

Galiano Island Local Trust Committee Record of a Public Hearing Proposed Bylaws 283 and 284

Date: October 8, 2024
Location: Galiano Lions Park Society
992 Burrill Road, Galiano Island BC

Members Present: Timothy Peterson, Chair
Ben Mabberley, Local Trustee
Lisa Gauvreau, Local Trustee

Staff Present: Kim Stockdill, Island Planner
Phil Testemale, Planner 2 (electronic)
William Shulba, Senior Freshwater Specialist
Carly Bilney, Recorder (electronic)

Others Present: Penelakut Chief Chakeenakwaut Jack
Penelakut Councillor Ken Thomas
Justine Starke, Manager, Service Delivery, Southern Gulf Islands, Capital Regional District,
There were approximately twenty-four (24) members of the public present.

9.1 Groundwater Sustainability Project – Proposed Bylaws 283 and 284

Chair Peterson called the Public Hearing to order at 3:33 p.m. He read a statement outlining the content, purpose, and process of the Public Hearing.

Island Planner Stockdill read a statement related to the purpose of proposed Bylaw Nos. 283 and 284 and their development to date.

Members of the community were invited to speak and the following comments were made:

- One community member commented that the public hearing was advertised in the Driftwood, which is a publication that is not widely read by Galiano community members
 - it was suggested that the inadequate advertising should be considered a technicality
 - Island Planner Stockdill commented that provincial legislation requires that the public hearing notice be posted in a periodical that comes out at least every two weeks
- Carmita de Menyhart suggested the public hearing be postponed so that community members on Galiano can be given more opportunity to consider the proposals

- Carmita de Menyhart referred to the Personal Interests section of the Islands Trust Standards of Conduct and suggested it applies
 - Chair Peterson noted it is up to individual Trustees to make a declaration regarding the Standards of Conduct if they deem necessary
- Jennifer Margison expressed support for amending Development Permit Exemption 'p' in consultation with Penelakut Tribe and any other groups that would be impacted
 - She commented that it is not helpful to define the conversation around those who support reconciliation and those who do not, and suggested the Trust can do more to work towards reconciliation
- Stephen Rybak expressed support for the proposed bylaws if the Trustees replace Exemption 'p' with an exemption based on defining First Nations uses and practices and develop the wording in collaboration with Penelakut and any other First Nations who have an interest.
 - He commented that the merits of an application are to be decided upon land use and not land user
- Art Moses expressed support for the objectives of the Groundwater Sustainability Project
 - He expressed concern about Exemption 'p' and commented that having development permit requirements not apply to a specific group of landowners while applying to all others would be bad land use planning that could be defeated in court
 - He expressed support for amending the bylaw to ensure Penelakut water experts are given a co-management role in overseeing the bylaws
- Art Moses suggested that the Local Trust Committee make an exchange of land with Penelakut Tribe or other Coast Salish First Nation a part of rezoning, and should lobby the provincial government to transfer Crown land to the Penelakut Tribe, particularly District Lot 87
 - He suggested the Local Trust Committee encourage or require landowners and conservation groups to develop co-management arrangements to increase Indigenous peoples' access to their traditional lands

Chair Peterson called three times for speakers and no comments were made. There being no further submissions, Chair Peterson closed the Public Hearing at 4:05 p.m.

I CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A FAIR AND ACCURATE SUMMARY OF THE NATURE OF REPRESENTATIONS RESPECTING THE MEETING HELD.

RECORDER

DATE