



Financial Planning Committee Minutes of Meeting

Date: January 22, 2020
Location: Islands Trust Victoria Boardroom
200-1627 Fort Street, Victoria, BC

Members Present: Peter Grove, Chair
Paul Brent, Vice Chair (via video conference)
Peter Luckham, Executive Committee Rep
Sue Ellen Fast, Executive Committee Rep (via video conference)
Laura Patrick, Executive Committee Rep (via video conference)
Dan Rogers, Executive Committee Rep (via video conference)
Laura Busheikin Local Planning Committee Rep (via video conference)
Tahirih Rockafella, Local Trustee
Scott Colbourne, Trust Programs Committee Vice Chair (audio call-in only)

Members Absent: Deb Morrison, Trust Programs Committee Rep

Staff Present: Russ Hotsenpiller, Chief Administrative Officer
Julia Mobbs, Director, Administrative Services
David Marlor, Director, Local Planning Services
Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services
Nancy Roggers, Finance Officer
Lori Foster, Recorder
Vicki Swan, Communications Specialist, for item 5.2.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Grove called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2.1 Introduction of New Items – None

2.2 Approval of Agenda

By general consent, the Financial Planning Committee approved the agenda as presented.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES / COORDINATION

3.1 Minutes of Meetings

3.1.1 November 12, 2019

By general consent, the minutes were adopted as presented.

3.2 Resolutions Without Meeting – None

3.3 Follow up Action List (FUAL)

Director of Administrative Service (DAS) Mobbs provided an update on each of the items in the FUAL noting that item 1., presentation on property values, is in progress and the Victoria Office renovation report update is marked complete for FPC but will be updated for Trust Council as requested at their December meeting.

4. TRUST COUNCIL BUSINESS – None

5. BUSINESS

5.1 2020/21 Budget: Draft 2, Version 1

5.1.1 Changes to the Budget – Briefing

DAS Mobbs spoke to the amendments made to the draft 2020/21 budget since the December Trust Council meeting, including the removal of the strategic plan to “map and develop water budgets for groundwater aquifers.” As directed by Trust Council.

Discussion was heard on the following:

- The potential impact of new BC Assessment data and property value distribution in the Trust area;
- The decision process around when to fund spending from surplus or taxation, with a note that one-time projects are typically paid for out of surplus funds while taxation revenue covers annual operating expenses;
- A request from a trustee to update the business case on groundwater mapping and bring it back with more information for reconsideration of budget funding.

FPC-2020-001

It was Moved and Seconded,

That the Financial Planning Committee request staff to update the business case for the ground water study and bring back to the February Financial Planning Committee meeting for consideration.

CARRIED

5.1.2 Budget Detail

Discussion ensued on the following:

- Tax increases for local trust areas at 1.5% and 2.0% for Bowen Island Municipality;
- Project benefits Bowen Island Municipality receives from Islands Trust;
- Reduction to staff overtime expenses in the draft budget;
- Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance levy is still pending decision from the Salt Spring Island LTC;

- Charging appropriately for application fees;
- Potential operational expense reductions resulting from the increased uptake of electronic meeting participation is currently not fully known.

5.1.3 Surplus Funds Allocation

DAS Mobbs noted the surplus fund balance would remain healthy based on projections in the draft 2020/21 budget, between \$2M and \$2.1M depending on what the current year draw from surplus looks like at the close of the current fiscal year.

The meeting recessed for at break at 11:21 a.m. and reconvened at 11:26 a.m.

5.2 2020/21 Budget Consultation - Briefing

Director of Trust Area Services (DTAS) Frater spoke to the briefing noting that the consultation survey would be launched in the next two days.

The following feedback and suggested amendments were heard on the survey as presented:

- Question 1. has reference to specific Indigenous cultures which is confusing,
- Question 12. the word “subsidize” change to “fund,”
- Question 2. is a technical oversight, the question was missing,
- Question 3. change language to not say “excludes Bowen Island Municipality” in table to “rates may vary according to region or municipality”,
- Key themes should include wording, “to balance the budget”,
- Question 5. formatting different, section confusing, have a separate section addressing climate change and reorder for clarity, 5.8 million expenditure for Islands Trust Conservancy in chart misleading, ranking the bullets does not show properly,
- Addressing the climate emergency through the Coastal Douglas fir toolkit, add a check box to question 5,
- Add an open ended comment box asking if there is anything to be removed or added to the budget,
- Change acres to hectares,
- Page breaks are confusing,
- Only Salt Spring Island residents will see the SSIWPA questions.

The imagery presented in the advertising plan was discussed and requested changes included:

- Have your say! image add a mailing address and fax number and someplace where respondents can write in,
- “I’m with Greta” and “Fridays for the Future” were asked to be changed,
- The purpose under the Project charter needs clarity.

FPC-2020-002

It was Moved and Seconded,

That the Financial Planning Committee approve the 2020/21 Budget Public Consultation project charter, dated January 16, 2020, and public consultation materials as amended.

CARRIED

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Town Hall and Delegations

FPC-2020-003

It was Moved and Seconded,

That Town Halls and Delegations be added as a standing item to Financial Planning Committee agendas.

CARRIED

7. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Trustee Fenton re: "Removal of Water Studies Data is Disconcerting"

FPC-2020-004

It was Moved and Seconded,

That the correspondence from Trustee Fenton, "Removal of Water Studies Data is Disconcerting" be forwarded to the Local Planning Committee for information.

CARRIED

7.2 Eric Booth re: "The \$2 Million Question"

Discussion was heard that the correspondence contains inaccuracies, such as, no check list exists.

FPC-2020-005

It was Moved and Seconded,

That the Eric Booth correspondence re: "The 2 Million Question" be forwarded to the Local Planning Committee.

CARRIED

8. NEXT MEETING - February 19, 2020

9. ADJOURNMENT

By general consent, the meeting adjourned at 12:23 p.m.

Peter Grove, Chair

Certified Correct

Lori Foster, Recorder
