



ADOPTED

Saturna Island Local Trust Committee Minutes of Regular Meeting

Date: October 20, 2016
Location: Saturna Island Community Hall
105 East Point Road, Saturna Island, BC

Members Present: George Grams, Chair
Paul Brent, Local Trustee
Lee Middleton, Local Trustee

Staff Present: Gary Richardson, Island Planner
Fiona Macraird, Senior Intergovernmental Policy Advisor
Regina Robinson, Recorder

Others Present: Approximately 6 members of the public

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Grams called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm. He acknowledged that the meeting was being held in traditional territory of the Coast Salish First Nations and introduced the trustees and staff.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

By general consent the agenda was approved as presented.

3. TOWN HALL AND QUESTIONS

none

4. COMMUNITY INFORMATION MEETING

none

5. PUBLIC HEARING

none

6. MINUTES

6.1 Local Trust Committee Minutes Dated March 12, 2016 & September 16, 2016 (for Adoption)

By general consent the Local Trust Committee meeting minutes of March 12, 2016 and September 16, 2016 were adopted as presented.

6.2 Section 26 Resolutions-without-meeting Report

none

6.3 Advisory Planning Commission Minutes

none

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

7.1 Follow-up Action List Dated October 2016

For information

8. DELEGATIONS

none

9. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence received concerning current applications or projects is posted to the LTC webpage

10. APPLICATIONS AND REFERRALS

none

11. LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE PROJECTS

11.1 First Nations Relationship Building - Staff Report

Planner Richardson stated that this item came from direction for a reconciliation plan during the last LTC meeting. Trustee Brent noted his enthusiasm and considers this a long term project.

Fiona Macrauld stated the usual relationship between First Nations and an organization stemming from the Crown can be like an arm wrestle about rights and Title. The approach to relationship building outlined in this report is a softer approach and from a more human perspective. Recommendation in the staff report is to engage in information sharing in a public venue.

There was a comment from one of the attendees that Islands Trust and the CRD should coordinate and identify significant First Nations places to assist with information sharing for the public.

In response, Fiona Macrauld outlined that in her time with Islands Trust she will be assisting to identify the areas of cultural significance related to the archaeological sites previously identified.

SA-2016-032

It was MOVED and SECONDED

that the Saturna Island Local Trust Committee embark on developing an annual plan of constructive actions that demonstrate a commitment to improving respectful relationships between residents and visitors of Saturna Island and the local First Nations with asserted interests in Saturna Island.

CARRIED

SA-2016-033

It was MOVED and SECONDED

that the Saturna Island Local Trust Committee direct staff to organise a public event focused on having SENCOTEN-speaking elders of knowledge-holders talk about how the WSA NEC (Saanich) people view and connect historically and culturally with the waters and land of Saturna Island and its surrounding area.

CARRIED

Trustee Middleton expressed his thanks to Fiona Macrauld for the learning opportunity and information sharing and guidance with the next steps in relationship building.

Fiona Macrauld outlined what happens when a First Nation moves from Douglas Treaty to a modern treaty and what this potentially means for land use in response to a question about potential development after a First Nation signs a treaty. She also spoke about collectively owning property in a First Nation as being a part of a type of law (that is equal to Crown or common law) but emphasizes things like sharing, mutual aid and reciprocity.

Trustee Brent outlined the ties between work that the Local Trust Committees undertakes in regards to land use and the importance of building a relationship with First Nations.

In response to a question from George Grams regarding name pronunciation and phonetic assistance, Fiona Macrauld outlined that First Nations are not offended with the use of English names and that there are phonetic guides and apps to assist with SENCOTEN language pronunciations that she will send to the LTC.

SA-2016-034

It was MOVED and SECONDED

that the Saturna Island Local Trust Committee direct staff to draft a project charter for the First Nations relationship-building project.

CARRIED

SA-2016-035

It was MOVED and SECONDED

that staff submit a proposal for the Saturna Island Local Trust Committee to host a meeting with elected First Nation officials before March 31, 2017, to be included in Islands Trust Fall 2016 application for funding to the Regional Community to Community Forum Program (UBCM).

CARRIED

There was discussion regarding timing and arranging an information sharing event with SENCOTEN.

Charles Reif noted that as a representative of the member communities (President of the Community Club) he reported that he has been asked to organize a meeting with the First Nations regarding the logging plan for the members of the community. He is grateful for this opportunity.

11.2 Land Use Bylaw Technical Review - Proposed Project Charter

Planner Richardson reviewed the project charter in the staff report and outlined the steps for this project moving forward.

Trustee Brent noted that this is for the most part technical and should not be controversial; any issues that come forward can be dealt with during the process.

Planner Richardson outlined that it would be good to work through this for clarity for staff and members and the public.

SA-2016-036

It was MOVED and SECONDED

that the Saturna Island Local Trust Committee endorse the Land Use Bylaw Technical Review project charter dated October 7, 2016

CARRIED

12. REPORTS

12.1 Work Program Reports (attached)

12.1.1 Top Priorities Report dated October 2016

12.1.2 Projects List Report Dated October 2016

Trustee Brent questioned why Geological Hazard mapping was on the agenda; thought it was possibly from Development Permit Areas on steep slopes, and outlined the shortfalls of previous mapping capabilities. Trustee Middleton agreed.

SA-2016-037

It was MOVED and SECONDED

that Geological Hazard mapping be removed from the projects list.

CARRIED

12.2 Applications Report Dated October 2016 (attached)

For information

12.3 Trustee and Local Expense Report Dated August 2016

For information

12.4 Adopted Policies and Standing Resolutions (attached)

For information

12.5 Local Trust Committee Webpage

none

12.6 Chair's Report

George Grams attended the following meetings: the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI) to discuss roads conditions (not an issue on Saturna but it is on Salt Spring Island (SSI) and Mayne), the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) the purpose being to create a more constructive relationship and to understand their process with applications that are referred to the Islands Trust as there is a high percentage rejection rate. He updated on SSI incorporation noting that: the Government has given a generous offer for incorporation; it looks like there will be a recommendation for a referendum, and if there is it will likely occur in February of 2017.

12.7 Trustee Report

Trustee Brent reported on the Financial Planning Committee meeting and noted the group was establishing the budget for the next fiscal year (but it is still early). They are looking at a zero percent increase in taxes but this will not be known until November and will depend on the SSI incorporation and funding received for the transition. He attended the Select Committee for Office Relocation meeting and reported that a satellite office with a few staff members was looked at as an option, noting that changing staff levels (if SSI incorporation occurs) and the building lease for the Victoria office running out makes it a good time to consider adjustments.

Trustee Middleton mentioned an invitation to a training program for a First Nations and Parks Canada partnership regarding park management, but declined as it was not the right approach for the Trust at this point. He felt that the opportunity for learning in the upcoming meeting with First Nations is the better path.

12.8 Trust Fund Board Report Dated September 2016

For information. Trustee Brent reported that Hoops Harrison is now part of the Trust Fund Board.

13. NEW BUSINESS

none

14. UPCOMING MEETINGS

14.1 The Next Scheduled Regular Meeting of the Saturna Island Local Trust Committee is to be Determined.

14.2 Proposed Saturna Island LTC 2017 Meeting Schedule - Staff Memo

SA-2016-038

It was MOVED and SECONDED

that the Saturna Island Local Trust Committee proposed 2017 regular business meeting schedule be adopted as presented (February 17, April 20, June 15, October 19, and November 17).

CARRIED

15. TOWN HALL

John Hutchinson inquired about the current status of the Tsawout and Tseycum First Nations logging project.

Charles Reif updated that communications have been posted to the Saturna Island Ratepayers and Residents Association (SIRRA) website and that group is pending a response from the First Nations regarding a request for a public meeting to discuss logging plans.

In response to a question regarding the decision making from the ALC and high rate of rejection with applications, George Grams noted that on SSI people are purchasing farm property outside the Agricultural Land Reserve to avoid the restrictions on using the land for other income generating activities. He reported that the ALC is hoping that communities produce integrated plans to assist in reducing the amount of firefighting they do with applications.

John Hutchinson questioned if there were books about the history and the stories of the First Nations families from the region; Fiona Macrauld mentioned the book "Saltwater People" by Dave Elliot (1983) which she brought a few copies of. She then shared some of her history, experience, and ties to Saturna Island in particular.

In response to a question from Trustee Middleton regarding marine conservation issues Fiona Macrauld outlined the background about the First Nations right to harvest, fish and hunt and noted that in these places if we can integrate and learn about indigenous practices they will become allies in protecting areas; and that building the relationship is the first step.

16. CLOSED MEETING

none

17. ADJOURNMENT

By general consent the meeting was adjourned at 2:11 pm.

George Grams, Chair

Certified Correct:

Regina Robinson, Recorder