

SOUTHERN GULF ISLANDS ELECTORAL AREA
COMMUNITY ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION
Wednesday, Aug 29th, 2018 at 2:00pm Zoom Conference
#31-4605 Bedwell Harbour Road, Pender Island, BC

SGI CESC Commissioners: Brian Crumblehulme (Mayne), Mike Hoebel (Galiano), Ben McConchie (Pender), Priscilla Zimmerman (Saturna), David Howe

Guests: Mamie Hutt Temoana, Melody Pender

Regrets: Kristen Morley

Director Howe nominated Ben McConchie as Chair, Ben accepts

Approval of the Agenda - Mike Hoebel moved agenda as presented Brian Crumblehulme seconded

CARRIED

Adoption of the Minutes of May 24th, 2018 - Brian Crumblehulme **moved** adoption of the minutes Mike Hoebel **seconded**

CARRIED

Director's Report - No report

Island reports – Commissioners

Saturna Island – no report will discuss under new business. Making great progress with the new SGI CRC office.

Mayne Island – Brian Crumblehulme attended the daycare center opening they have hired their staff and are fully booked. Brian report that now local trust committees can sign whole land on behalf the communities and they can now help with affordable housing. The question was asked if the trust has a mandate to cover surrounding oceans. Brian commented that the jurisdiction of water is very complicated. The trust is responsible for the water or the ecology, the bottom of the ocean is the responsibility of the provinces and the top of the water for navigation is the responsibility of the federal.

Galiano Island – Mike reported on the solar initiative the SSRE Co-op which has just done a substantial bulk buy and installation of solar panels. There are about 725 new solar modules or panels for all the islands and the installations will be happening in about 3 weeks the largest being Galiano then main turn it in there's a few on Pender the community Resource Center they are setting up the inside the community development office as the side let office for the CRC with the video conferencing equipment. On September 6 the Senior Managers of the CRD are visiting Galiano and they are looking forward to touring them around the island to see the various initiatives.

Pender Island - Ben commented that he has been learning about low income housing and some of the challenges with building codes and regulations. He'd like to see the CESC get more involved in affordable housing issues on the Gulf Islands. Priscilla agreed with Ben and feels that we need to work with Islands Trust in regards to the one acre lots for single family dwellings.

Priscilla also mentioned talks between the Salish Sea Institute and SIMRES on Saturna. Ben and Priscilla should get together and talk to coordinate efforts. Brian wanted to clarify that Priscilla is talking about high density housing issues which fall under the Local Trust not Islands Trust.

Governance Report – Kristen Morley unable to attend, report was circulated previous to the meeting. Separate information meeting to be held for questions when Kristen is available.

- Mike summarizes from his perspective that Kristen's report/analysis giving the pros and cons of the different model and leaves it up to us. Both reports, Kristen's and Mamie's, refer to dissolving the CESC and creating an arm's length society on a fee for service contract. It was decided no decisions would be made until they had a chance to review and discuss.

Executive Summary (previously circulated) – Mamie Hutt-Temoana

- Mamie first clarified what the CEDC is. She stated the community economic development society would be more locally oriented. Based on community economics instead of a wide range economics. She has drafted the documents so they are ready to go with your own modifications that include a vision, mission, constitution and bylaws. She has drafted job descriptions for staffing and provided partnership ideas and funding partners. Mamie has also done the legwork in qualifying these partnerships and funding opportunities and their ability to work with this type of project. This society is ready to go. In moving from a commission to a society it gives you independence from the CRD. With this model the CRD could provide the core funding annually which would be the \$41,000 that you currently receive for the CESC. You would be able to operate right away with that core funding with the support from the CRD. With that funding you would see the other funding required for your projects. The only thing required is that you separate the core funding and it's use from the other non-restricted funds. Core funding money **cannot** be spent on helping other businesses succeed.
- In moving forward, the process to repeal the organization as a commission could take up to 6 months. Kristen advises that in the mean time you should go ahead and incorporate and get started
- Mamie further defined the CRC which is been set up as a **social service on humanitarian grounds** the CEDC is **setting up businesses or helping people to set up social enterprise**. It is **building the community through the local economy** whereas the CRC is **building a better way of life within their community**.
- Mike questioned the current RDF application for the Edu Tourism project. As there is no other body currently taking on this role the CRC has been able to obtain the funding. If the CEDC is established it can help with that project and the local economic development part.
- As the author of the report Mamie recommends the arm's length society and feels it is the best model to enable you to put all the work you've done over the last 7 years into action.

Questions and comments: Ed agrees with the core funding as being very important and the ability to move forward on the initiatives. Also agrees a discussion with Kristen before a decision is made a good idea. Mike is also in full support of a mechanism that allows them to obtain outside funding sources. He still has a concern about disbanding the CESC and forgoing those advantages and would like to look at maintaining both. There is a similar model used by the Salt Spring Island Economic Development Commission that allows the business development projects under the EDC.

Joint SSI / SGI Community EDC meeting August 23rd discussion

- Ben started by saying he is participating in this to ensure that the Southern Gulf Islands is represented at the table. Ben is involved in the presentation to the CRD for funding toward the DMMO. Focus needs to be on the off season. Hoping to see the SGI's developed into an arts and culture education mecca.
- Ed commented that the evolution towards the DMMO is a good logical step. SSI need the SGI's to move forward on MRDT/DMMO and there has been a desire demonstrated to work together as all the islands are experiencing the same over load in the summer season and the need to push into the shoulder and winter season. It will expand the ETGI, the focus is on sustainability of off season tourism.
- Mike mentioned that some of this funding could also be used for workforce housing.

New Business

- Dave had lunch with Brian Anderson the COO of BC Transit. By the end of lunch, he committed to get the Feds and BC Transit and BC Ferries to discuss an all-electric bus system and electric sea busses and hopefully tugs (quieter for the ocean).
- Salish Sea Institute: Since we are at the Heart of the Salish Sea Dave would like to see a sister organization with either SIMRES on Saturna, Rain Coast with Misty McDuff (Pender) or GICEL, could we land one or combine the efforts to work together and have the environmental and economic benefits of what could come in the off season for programs inviting folks to our islands. Looking at putting together a cross border discussion on Dec 7th / 8th at Poets Cove.

Dave moved for adjournment

Next Meeting – Melody will send a doodle notice with dates to meet with Kristen.