



Trust Programs Committee Minutes of Electronic Meeting

Date of Meeting: Monday, February 4, 2013

Location: Islands Trust Office Boardroom,
200-1627 Fort Street, Victoria, BC

Members Present: Paul Brent, Saturna Island Local Trustee (Chair)
Laura Busheikin, Denman Island Local Trustee
George Grams, Salt Spring Island Local Trustee (Vice-Chair)
Ken Hancock, North Pender Island Local Trustee (EC Rep)
Tony Law, Hornby Island Local Trustee
Liz Montague, South Pender Island Local Trustee
Sheila Malcolmson, Gabriola Island Local Trustee (ex officio)
Kate-Louise Stamford, Gambier Island Local Trustee

Regrets: Andrew Stone, Bowen Island Local Trustee
Alex Allen, Hornby Island Local Trustee

Staff Present: Lisa Gordon, Director, Trust Area Services
Laura Stringer, Recorder

Media and Others Present: No members of the public

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 am.

2. REGULAR COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2.1. Approve agenda

By general consent the agenda was approved.

2.2. Minutes of Meetings

By general consent the Trust Program Committee Minutes of November 5, 2012 were adopted.

2.3. Follow-up Action List

The follow-up action list was provided for information and review. Director Lisa Gordon provided an update on the follow-up action list items and noted that Communications Specialist Stringer is researching water stewardship groups on the islands and is still seeking information for groups on Bowen, Denman, North Pender, South Pender, Thetis and Gambier Islands. Director Gordon committed to send all Trust Program Committee members a 2006 Guide for Regulating the Installation of Rainwater Harvesting Systems that was prepared for the Island Trust Fund.

3. TRUST COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS

3.1. Briefing – Community Stewardship Awards

Director Gordon described the steps that will be taken to deliver the 2013 awards program.

3.2. Briefing - BC Ferries Advocacy – Requests for Advice

Committee members reviewed the above noted briefing which laid out requests from the Executive Committee and the Islands Trust Council for advice from the Trust Programs Committee regarding future advocacy for sustainable, affordable and appropriate ferry services. There was discussion about potential recommendations and the following points were raised:

- It is difficult to quantify the impact of rising ferry fares on economic development and any study can be challenged.
- The upcoming provincial election provides an opportunity to influence the positions of candidates.
- It may be useful to request documents through Freedom of Information requests to inform future advocacy and avoid investing Islands Trust resources when reports may have already been done.

TPC 100/13

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

That the Trust Programs Committee advise the Islands Trust Council and the Financial Planning Committee to divert the proposed \$20,000 for information gap analysis to the following:

- a) a public survey of the degree to which ferries policy affects voting choices and how fare increases affect people's economic wellbeing and businesses;
- b) Freedom of Information requests around the cost of a significant fare roll back as it applies to minor routes and work done on the feasibility and impact of building bridges in the Trust Area; and,
- c) if the Freedom of Information requests are not successful, to cost out a fare roll back.

CARRIED

TPC 101/13

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

That the Trust Programs Committee advise the Executive Committee to pursue the following advocacy options on BC Ferries:

- a) Draft an opinion editorial from the Trust Council Chair prior to the provincial election;
- b) Outreach to coastal MLAs and candidates;
- c) Media releases as appropriate; and,
- d) Preparedness for media requests.

CARRIED

Resolution TPC 102/13

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

That the Trust Programs Committee recommend to the Executive Committee that the Islands Trust Council rescind its March 2012 resolution (TC 117/12) to send the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure a letter of support for implementing the BC Ferry Commission's January 2012 recommendations which are consistent with past positions of Trust Council.

DEFEATED

Resolution TPC 103/13

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

That the Trust Programs Committee advise Trust Council to remove the letter to Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure supporting the implementation of the BC Ferry Commissioner's January 2012 recommendation from the Follow Up Action List.

CARRIED

3.3. Discuss plans for December 2013 Trust Council session with electoral area directors re economic sustainability

Director Gordon explained that Trust Area Services staff are exploring options and funding sources for the proposed economic sustainability session at Trust Council December 2013 meeting. Staff will report the results of their research at the next Trust Programs Committee meeting and will add materials provided by trustees to the May 2013 agenda package. There was discussion about the need for the workshop to provide clarity about the roles of Islands Trust bodies in promoting economic sustainability and to explore strategies that support existing businesses.

3.4. Trust Programs Committee Work Program Report

By general consent the Trust Programs Committee agreed to forward its work program to the Islands Trust Council with the top three items as follows: 1) Community Stewardship Awards, 2) Encourage understanding and voluntary stewardship of water resources and 3) Create linkages to share economic development models; and with three continuing items as follows: Legislative monitoring, Indicator program and Vacant Crown land profiles.

4. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on May 13, 2013.

5. ADJOURNMENT

By general consent the meeting adjourned at 12:14 p.m.

Paul Brent, Chair

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Laura Stringer, Recorder