



Galiano Island Local Trust Committee Record of Public Hearing

Date: February 5, 2018
Location: North Community Hall
22790 Porlier Pass Rd, Galiano Island, BC

Members Present: Laura Busheikin, Chair
Sandy Pottle, Local Trustee
George Harris, Local Trustee

Staff Present: Rob Milne, Island Planner
Heather C. Martin, Recorder

Others Present: Approximately 30 members of the public were in attendance.

Chair Busheikin called the Public Hearing (PH) to order at 1:02 p.m. and stated the Public Hearing meeting rules and guidelines.

4.1 Recess for Public Hearing

4.1.1 Galiano Island Local Trust Committee Bylaws 262 & 263

Planner Milne provided a summary of the proposed bylaws and their intent, and made reference to all the background information that was available for the public to peruse.

Jenna Falk, a staff member at the Galiano Conservancy, spoke on behalf of Colin Greer, an archeologist at Washington State University and sometime Galiano resident. She read a letter from Mr. Greer stating that no known archeological sites were affected and that he was fully in support of the project and especially of its environmental education programming.

Stephen Rybak urged the LTC to move to adopt these bylaws as soon as possible. He cited the significant downzoning of the property from what was allowed in the Official Community Plan, and stated the Galiano Conservancy should be commended for its consultation with local groups and residents to address the issues that have been raised and come up with a better plan.

Kiyo Okuda urged the processing of these bylaws on a number of grounds, including the Conservancy's outreach and its interface with the organic history of humanity, its direct connection to land, and its forest practices. He stressed the need for places like this in the future that will teach environmental awareness in an increasingly technological age. He mentioned the application's downzoning and said its mandate resonates with the mandate of the Trust to preserve and protect.

Bowie Keefer said this was an excellent project in all respects, and that he was especially happy that it ties in so well with existing Galiano trail networks.

Dora Fitzgerald stated her strong support for these bylaws, and said the Conservancy had put lots of time, energy and consideration into making the best use of this property to enhance learning for all of us in our connection to nature. She reiterated how important it was to preserve a sanctuary like this where people can live and experience real nature, and ties in with the growing concerns of the 21st century.

Sheila Anderson said she had written a supporting letter that didn't make it into the binder, and wanted publically to state her own support, saying she couldn't think of any reason why this proposal should not go through.

Chair Busheikin called for other speakers.

Louise Decario said that in her view the whole process had been quite good. She pointed out the Advisory Planning Commission had a number of requests that were endorsed by the trustees, including covenanted public access beyond Crystal Cove and a multi-use public trail along Porlier Pass that will eventually allow a bike path. She praised the conservancy's environmental programs noting funding from grants and donations pay staff and develop programs. It employs lots of people and is good for the island on many levels.

Chair Busheikin called for a final speaker and for any last submissions. She thanked everyone for speaking and reminded them that Trustees can no longer receive any input from the public. She suggested anyone who discovers a substantive issue will now have to speak to a planner.

Chair Busheikin closed the public hearing at 1:21 p.m.

I CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A FAIR AND ACCURATE SUMMARY OF THE NATURE OF REPRESENTATIONS RESPECTING THE MEETING HELD

Laura Busheikin, Chair

Certified Correct:

Heather Martin, Recorder