract viewers we need to keep it fresh and updated.

We need the following:

- photos from each island that show each island's unique and distinct features, we need photos with captions of what we are looking at and the credit for the photographer. I am requesting that each island nominate someone to send me photos as each island knows what their best features are.
- I need up to date information as soon as it happens, island townhall meetings
- GIA's - looking for reports and photos to show how the money has been used and how it benefits the community/region
- Island news that would be of interest to the public

Special guest Bruce Colegrave Pacific Industrial & Marine Ltd.

Introduction to Wave Attenuator – a wave attenuator stops ferry swells and other 7 second waves from peak to peak that cause extensive damage to docks and boats, it reduces or stops the waves and collects back against the coming wave. Cost is \$1.4 mil. Which includes a wave study, construction in Cowichan, transporting and installing in Miners Bay and additional costs.

- Anchored with 10 tons of holding power
- You would need 4 attenuators – 4 x 120 ft long and 20' wide
- It would take 3 months to construct and 6 weeks to install

Ongoing maintenance would include the anchor lines held by chains (12-14 years/polysteel rope 10 years) floats last 100 years and can be moved.

Environmental studies show:

- Adds for organic growth
- No destruction or sonic action (marine life)
- An enhancement to a marine life

It can be extended out as far as the water lease extends – the water lease owner puts in the break water. This makes it very advantageous for a marina investment.

An example of their WA is at Mill Bay Marina

Other business: Tour des Illes – things are coming along. George needs everyone to take posters, needs lots of people to prove we need interisland transportation.

Next meeting is at Saturna at the Rec Centre July 7th 12pm – 4pm
Paul Leblond motion to adjourn, George Harris seconded.