

**ISLANDS TRUST COUNCIL
TRUST PROGRAMS COMMITTEE**

MINUTES OF AUGUST 20, 2012
VICTORIA B.C.

Present: Committee Members

Paul Brent, Saturna (Chair)
George Grams, Salt Spring (Vice Chair)
Ken Hancock, North Pender (EC Rep)
Tony Law, Hornby (by phone)
Liz Montague, South Pender
Sheila Malcolmson, Gabriola (ex officio) (by phone)
Kate Louise-Stamford, Gambier (by phone)
Andrew Stone, Bowen (by phone)

Staff

Linda Adams, CAO
Clare Frater, Policy Analyst
Lisa Gordon, TAS Director

Absent:

Alex Allen, Hornby
Laura Busheikin, Denman

All members of the committee who planned to attend in person agreed in advance to change the meeting location from Ladysmith to Victoria because the trustees from northern and Howe Sound islands did not plan to attend in person. The location change would reduce travel costs and carbon emissions. Provisions were made for members of the public who attended in person at the Ladysmith location to listen to the meeting by phone. There were no members of the public in attendance.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:45 a.m.

1.1 Approval of the Agenda

It was agreed by consent to adopt the agenda with an amendment to item 4.6 to replace the words 'Request for Decision' with 'Briefing'.

It was noted that the briefings for agenda items 4.5 and 4.6 were sent to members in advance of the meeting.

2. REGULAR COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2.1 Approval of Regular Minutes of May 11, 2012

It was agreed by consent to adopt the Regular Minutes of February 6, 2012 with an amendment to the paragraph about the Follow-Up Action List to note that the list should follow the format prescribed in policy 6.7.i and by adding 'and/or Trust Council' to the fifth paragraph of section 2.6 on the Advocacy policy briefing.

2.2 Follow up Action List

Staff provided an overview of the work items on the list and explained that the format of the list was changed to match the format used by the Local Planning Committee. Staff explained that the development of the carbon offset policy is now the responsibility of the Director of Administrative Services and that the Financial Planning Committee may wish to assume oversight of that policy development project as it is primarily about purchasing. Committee members expressed appreciation for the new Follow-up Action List format.

2.3 Indicators Briefing

Staff provided an overview of the briefing, explaining that staff would like feedback on the draft protected area charts. Staff explained that the Census data is problematic and staff may advance a budget request to acquire custom data or reports.

Committee members liked the charts and, by consent, the committee requested staff to add text notes to explain significant changes in some local trust areas and to add a web link to a list of the endangered and threatened species in the Islands Trust Area. Staff committed to making the changes and taking the report to the Executive Committee for consent to publish to the website.

3. CLOSED SESSION

The Trust Programs Committee moved in camera to consider the in-camera minutes of May 11, 2012.

At 11:02 a.m.:

It was Moved and Seconded that the meeting be closed to the public subject to Section 90(1)(b) of the Community Charter in order to consider matters related to personal information about an identifiable individual who is being considered for a municipal award or honour, and that the following individuals be invited to remain in the meeting: Linda Adams, Lisa Gordon and Clare Frater.

CARRIED

The meeting was re-opened to the public at 11:04 a.m.

4. TRUST COUNCIL BUSINESS

4.1 Trust Council's Strategic Plan – review public input and prepare recommendations for Trust Council

Staff provided an overview of the draft 2011-14 Strategy Plan and explained that the Executive Committee is asking Council committees, the Trust Fund Board and Bowen Island Municipality to review public input received and provide advice on the draft strategic plan to be debated by Trust Council in September 2012.

Committee members noted that there was no costing information in the briefing materials and that this omission made it difficult to make recommendations on strategic priorities. Staff explained that the practice in the past has been to have Trust Council first select priorities before developing cost information so time is not wasted costing programs that are not a strategic priority. Staff also noted that future changes to the process would be directed by the Executive Committee. Staff noted that the column "Is funding required or in place" explains if the item is funded by base budget or if additional money is needed and that further cost information will be available in December as part of the budget process.

By consent, the committee decided to advise the Executive Committee that more information on potential costs would have helped the committee comment more meaningfully on the draft strategic plan.

Committee members used an audience response system to vote on a series of questions about their strategic plan priorities (see results in attachment).

Trust Programs Committee members discussed that the Priorities 1-10 column in the public input summary chart should be removed as the categorization of the comments did not add value to the chart.

Committee members noted that the consultation response rate was low compared to the Islands Trust Area population and that the overall cost per response is high. A discussion followed about the role of public input in informing decisions made by elected official.

A committee member noted that the committee does not have any tasks for fiscal year 2012/13. Staff responded that the committee could propose a task for a work program in this fiscal year if it could be funded from the \$10,000 Trust Area Services budget shares with Executive Committee and Trust Programs Committee, and, as an example, suggested that the committee could plan actions to advance their interest in cooperating with regional districts to enhance community economic sustainability and security, and prepare a budget request if needed.

There was a discussion about whether the Executive Committee could delegate parts of the advocacy program to Trust Council or the Trust Programs Committee. Staff suggested that Council could appoint a sub-committee or task force to do this, under the auspices of Trust Programs Committee. Staff noted that the Trust Area Services team already supports two committees and there are competing demands for staff resources, resulting in some strain, and that Bowen Island Municipality may request more services at the Trust Council session with Bowen Island Municipality in September 2012.

The committee reviewed the questions about the strategic plan as outlined in the briefing.

It was Moved and Seconded that the Trust Programs Committee forward the priorities list determined at Trust Program Committee's August 20, 2012 meeting to the Executive Committee for consideration.

CARRIED

At 11:50 a.m. the meeting recessed for lunch. Trustees Law and Malcolmson did not return to the meeting when it reconvened at 12:20 p.m.

4.2 Request for Decision – Advocacy Policy

Staff provided an overview of the draft Advocacy Policy and briefing and noted that the policy ties into the strategic plan and supports the “in cooperation with others” part of the Islands Trust Object. Staff noted that there is no pressure to adopt the policy but that it results from several years of experience with the advocacy program. Staff reviewed the edits since the committee last saw a draft. Committee members offered praise and approved the edits. Staff sought support from the committee to forward the amended draft policy and the amended request for decision document to the Executive Committee to incorporate new comments from staff and Trust Program Committee members.

By consent, the Trust Programs Committee agreed the policy should include a definition of consultation and that references to consultation should be added in relevant areas of the policy and that section E.10 should include the words “from Islands Trust bodies”.

It was Moved and Seconded that the Trust Programs Committee forward the draft Advocacy Policy to Trust Council as amended.

CARRIED

4.3 Amending Trust Council Policies 1.2.i, 1.3.i, 1.3.ii

Staff provided an overview of the briefing and explained that if the Trust Programs Committee decides that ‘revision of policies that support the Policy Statement’ will be one of its top three work program items, and Trust Council supports this decision, senior staff will make room for this work in their work programs in the fall of 2012. Staff explained that reviewing the Policy Statement Implementation policy could require significant senior staff time and that it would be best to adopt new Policy Statement

amendment and implement policies and repeal the existing policies 1.2i, 1.3i, 1.3.ii at the same Trust Council meeting as the current policies contain overlapping information.

There was a discussion about whether to direct staff to proceed immediately or whether the decision should wait until the Trust Council adopts the 2011-14 Strategic Plan. The committee also discussed that another briefing might be needed outlining the problems with the current policies and the work of the Policy Statement Assessment Task Force in 2010-11.

Trustee Malcolmson returned to the meeting at 1:20 p.m.

By consent the committee agreed to discuss this topic further during agenda item 4.7 Trust Programs Committee Work Program Report.

4.4 Briefing - Amending Community Stewardship Awards Program procedure

Staff provided an overview of the briefing.

It was Moved and Seconded that the Trust Programs Committee forward option #3 “Direct staff to explore options for new Community Stewardship Award plaques made locally from sustainable materials and/or define this goal in policy” to the Financial Planning Committee for consideration in amending Council’s Purchasing Procedure 6.5.iii and report back to the Islands Trust Council that it finds no compelling reason to amend the current Stewardship Awards policy.

CARRIED

4.5 Briefing re Derelict Vessel Advocacy

Trustee Stone explained that despite significant advocacy by the Islands Trust Council Chair and Executive Committee on derelict vessel issues there has not been much progress in achieving solutions. He suggested that the Islands Trust should arrange more direct meetings with ministers. Chair Malcolmson noted that the Executive Committee has met with ministers at past Union of British Columbia Municipalities conventions and is hopeful about being invited to a September 2012 meeting between Minister Thomson and the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities, if it proceeds. Trustee Stamford noted that the ex-BC Ferries vessel Queen of Saanich is tied up, derelict, off Anvil Island.

It was Moved and Seconded that the Trust Programs Committee forward Trustee Stone’s August 13, 2012 “Derelict Vessel Advocacy in Islands Trust Strategic Plan” briefing to Trust Council.

CARRIED

4.6 Request for Decision – re advocacy on pipelines

Trustee Andrew Stone provided an overview of his request for decision document, highlighting the importance of Islands Trust’s leadership and the value of educating and informing regional districts about the risks. The aim of the outreach would be to create a regional alliance to represent the people in the region to encourage Kinder Morgan Canada to use the utmost due diligence.

There was general discussion about the need to keep advocacy program focused on the oil spill risk from general shipping rather than focus on tankers. There was also discussion about whether diluted bitumen is expected to sink in marine waters.

Chair Malcolmson noted that Trustee Stone has identified a gap and that Islands Trust has, in the past, worked with the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities but not with affected mainland communities. She explained it would be a departure from past practice to show up at other

local government meeting as a delegation and she would be more comfortable speaking to regional districts only upon invitation.

The committee also discussed the value of having a generic presentation about oil spill issues available for trustee use.

It was Moved and Seconded that the Trust Programs Committee recommend that Trust Council authorize the Islands Trust Council Chair to deliver presentations on invitation to regional districts that border the Canadian side of the Salish Sea in order to share oil spill concerns and to build a regional alliance of opposition to oil projects that will expand oil export by barge and tanker within the Islands Trust Area.

6 – IN FAVOUR
1 - OPPOSED
(Brent, Saturna)
CARRIED

4.7 Trust Program Committee Work Program - Report

Staff presented the draft Trust Programs Committee work program report.

It was Moved and Seconded that the Trust Programs Committee amend its work program as follows: #1 Advocacy (with a new task on policy implementation), #2 Indicator Program, and #3 Coordination with regional districts regarding community economic sustainability initiatives, with Policy Statement, Community Stewardship Awards, First Nations Relations, and Vacant Crown Land Profiles and as continuing items.

CARRIED

It was Moved and Seconded that the Trust Programs Committee forward its work program report to Trust Council as amended.

CARRIED

5. NEXT MEETING

By consent, the committee agreed to the date previously set: November 5, 2012 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and decided by consent to ask staff to consult committee members about their preference for a meeting location.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:43 p.m.

Clare Frater
Recorder

Paul Brent
Chair