

## **Galiano Island Local Trust Committee Record of a Public Hearing Proposed Bylaw 296**

**Date:** July 8, 2025  
**Location:** North Community Hall  
22790 Porlier Pass Road, Galiano Island, BC

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

**Staff Present:** Kim Stockdill, Island Planner  
Bruce Belcher, Planner 2

**Others Present:** There were approximately 30 members of the public present.

### **10.1 GL-PL-RZ-2024-0003 (Palmberg) - Proposed Bylaw No. 296**

Chair Peterson called the Public Hearing to order at 3:08 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 No. 296 and developments to date.

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

- Stephen Ryback stated opposition to the proposed bylaw citing insufficient community dialogue and input
  - The speaker was concerned that the public notification was published in a newspaper not distributed on the island
  - The speaker stated that the physical Public Hearing binder was only made available during the meeting and should have been provided at time of notice and in a public location
  - The speaker believed that the Trustees have not debated or considered if an alternative should be considered, and the matter should have been referred to the Advisory Planning Commission
  - The Chair noted that the Public Hearing binder was open for submission up to 4:00 p.m. the day prior.
- Carmita de Menyhart stated opposition to the proposed bylaw and indicated the Official Community Plan should not be changed for one application
  - There are unknown implications of changing the Official Community Plan

- The Public Hearing should not immediately follow a Community Information Meeting as it does not allow those that attended the Community Information Meeting time to inform other residents of discussion, and members of the community can no longer provide input following the Public Hearing
- Staff, rather than Trustees, answered questions asked during the Community Information Meeting
- Memory of what happened years ago should be solicited, and the Planner should have sought information from those involved in amending the Official Community Plan eleven years previous
- Jennifer Margison stated opposition to the proposed bylaw due to lack of public engagement
  - No consideration given to possible ramifications resulting from making amendments to the Official Community Plan
  - A transparent and informed process needs to be undertaken for any amendments to the Official Community Plan
  - Amendments are not innocuous and require further scrutiny
  - Further discussion or referral to the Advisory Planning Commission should be considered.
- Stephen Ryback spoke a second time stating support for the application and benefits it might bring to the community but noted that relevant information needs to be provided to the community in a manner that allows time to review it
  - Having a Public Hearing immediately following a Community Information Meeting does not allow time for effective consideration.
- Jennifer Margison spoke a second time and asked the Local Trust Committee to consider how the public feels about a time frame of fifteen minutes scheduled for a Community Information Meeting followed immediately by a Public Hearing as the process does not allow sufficient dialogue and time to consider matters
- Dave Koster spoke in support of the application and indicated he has not heard any opposition from community members

Chair Peterson called three times for speakers and no comments were made. There being no further submissions, Chair Peterson closed the Public Hearing at 3:35 p.m.

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

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**Lisa Millard, RECORDER**

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**DATE**