



Trust Programs Committee Minutes of a Regular Meeting

Date: May 15, 2023
Location: Electronic Meeting

Members Present: Kristina Evans, Chair/South Pender Island Trustee
Alex Allen, Vice-Chair/Hornby Island Trustee
Sam Borthwick, Denman Island Trustee
Sue Ellen Fast, Bowen Island Municipal Trustee
Jamie Harris, Salt Spring Island Trustee
Tim Peterson, Lasqueti Island Trustee (EC Representative)
Peter Luckham, Islands Trust Council Chair (Ex Officio)

Staff Present: Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services
David Marlor, Director, Legislative Services
Gillian Nicol, Program Coordinator
Robert Barlow, Legislative Services Clerk/Recorder

Others Present: No member of the public was present

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Evans called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and acknowledged that participants of the meeting were on the territories of many Coast Salish First Nations.

2. AGENDA

2.1 Review of Agenda

No late item nor changes to the agenda were presented for consideration.

2.2 Approval of Agenda

By general consent the agenda was approved as presented.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No member of the public was present.

4. DELEGATIONS

None.

ADOPTED

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Chair Evans indicated that an email from David Dunnison titled "Trust Program Committee - edits to language regarding the CDF zone" was sent to Trust Programs Committee members late on May 14, 2023. It was not added to the agenda as a late item and will be provided as a correspondence item at the next scheduled TPC meeting.

Chair Evans requested staff to review the email and report on it at the next meeting.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATION

6.1 Draft Minutes of Previous Meeting

6.1.1 Trust Programs Committee (TPC) Minutes of April 3, 2023

By general consent the minutes were approved.

6.2 Resolutions Without Meeting

None.

6.3 Follow Up Action List

Director Frater spoke to the FUAL items that were in progress, noting that the staff positions of two policy advisors continue to be vacant which impacts Trust Area Services ability to respond to a number of action items.

7. BUSINESS - WORK PROGRAM ITEMS

7.1 Stewardship Education Program – Request for Decision (RFD)

Program Coordinator Nicol presented the RFD that sought endorsement and direction for the Stewardship Education Program. Committee discussion included:

- last year's "Living in the Trust Area" mail-out provided good information but perhaps too much information and included some duplication and therefore a review of the material with intention to "streamline" in mind might be of value
- a contractor was required to increase the accuracy of the mailing list of new property owners
- possibility of approaching communities to ask for webinar topics
- staff and contractor costs to do the mail-out may be on par but staff are unable to do that because of the way the data is received
- long-term residents appreciated the material
- possibility that the mail-out simply direct people to the website to find detailed information rather than directly provide the information

ADOPTED

TPC-2023-018

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee request staff to redesign the Government and Other Services contact sheet to have the Land Use Planning contact sheet on the back of it.

CARRIED

Committee discussion continued and included:

- possibility of conducting webinars on the same topics as in previous years
- one of the strengths of hosting a live webinar is the ability to be interactive
- “wood stove prevention” should be “wood stove best practices”
- the well owner education workshop could be revised and include information about groundwater conservation and how to interpret groundwater maps

TPC-2023-019

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee request staff consider methods to solicit topics from Trust Area residents for further stewardship education webinars.

CARRIED

TPC-2023-020

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee endorse the Living in the Trust Area Mailing Program Project Charter, dated May 15, 2023.

CARRIED

TPC-2023-021

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee direct staff to develop project charters for best practices when using a well and saltwater intrusion and groundwater issues; and wildfire prevention webinars.

CARRIED

8. BUSINESS – OTHER

8.1 Annual Report – Trust Programs Committee Section - RFD

Director Frater presented the RFD that provided the Committee with their draft section of the Annual Report for review and approval.

TPC-2023-022

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee approve the text attached to the 2022/23 Annual Report – Approval of Trust Programs Committee section RFD for

ADOPTED

inclusion in the 2022/23 Annual Report for approval by Trust Council and submission to the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

CARRIED

8.2 TPC 2024/25 Business Cases - RFD

TPC-2023-023

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED**,

that Trust Programs Committee request staff to draft the following fiscal year 2024/25 business cases for consideration at the next regular business meeting:

- Secretariat Services (\$12,000)
- Stewardship Education (\$15,000).

CARRIED

8.3 Coastal Douglas-fir mentions in US National Park Service website – Briefing

Director Frater presented the Briefing and expressed gratitude for support from Heather Klassen, Research Ecologist, BC Ministry of Forests. Committee discussion included:

- what the percentage of forest cover might be in the Trust Area
- value of celebrating the success that has been achieved in order to encourage stewardship rather than emphasizing what has not been achieved
- whether the language on the website is misleading, doesn't support housing for workers, and is driving climate alarmism
- many other agencies (government and conservancies) are using the same words and phrases as found on the Islands Trust website
- every lost piece of habitat is significant and Islands Trust needs to draw the attention to new residents to the value of habitat
- desire to be cautious to proclaim that Islands Trust is doing a terrific job of preserve and protect mandate as that might result in less enthusiasm for action
- staff has been using plain language in order to be accessible by the majority of residents; a balance between scientific and accessible language is sought in all website material with a commitment to correcting any inaccuracies identified

8.4 Coastal Douglas-fir Biogeoclimatic Zone Language and Potential Education Session – Briefing

Director Frater presented the Briefing that provided staff review of language about the Coastal Douglas-fir biogeoclimatic zone and associated ecosystems and to support a discussion about a training session for Trust Council. The Director indicated that staff continue to support the principle of using plain language in all materials so that statements are scientifically accurate but still readily understandable.

Committee discussion included:

- language on page 45, "CDF forests are globally rare, found primarily on BC's south coast" can change to "forests within the CDF zone are rare"
- provincial experts could address the Committee so that trustees can ask questions

ADOPTED

- a preference was suggested for emphasis on questions and answers rather than presenting information

Committee recessed at 12:22 p.m. and resumed at 12:34 p.m.

8.5 Advice to Trust Council on Montreal Charter on Biodiversity - Briefing

Director Frater introduced the Briefing, indicating that Trust Council requested advice about how the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework impacts the work of the Islands Trust. Committee discussion included:

- what the current percentages of protected land and of biodiversity for each LTA might be
- it will take some time to review the extensive literature
- only a few Canadian local governments have been involved or signed on
- whether adopting the framework would bind Islands Trust to additional actions
- Dr. Risa Smith of the Islands Trust Conservancy attended the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity as a delegate and may be available to provide a presentation to the Committee
- a working group could be formed to review the goals and targets of the protocol and might be able to provide a map or chart of what is currently protected in the Trust Area, including areas protected by the Riparian Areas Regulation, Development Permit Areas, parks, covenants, nature reserves, etc.

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee invite members of Islands Trust Conservancy Board and Regional Planning Committee to consider forming a working group to review the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and report on how Islands Trust could best incorporate and contribute to these.

TPC-2023-024

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee amend the above motion by striking the words "Islands Trust Conservancy Board and".

CARRIED

The question on the motion was then called.

TPC-2023-025

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee invite members of Regional Planning Committee to consider forming a working group to review the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and report on how Islands Trust could best incorporate and contribute to these.

DEFEATED

ADOPTED

TPC-2023-026

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee request Regional Planning Committee to appoint two members to form a joint working group to review the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and report on how Islands Trust could best incorporate and contribute to these.

CARRIED

TPC-2023-027

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee appoint Trustees Fast and Allen to represent Trust Programs Committee on the joint working group with the Regional Planning Committee discussing the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

CARRIED

8.6 Venue Options for the November 6, 2023 in-person meeting - Discussion

Committee discussion included a preference for livestreaming and electronic participation by the public. Director Frater stated that staff may not be able to provide electronic participation as the Local Trust Committee Meeting Administrator may not be able to provide that service to the Trust Programs Committee.

By general consent the Committee requested staff to arrange the November 6, 2023 meeting to be in Nanaimo.

9. BUSINESS – NEW

None.

10. WORK PROGRAM

Director Frater presented the current Work Program (Active Projects and Future Projects).

TPC-2023-028

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee items #2 and #3 be exchanged on the Active Projects report.

CARRIED

TPC-2023-029

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee request the work program be forwarded to Trust Council as amended.

ADOPTED

CARRIED

11. NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled meeting is Monday, August 28, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

12. CLOSED MEETING

The Committee did not close the meeting.

13. RISE AND REPORT

As the Committee did not close the meeting, there was no need for the Committee to discuss this option.

14. ADJOURNMENT

By general consent the meeting adjourned at 1:38 p.m.

Kristina Evans, Chair

Certified Correct:

Robert Barlow, Legislative Services Clerk/Recorder