



Trust Programs Committee Minutes of a Regular Meeting

Date: November 6, 2023
Location: Electronic Meeting

Members Present: Kristina Evans, Chair/South Pender Island Trustee
Alex Allen, Vice-Chair/Hornby Island Trustee
Sue Ellen Fast, Bowen Island Municipal Trustee
Tim Peterson, Lasqueti Island Trustee (EC Representative)
Peter Luckham, Trust Council Chair and Thetis Island Trustee (Ex Officio)

Members Regret: Sam Borthwick, Denman Island Trustee

Members Absent: Jamie Harris, Salt Spring Island Trustee

Staff Present: Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services
Mary Storzer, Senior Policy Advisor
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 10:01 a.m. and acknowledged that participants of the meeting were on the territories of many Coast Salish First Nations. Trustees introduced themselves.

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

None.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATION

6.1 Draft Minutes of Previous Meeting

6.1.1 Trust Programs Committee (TPC) Minutes of August 28, 2023

By general consent the minutes were approved as presented.

6.2 Resolutions Without Meeting

6.2.1 RWM 2023-01 – Set November 6, 2023 Meeting as an Electronic Meeting

Provided for information.

6.3 Follow Up Action List

Director Frater spoke to the FUAL items that were in progress indicating that item #1 (Implement Crown Land Protocol project charter) is on the Future Projects list.

TPC-2023-038

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee remove item #1 (Implement Crown Land Protocol project charter) on the Follow Up Action List.

CARRIED

7. BUSINESS - WORK PROGRAM ITEMS

7.1 Policy Statement Amendment Project – Briefing (BRF)

Director Frater provided an update on the project and advised that it is likely more time than anticipated will be needed to ensure all input from First Nations can be addressed.

TPC-2023-039

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee endorse that the timeline for the Trust Policy Statement Amendment Project be extended to ensure that all input from First Nations be addressed.

CARRIED

7.2 Stewardship Education Survey Results - BRF

ADOPTED

Director Frater introduced the Briefing which provided public feedback in regards to potential topics, noting that “groundwater conservation” and “wildfire prevention” were the top two topics. Committee discussion included:

- possibility of Islands Trust Conservancy providing material for some of the topics such as “native plant gardening”, “invasive species removal”, “rain gardens” and “species at risk on your property”
- information related to the Islands Trust Freshwater Sustainability Strategy is expected to be published early in 2024
- whether some of these topics could be integrated with any of the 50th anniversary activities
- the role of Trust Council and the Islands Trust Conservancy Board to conduct education programs

TPC-2023-040

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee request Executive Committee consider the topic of the role of Islands Trust (who, what, where and why) as a webinar or other communication strategy to present for the Islands Trust 50th anniversary.

CARRIED

7.3 Wildfire Webinar Resources - BRF

Director Frater introduced the Briefing, noting that she has identified other available resources not on the provided list so staff can update the list. Committee discussion included:

- need to provide positive information of activities that the public can engage in
- there is rapid development of wildfire prevention and response ideas and resources
- possibility of posting to the website the list of resources, including information about the length of time of the webinar recordings

TPC-2023-041

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee request staff to bring the list of wildfire prevention material (Table 1 of the agenda) to Trust Council’s December meeting for discussion as an on-line stewardship education resource to be posted on the Islands Trust website in February, 2024.

CARRIED

Committee discussion continued:

- whether webinars are the best communication method for all topics
- need to ensure there will be an interactive question and answer period to webinars

TPC-2023-042

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

ADOPTED

that Trust Programs Committee request staff to look into having someone such as Ruth Waldick moderate a panel of Islands Trust Area wildfire resource people for a wildfire discussion and question and answer session webinar.

CARRIED

Committee recessed at 11:33 a.m. and resumed at 11:43 a.m.

7.4 Living in the Trust Area Project Update – BRF

Director Frater introduced the Briefing that provided an update on the “Living in the Islands Trust Area” mail-out project. Committee discussion included:

- language in regards to First Nations needs to be stronger
- language in the “Think about Trees” section that provides information specifically tailored for this region on managing forests for ecosystem values while also managing for fire doesn’t explicitly indicate the purpose of the activities is to reduce risk of wildfire
- contact information will be confirmed before being published
- staff to incorporate committee comments and will review the edited version with Chair Evans prior to publishing

8. BUSINESS – OTHER

8.1 Proposed Trust Programs Committee Meeting Schedule for 2024 – Request For Decision

Director Frater presented the RFD that provided suggested dates and formats. It was noted that, in addition to the schedule of regular meetings, the Committee can establish special meetings during the year if the need arises.

Committee discussion included:

- the possibility of meeting date conflicts with Bowen Island Municipality (BIM) as it currently is meeting on Monday afternoons
- if there is a conflict with the BIM schedule, the Committee suggested staff to explore other potential dates, conduct a poll and conduct a Resolution Without Meeting to decide on the meeting schedule dates
- electronic meetings can also be problematic for some trustees because of poor internet connection

8.2 Montreal Pledge COP15 Biodiversity Framework and potential impacts for the work of Islands Trust – BRF

Trustee Allen presented the Briefing, noting that he dissented from the majority opinion of the trustee working group. He has concerns about treating nature as a commodity and sees the initiative is for cities, not small island communities. Committee discussion included:

ADOPTED

- initially the working group consisted of four trustees, and then they invited Trustee Dr. Risa Smith (Islands Trust Conservancy Board Chair) to join their discussion
- Islands Trust participation may increase the profile of the organization
- whether Islands Trust can sign on to only part or some aspects of the Montreal Pledge
- Trust Council had directed Trust Programs Committee and Regional Planning Committee to consider how the Montreal Charter on Biodiversity impacts the work of Islands Trust and report back to Trust Council
- Saturna Island needs to be added to Table 1

TPC-2023-043

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee forward, as amended, the Montreal Pledge COP15 Biodiversity Framework and potential impacts for the work of the Islands Trust Briefing to Trust Council.

CARRIED

9. BUSINESS – NEW

None.

10. WORK PROGRAM

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

TPC-2023-044

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee forward the work program to Trust Council for approval.

CARRIED

11. NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled meeting is to be determined.

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.

ADOPTED

14. ADJOURNMENT

By general consent the meeting adjourned at 12:18 p.m.

Kristina Evans, Chair

Certified Correct:

Robert Barlow, Legislative Services Clerk/Recorder