



Trust Programs Committee Minutes of a Regular Meeting

Date: February 11, 2022
Location: Electronic Meeting

Members Present: Deb Morrison, North Pender Island Local Trustee (Chair)
Timothy Peterson, Lasqueti Island Local Trustee (Vice Chair)
Paul Brent, Saturna Island Local Trustee
Scott Colbourne, Gabriola Island Local Trustee
David Critchley, Denman Island Local Trustee
Doug Fenton, Thetis Island Local Trustee
Michael Kaile, Bowen Island Municipal Trustee
Kees Langereis, Gabriola Island Local Trustee
Benjamin McConchie, North Pender Island Local Trustee
Dan Rogers, Gambier Island Local Trustee (EC Representative)
Grant Scott, Hornby Island Local Trustee
Steve Wright, South Pender Island Local Trustee
Peter Luckham, Islands Trust Council Chair (Ex Officio)

Note: there was internet connectivity issues during the meeting for a number of trustees.

Staff Present: Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services
Robert Kojima, Regional Planning Manager, South
Dilani Hippola, Senior Policy Advisor
Lisa Wilcox, Senior Intergovernmental Policy Advisor
Tara Todesco, Community Communications Specialist
Robert Barlow, Legislative Services Clerk/Recorder

Others Present: Eight members of the public

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. Chair Morrison acknowledged that participants of the meeting were on the traditional and treaty territories of several Coast Salish First Nations. Members of the Committee and Staff were introduced.

2. AGENDA

2.1 New Items and Re-Ordering of the Agenda

The following addition to the agenda was presented for consideration:

- 7.1.1 Policy Statement Amendment Project (PSAP), Attachment 4, Community Feedback Updates from Trustees – additional response from Trustee Brent inadvertently not sent to staff for inclusion.

ADOPTED

2.2 Approval of Agenda

By general consent the agenda was approved as amended.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mary Beth Rondeau, Mairead Boland, Mielle Chandler, George Leroux, Cynthia Rand and Donn Korbin spoke individually to the Committee. All spoke in regards to the Islands 2050 Policy Statement Amendment Project. Comments included:

- potential timelines of the project
- resources needed for implementation of a new policy statement
- the organization and clarity of the draft policy statement

4. DELEGATIONS

None

5. CORRESPONDENCE

5.1 From Jennifer Margison/Friends of the Gulf Islands, dated November 8, 2021 re: Petition

Trust Council referred the correspondence to the Trust Programs Committee for consideration as part of the Trust Policy Statement Project. Received for information.

5.2 From Gulf Islands Alliance, dated November 9, 2021 re: Draft Bylaw No. 183 Policy Statement and Affordable Housing

Trust Council referred the correspondence to the Trust Programs Committee for consideration as part of the Trust Policy Statement Project. Received for information.

5.3 From Maxine Leichter, dated January 22, 2022 re: Format of Trust Policy Statements

Received for information.

5.4 From Mary Beth Rondeau, dated February 3, 2022 re: Postpone First Reading of Trust Policy Statements

Received for information.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATION

6.1 Draft Minutes of Previous Meeting

6.1.1 Trust Programs Committee minutes of October 29, 2021

By general consent the minutes were approved as presented.

ADOPTED

6.2 Resolutions Without Meeting

None

6.3 FUAL

Accepted for information

7. BUSINESS

7.1 WORK PROGRAM ITEMS

7.1.1 Policy Statement Amendment Project (PSAP) - Briefing

Director Frater introduced the briefing to update the Committee with regards to the plans for Islands 2050 Phase 3 public engagement, to provide community feedback updates from trustees, and to suggest that Trust Council may wish to consider its desires for project timelines.. It was noted that no changes have been made to the draft Policy Statement of July 15, 2021. Committee discussion included:

- acknowledgement of great public interest
- significance of three areas of concern that need addressing as a priority: climate change, First Nations reconciliation, and all forms of housing
- the possibility of halting all PSAP work until next term of office
- next steps depending on community engagement results
- the public needs to understand what first reading means in the process
- the possibility to consider regular reviews of the Policy Statement
- whether or not parts of the draft Policy Statement speak to areas outside the jurisdiction of Islands Trust
- the structure and content of the draft Policy Statement

TPC-2022-001

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee recommend to Trust Council that the timeline for passage of the revised Policy Statement be guided by and reflective of the public engagement process rather than setting a timeline as currently provided in the pre-engagement materials.

DEFEATED

TPC-2022-002

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee recommend to Trust Council that the timeline for passage of the revised Policy Statement be guided by and reflective of the engagement process.

CARRIED

ADOPTED

Committee discussion continued:

- the possibility of a simpler, shorter Policy Statement (such as by separating the directives as an appendix and providing an executive summary) and the challenge of doing so given that there is a complexity to the issues that the PS is addressing and the significance of it as a guiding document
- the possibility of explaining components of the Policy Statement;
- need to communicate why the Policy Statement needs to be revised and what actually is to be changed;
- it was noted that most directives relate to advocacy and that directives exist in the current PS as well as the draft Policy Statement
- some members of the public have confused the PSAP, the annual budget process and the Governance and Management Review

Trustee McConchie left the meeting at 10:24 a.m.

- concern that the Committee's discussion of potential changes to the Policy Statement may contribute to a perception that Islands Trust is presently amending the document whereas all aspects of the PS is decided by Trust Council
- it was noted that the *Islands Trust Act* requires a Policy Statement and that the Province will be interested in reviewing the engagement process with First Nations
- the need for a common understanding as to what the Province requires from Islands Trust in order to approve a revised Policy Statement such as what components, language or process might the Province require
- the need to discuss the PS Implementation Policy that includes a policy that a local trust committee/island municipality bylaw will not be contrary to or at variance with the Policy Statement if it fails to include a particular policy or regulation, so long as the bylaw contains sufficient reason or justification for not doing so.

Chair Morrison and Trustee Wright left the meeting at 10:41 a.m.

Committee recessed at 10:41 a.m. and returned at 10:52 a.m. Vice-Chair Peterson assumed the role of Chair of the meeting.

TPC-2022-003

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee request staff to seek provincial staff feedback on required or desired content or structure for the Policy Statement.

CARRIED

Trustee Brent requested his comment to be included in the minutes: "Directive policies are okay, but there is a difference between a few directive policies versus many directive policies".

ADOPTED

TPC-2024-004

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

that the Policy Statement Implementation Trust Policy be noted in public and Trust Council discussions regarding the Trust Policy Statement.

CARRIED

7.1.2 Secretariat Services Criteria

In regards to Committee's request for staff to review current criteria, and to provide feedback or suggestions for criteria for future Secretariat Services applications, Director Frater indicated that staff wished to provide an opportunity for the Committee to provide direction to staff as to what criteria the Committee would like to see. It was noted that the cost of the program is \$15,000, has been operational since 2020, and this year's funding request has been reviewed by the Financial Planning Committee and Trust Council. Committee discussion included the possibility of funding the program from savings in other areas of the budget. The Committee did not provide any suggestions for changes to the policy.

7.1.3 Living in the Trust Area Mailing Project - Briefing

Director Frater introduced the briefing, the purpose of which was to provide an update to the Committee on the mail-out project that is part of the Stewardship Education program of the Strategic Plan and to seek comment on draft materials. She noted that the intended recipients are recent land purchasers in the Trust Area but that the materials are designed so that they could be used for other purposes. Community Communications Specialist Todesco introduced the draft materials. Committee discussion included:

- sending the materials to all land-owners or residents would involve increased cost beyond the current budget of the project
- need to mention affordable housing as another of the complex challenges indicated in the pamphlet
- clarification that all the documents are to be mailed together and will be made available electronically
- change of language from "your trees" to a stewardship viewpoint
- possibility of working with environmental groups and using physical bulletin boards on various islands in distribution of materials
- whether the term "Land-use Planning" is reflective of Islands Trust values and perspective of protection of place inclusive of community; "Place Protection Planning" is a potential new way of describing Islands Trust work
- need to update the numbers of residents and non-resident property owners with the soon-to-be-released new census results

Trustee Brent left the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Other suggestions for edits to the draft materials included:

ADOPTED

- add a sticker to the magnet indicating “re-gift”
- add the Islands Trust Conservancy (ITC) logo in appropriate locations (it was noted that ITC is working on updating their “rack” card)
- provide an updated map of the Trust Area
- include more text in regards to the marine environment such as the greenshores initiative
- emphasize reconciliation work

TPC-2022-005

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee request staff to prepare budget options for direct mail to all property owners within the Trust Area.

CARRIED

In regards to design elements in the draft materials that relate to reconciliation, Senior Intergovernmental Policy Advisor Wilcox noted that design elements or photographs that may not be agreeable to First Nations or that be considered as appropriation would not be used. She also indicated that there are over thirty First Nations within the Trust Area, all of whom are unique in how they would like indigenous or Coast Salish representation or artwork to be presented. In the future, Trust Council may decide to fund work with First Nations to create images that Islands Trust could use in publications.

By general consent the Committee preferred version A of the magnet and indicated a preference to include it in the mailing.

7.2 OTHER BUSINESS

- 7.2.1 Community Stewardship Award Program - Briefing
Director Frater introduced the briefing to provide background information on the Program, noting that it is expected that trustees will help to promote the program.

7.3 NEW BUSINESS

None

8. WORK PROGRAM

8.1 Trust Programs Committee Work Program

Director Frater provided the current Work Program.

TPC-2022-006

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee forward the Work Program to Trust Council as presented.

ADOPTED

CARRIED

9. NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is on Friday, April 8, 2022, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

10. ADJOURNMENT

By general consent the meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Deb Morrison, Chair

Certified Correct:

Robert Barlow, Legislative Services Clerk/Recorder