

**2.2.ii. Policy****COUNCIL MEETING PREPARATION**

Trust Council: June 11, 1994

Amended: June 13, 2008; September 11, 2008

**A: PURPOSE:**

1. To provide direction and details for the preparation, conduct and follow up requirements for Trust Council meetings including agenda submissions, Executive Committee and Director's Roles, Minutes, meeting program elements, and meeting program principles.

**B: REFERENCES:**

1. Policy Manual:
  - 1.1. Request for Decision (RFD)/Reports (2.2.i.)
  - 1.2. Meeting Procedure Bylaw No. 101 (2.2.iv.)

**C: POLICY:****1. AGENDA****1.1. SUBMISSION FORMAT**

All written items being submitted to Trust Council for decision should be processed through the use of a Request for Decision form with appropriate accompanying reports and/or documents.

**1.2. AGENDA ITEM SUBMISSIONS**

The following provides targets and deadlines for the submission of items for a Trust Council meeting:

**i. At Meeting**

Items may be added to the agenda as new business at the meeting by notifying the chair and receiving approval from a majority of the members of Trust Council.

**ii. Late Written Items**

One week before the Trust Council meeting is the deadline to submit late Requests for Decision or Request for Decision reconsiderations for Executive Committee review prior to being presented to Trust Council at the start of its meeting.

**iii. Written Items for Agenda Package**

The deadline to submit Requests for Decisions for Executive Committee review prior to being included in the distributed Trust Council agenda package is one week prior to the last regular Executive Committee meeting that is held before the week of the Trust Council meeting.

**1.3. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER ROLES****i. Ongoing Liaison**

It is suggested that committees, trustees and/or staff may forward reports and/or preliminary Requests for Decisions for items going to Trust Council to the Executive Committee for its preliminary feedback before the above-noted deadlines for formal submissions.

**ii. Executive Committee Review**

All written items being submitted to Trust Council must be submitted for review by the Executive Committee.

**iii. Executive Committee Role**

The Executive Committee is responsible for reviewing all Requests for Decision being submitted to Trust Council and may:

- 1) add its noted editorial comments including an alternate recommendation which does not alter the submitter's intent in its Request for Decision.
- 2) submit an additional Request for Decision highlighting substantive comments which do alter the submitter's intent, including an alternate recommendation. This Request for Decision will be added to the submitter's or preferably replace the original Request for Decision based on agreement by the submitter.
- 3) return the Request for Decision and/or attached information if incomplete for resubmission as a "late" item, and therefore not to be included in the distributed agenda package.

**iv. Chief Administrative Officer Review**

All written items being submitted to the Executive Committee must be submitted to the Executive Coordinator or Chief Administrative Officer in advance of the above-noted deadlines.

**v. Chief Administrative Officer Role**

The Chief Administrative Officer is responsible to receive all Requests for Decision for review and comment relative to:

- 1) policy, organizational, financial and implementation implications.
- 2) identification and evaluation of alternatives.
- 3) relevance to current organizational priorities.
- 4) general completeness as quality information from which Trust Council can make a decision.
- 5) processing agenda items through the Executive Committee.

**1.4. AGENDA NOTIFICATION/DISTRIBUTION****i. Preliminary Agenda Program**

It is intended that Trust Council, at each quarterly meeting, will endorse a preliminary meeting program as the basis for the Executive Committee to prepare the next quarterly meeting.

**ii. Follow-up Action**

Requests for Decision or Council resolutions requiring further action by, or reporting back to Trust Council, should set a targeted quarterly meeting for this follow-up as a basis for the Executive Committee to prepare Trust Council business meeting agendas.

**iii. Proposed Meeting Program Distribution**

A proposed meeting program and a request for notice of new business will be circulated to all trustees and senior staff for information approximately five weeks before the Trust Council meeting date.

**iv. Agenda Package Distribution**

The proposed agenda package will be distributed to all trustees and senior staff at least two Tuesdays before the Trust Council meeting date. For clarity, the proposed agenda package will be distributed to all trustees who are members of a local trust committee, whether or not they are members of Trust Council.

**v. Agenda Reference**

A complete agenda package for the Trust Council meeting will be kept in the Trust's boardroom for review and future reference.

**vi. Media Notification**

A News Release on the proposed agenda will be

- posted on the Islands Trust website,
- distributed to all news release subscribers,
- distributed to all media on the Trust's media list, and
- sent to all staff and trustees for further distribution at their discretion five weeks before the Council meeting.

**vii. Public Notification**

Notices will be posted on the island where the Council meeting is being held.

**2. MINUTES****2.1. MEETING FOLLOW-UP****i. Immediate Action Items**

Trust Council items requiring immediate action by people throughout the organization will be circulated by the Chief Administrative Officer during the week following Trust Council.

**ii. Follow-up Action List**

The Trust Council follow-up action list will be prepared by management for review at the next Executive Committee meeting prior to distribution to all trustees and senior staff within three weeks of the Trust Council meeting.

**3. MEETING PROGRAM ELEMENTS****3.1. Meeting Program**

The Trust Council Meeting Program generally involves three days, comprised of workshop and information sessions, the consideration of information and decision items and opportunities for the public to address Council. Portions of the meeting may be closed to the public by resolution in accordance with Section 90 of the Community Charter.

### **3.2. Public Access**

- i. All meetings will be open to the public unless closed to the public by resolution in accordance with Section 90 of the Community Charter.
- ii. The Executive Committee may recommend that portions of the Trust Council meeting be closed to the public in accordance with Section 90 of the Community Charter. The Meeting Program will indicate the approximate times of the recommended closures and the general nature of the subjects to be considered.
- iii. The Meeting Program will include one closed session with the Chief Administrative Officer to accommodate the discussion of matters related to Section 90 of the Community Charter.

## **4. MEETING PROGRAM PRINCIPLES**

- 4.1. It is intended that Trust Council will hold three of its quarterly meetings on Trust Area Islands and its December meeting in Victoria.
- 4.2. It is intended that all members of a local trust committee, including those who are not voting members of Trust Council, will be invited to attend and participate in Trust Council meetings and that their attendance will be given the same logistical and financial support extended to Trust Council members.
- 4.3. It is intended that Trust Council will include a reasonable opportunity to hear from members of the public during its quarterly meeting through formal delegations or a “town hall” session.
- 4.4. It is intended that Trust Council's meeting program length will be determined by Trust's Council's direction as provided:
  - i. in the Trust's work programs.
  - ii. in timeframes determined by resolutions for specific matters.
  - iii. in Council's endorsement of its next quarterly meeting program at each of its meetings.
- 4.5. It is expected that trustees, the Executive Committee and staff will continually offer suggestions to the Chair and/or Chief Administrative Officer for ongoing efforts to improve Trust Council's meetings.
- 4.6. It is expected that the Chair will use discretion in developing and adjusting the Council meeting program and wherever possible the Chair will seek the determination of Council in this regard.