

**ISLANDS TRUST COUNCIL  
TRUST PROGRAMS COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF AUGUST 22, 2011**  
**BY PHONE**

**Present:**        **Committee Members**                                **Staff**

George Ehring, Salt Spring  
Sue French, Thetis  
David Greer, S. Pender  
Jan Hagedorn, Gambier  
Tony Law, Hornby (Chair, TPC)  
Peter Luckham, Thetis (EC Rep)  
Sue Ann Morrison, Lasqueti  
Sheila Malcolmson, Gabriola (ex officio)  
Beverley Neff, Saturna

Lisa Gordon, TAS Director

**Absent:** Jeanine Dodds, Mayne and Jen Gobby, Lasqueti

The meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m.

**1.     APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

By unanimous consent, the agenda was approved without amendment.

**2.     PREVIOUS MEETING**

**2.1 Approval of Regular Minutes of May 16, 2011**

The minutes were amended to clarify the annual Policy Statement topic inventory and to list Bowyer and Passage Islands in the NAPTEP item.

***It was Moved and Seconded that the Regular Minutes of May 16, 2011 be adopted as amended.***

**CARRIED**

**2.2 Follow Up Action List**

Director Gordon reported on the Follow-Up Action List items and gave a brief outline of tasks underway.

Re: NAPTEP Expansion – Trustee Hagedorn reported that the members of the Gambier LTC and Planner Sonja Zupanec met with the Regional Area Director Maria Harris and briefed her on what is coming to the Regional District Board. Trustee Malcolmson also reminded committee members about the upcoming UBCM breakfast with regional area directors and offered to raise the topic there.

Re: First Nations Strategy – Director Gordon reported that CAO Adams has started research on how to develop this strategy by meeting with experts in the topic.

Re: Gambier & Bowen Crown Land profiles – Trustee Hagedorn reported that Parks Canada is reporting on the National Park proposal to Bowen Island Municipal Council August 25 and 31. Parks Canada has been in touch with the Trust Fund Board about its Nature Reserves and options for transfer.

Re: Marine Advocacy Strategy – Director Gordon summarized the latest efforts, including the submission to the National Energy Board hearing on the Trans Mountain pipeline application. Trustees Luckham and

Malcolmson also summarized the recent work on derelict vessels, including the invitation to Minister Thompson to discuss the subject at UBCM.

Committee members requested staff to provide information on how land clearing is measured including the method used, how often this is carried out and who is responsible.

### **3. COUNCIL REFERRALS**

#### **3.1 Review TPC Terms of Reference**

Lisa Gordon explained that Trust Council's committee system has not been comprehensively reviewed since its creation in 1998. The terms of reference for all council committees do not reflect current issues and practices and one solution may be a comprehensive review to ensure Council committees are working as effectively as possible. Executive Committee and Local Planning Committee have already discussed the option of revising the terms of reference for all committees, and LPC will be bringing a resolution to September Council asking Executive Committee to coordinate this project.

Committee members questioned whether this is a significant work program item or just a housekeeping item. Committee members considered the idea that the best time to consider the terms of reference is at the beginning of the term and that there may not be time to wait to see how this project fits in the 2012-2014 strategic plan. Whenever the work does happen, the terms of reference need to include an explanation of how the work program is directed by Trust Council's strategic plan and how the committee's work program differs from the staff or departmental work program.

Committee members discussed the sections within the terms of reference and debated whether the detailed list of topics was necessary. There was general consensus that the list was helpful for informing the public and prospective committee members. No one wanted to remove any of the topics, but agreed there are topics missing, such as the policy statement, the indicator program and local elections. There are also topics that overlap with Local Planning Committee such as groundwater, climate change and housing. While it is important to define clear roles, it is also important to recognize the collaborative efforts among all the committees, such as with climate change. One committee member suggested that the topics could overlap but that the defining feature would be LPC's local mandate compared to TPC's regional one.

There was some question about overlap with Executive Committee's role, such as with communications, advocacy, Trust Fund Board liaison and NAPTEP. All committee members agreed that advocacy, communications, promotion, public awareness and education are the most important parts of the committee's work and could be better defined, in terms of role and scope. One defining feature is that committees have a valuable role to play in advising Trust Council on reviewing and testing new ideas, and on overseeing policy changes and other big projects; not on things that needs quick responses and that are better suited to Executive Committee.

#### **3.2 Advice to next Council and future TPC members**

Trustee Malcolmson asked committee members about the merits of having more electronic meetings – whether to save time, money or GHGs. She asked what sorts of tools could be provided to committee members next term to make these meetings work better (e.g. phone headsets, video feeds or software to mark up pdf's to enable paperless meetings).

Several committee members agreed that it is important to have in-person meetings for the first year of a term to build rapport and collegiality. Later on, it would be valuable to have headsets, Skype, software and training on how to use them. The annual decisions about community stewardship awards might not work well by phone.

Committee members raised a few ideas for topics that the next Trust Programs Committee could work on, and were advised to raise these during development of the next term's strategic plan.

4. **REGULAR BUSINESS**

**4.1 TPC Committee Report and Work Program**

Lisa Gordon presented the Trust Programs Committee work program report.

***It was Moved and Seconded that the Trust Programs Committee forward its work program to Trust Council.***

**CARRIED**

5. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is not required.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

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Lisa Gordon  
Recorder

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Tony Law  
Chair