



Gabriola Island Local Trust Committee

Regular Meeting Addendum

Date: May 14, 2020
Time: 10:30 am
Location: Electronic Meeting via Zoom

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Date: May 14 2020
To: Gabriola Island Trust Committee
From: Vanessa Craig, RDN Director Area B
Subject: Electoral Area Director's Report

Parks

- As I reported earlier, the RDN implemented a new parks bylaw for RDN parks which regulates smoking/vaping, homeless camping and other activities in RDN regional and community parks and establishes updated fees for camping at Descanso Bay Regional Park. When the criteria for homeless camping (it must not occur within 30 m of any park infrastructure including trails, benches, parking areas, washrooms etc) was mapped on the parks, it precluded homeless camping from all but 4 parks on Gabriola, including the 707 Community Park. At the most recent RDN Board meeting, the Board supported a temporary prohibition on homeless camping in the 707 until the park has been assessed as to park condition and fire risk, and if necessary, a mitigation plan is developed and implemented.
- The seasonal metal access ramp has been installed at Spring Beach.
- Plans are being developed to replace the RDN's wooden walking platform in Joyce Lockwood community park (not the bridge/wooden walkway which was constructed by GaLTT outside the park).
- The Village Way Path project is still being planned to begin in 2020.
- As of writing, RDN parks staff were reviewing current park closures (e.g., tennis courts etc.) to determine next steps as the province moves towards re-opening some aspects.

Emergency management

- The Board supported RDN emergency staff applying for a grant to conduct evacuation route planning for Area B.
- I'm very excited about the formation of the Emergency Response and Recovery Committee for Gabriola, Mudge, and DeCourcy Islands. I think it's a great asset to our islands in emergency planning. Thanks to you Chair Rogers and Trustees Colbourne and Langereis for your participation and leadership on this committee! At the last RDN Board meeting I was pleased that the Board supported my Motion for RDN emergency management staff participation on the committee. In recognition of the unprecedented circumstances of the COVID pandemic and the effect on RDN emergency staff, they will participate when their schedule permits.

Upcoming:

- The May Electoral Area Service Committee and Committee of the Whole meetings were held this week on May 12th.
- The next Board meetings occur on May 26th, June 23rd, and July 28th. Electoral Area Service Committee and the Committee of the Whole meetings are upcoming on June 9th and July 14th. At this time all meetings are held via Zoom meetings and are available for online viewing.
- The next Parks and Open Spaces Advisory Committee is in the planning phase – the tentative plan is it will be held on June 22nd via Zoom meeting with a 10 am start. The date/time will be confirmed shortly. As always, Trustees are welcome to submit a report re. any kind of parks issues that are being discussed.

Respectfully submitted,

Vanessa Craig