



Islands Trust Conservancy

Minutes of Regular Meeting

Date: Tuesday, July 14, 2020
Time: 10:04 am
Location: Electronic Zoom Meeting

Board Members Present: Kate-Louise Stamford, Chair
Sue Ellen Fast, Vice Chair
Linda Adams
Donald Clarke
Doug Fenton (joined the meeting at 10:08 am)
Susan Hannon

Staff Present: Kate Emmings, Islands Trust Conservancy (ITC) Acting Manager
Carla Funk, Acting Communications and Fundraising Specialist
Jemma Green, Covenant Management and Outreach Specialist
Kathryn Martell, Acting Ecosystems Protection Specialist
Dilani Hippola, Acting Senior Policy Advisor (joined the meeting at 11:20 am)
Lisa Wilcox, Senior Intergovernmental Policy Advisor
Alexandra Trifonidis, Recorder

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Stamford called the meeting to order at 10:04 am and acknowledged that the meeting was being held in Coast Salish First Nations territory.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

By general consent, the Islands Trust Conservancy Board approved the agenda as presented.

3. MINUTES/COORDINATION

3.1 Minutes of Meetings/Resolutions without Meetings

3.1.1 Approval of May 26, 2020 Meeting Minutes

By general consent, the Islands Trust Conservancy Board meeting minutes of May 26, 2020 were adopted.

3.2 Follow-up Action List

The Islands Trust Conservancy Acting Manager provided an update on the items in the Follow-up Action List.

4. BUSINESS

4.1 Items for Approval

4.1.1 Winter Wren Management Plan

ITC Covenant Management and Outreach Specialist presented the first update of the Winter Wren Management Plan. This management plan is for a nature reserve owned and managed by the Denman Conservancy Association and covenanted by the ITC. Of concern the management plan has no mention of climate change or First Nations.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- Invasive species (Reed canary grass)
- Sharing information with other local conservancies
- A need to address First Nations engagement and reconciliation within the management plan

ITC-2020-016

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that the Islands Trust Conservancy Board approve the Denman Conservancy Association's update of the Management Plan for Winter Wren Wood dated April 18, 2020 and that the board recommend that the Denman Conservancy seek assistance from ITC staff or First Nations such that the property management becomes inclusive of climate change and reconciliation.

By general consent, the Islands Trust Conservancy Board paused discussion on this motion and continued on with the agenda to return at a later time.

The question on the motion was then called,

CARRIED

4.1.2 Earl Batista Covenant

ITC Acting Ecosystems Protection Specialist presented the Earl Batista Covenant application noting the small parcel size is unusual for a typical application that ITC would accept however this parcel is adjacent to Mt. Erskine Nature Reserve which is owned by ITC.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- Logistics of accepting a small covenant (it would provide a buffer to a nature reserve that we already hold and manage, therefor would have minimal additional monitoring costs)
- Risk factor of legal costs – fairly low
- Type of application (development), rent charges

ITC-2020-017

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that the Islands Trust Conservancy Board authorizes the Chair to sign a covenant with Manuel and Cynthia Batista, over the Land described as

PID 009-595-694, Section 3, Range 2 West, North Salt Spring Island, Cowichan District, Except part in Plan 3955, subject to confirmation of the removal of any vehicles or garbage inside the Covenant Area near the eastern boundary.

CARRIED

4.1.3 Sandy Beach Transfer Agreement

ITC Acting Manager provided a lengthy background on the multi-year project that is known as Sandy Beach. Staff have devoted a significant amount of time to this application and will need to continue to do so in the near future. Acknowledgment of the possibility that this could be the ITC's 30th nature reserve completed in the 30th year of the ITC would be a significant milestone. First Nations, including the Squamish Nation will be contacted regarding land management. Certain aspects of the transfer agreement need to be addressed before the covenant can be registered such as the modification to trails that need to be reflected in the baseline report. Time was spent on explaining the zoning of the parcel of land and the number of charges on the land title. Staff have been in talks with BC Hydro to take off the charges but there will be additional costs associated with that (approximately \$6200).

Discussion ensued on the following:

- District 696 (Sandy Beach) as it's called by locals, started in the 1970's and is the oldest open rezoning application in the Islands Trust; largest public facility in the Islands trust on one of the smaller islands; 110 small lots being proposed
- Sandy Beach is very important to islanders in addition to preserving Salmon Rock
- Risks of BC Hydro Rights of Way
- Timeline – applicant hopes for completion of application by end of July 2020
- First Nations (Squamish) and other Nations engagement if/when it moves forward
- Tax payer interests – beneficial to protect and preserve the land and to finalize the long application

ITC-2020-018

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that the Islands Trust Conservancy Board direct the Chair to sign the Transfer Agreement, between the Convention of Baptist Churches of British Columbia and the Islands Trust Conservancy, dated July 14, 2020, for the land identified as Lot 1 on Subdivision Plan EPP89532 and that the Islands Trust Conservancy Board direct staff to bring recommendations to the Board regarding the use of the \$12,000 contribution from the Convention of Baptist Churches.

CARRIED

Trustee Clarke Opposed

4.1.4 2020 Land Monitoring Plan

ITC Covenant Management and Outreach Specialist gave a brief overview of the adjustments to the 2020 annual monitoring program due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

ITC-2020-019

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that the Islands Trust Conservancy Board endorse the proposed adjustments to the 2020 annual monitoring program for nature reserves and conservation covenants due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

CARRIED

Dilani Hippola, Acting Islands Trust Senior Policy Advisor, joined the meeting at 11:20 am.

4.2 Items for Discussion/Direction

4.2.1 Climate Change Working Group Update

Islands Trust Acting Senior Policy Advisor presented a brief overview of the Climate Action Plan (CAP) currently in development by the Climate Policy Working Group (CPWG). The CPWG supports joint collaboration and communication between Trust Area Services, Local Planning Services and ITC for incorporating climate change into policy guidance. Resources will be used from both Trust Area Services and Islands Trust Conservancy.

4.2.2 ITC\EC Liaison Meeting Agenda

Islands Trust Conservancy Board members reviewed the ITC\Executive Committee liaison meeting agenda. Of note, the Executive Committee requested two additions to the agenda: Provincial Funding Request and Ecosystems Based Management Request.

4.3 Correspondence

4.3.1 Islands Trust Support Letter for the CDFCP

The Islands Trust Conservancy Board received the letter for information.

4.4 Updates for Information

4.4.1 Executive Committee Updates - None.

4.4.2 Public Acquisitions Report

The Islands Trust Conservancy Board reviewed the Public Acquisitions Report for information. ITC Acting Manager informed the Board that the Crystal Mountain rezoning application was recently brought before the Galiano Island Local Trust Committee and that possible movement on that application file might be coming soon.

4.4.3 Public Covenants Report

The Islands Trust Conservancy Board reviewed the Public Covenants Report for information. ITC Acting Manager brought to the Board's attention that another NAPTEP application will be coming to the Board at the next meeting.

ITC-2020-020

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that the Islands Trust Conservancy Board direct staff to prepare a histogram showing the size of Island Trust Conservancy nature reserves and covenants and that the two be plotted separately.

CARRIED

4.4.4 Regional Conservation Plan Progress Report

The Islands Trust Conservancy Board reviewed the Regional Conservation Plan Progress Report for information.

4.4.5 Budget Report

The Islands Trust Conservancy Board reviewed the Budget Report for information.

5. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

6. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on October 6th at 10:00 am.

7. CLOSED MEETING

ITC-2020-021

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that the meeting be closed to the public pursuant in accordance with the Community Charter, Part 4, Division 3, section 90(1)(e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the board considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the Islands Trust Conservancy board;(k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the board, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the Islands Trust Conservancy board if they were held in public; and that Kate Emmings, Kathryn Martell, Jemma Green, Carla Funk, Alexandra Trifonidis and Lisa Wilcox be invited to remain in the meeting.

CARRIED

The Islands Trust Conservancy Board convened the closed portion of the meeting at 11:52 am and resumed in open meeting at 12:31 pm.

There were no items to rise and report on.

8. ADJOURNMENT

By general consent, the meeting adjourned at 12:32 pm.

Kate-Louise Stamford, Chair

Certified Correct:

Alexandra Trifonidis, Recorder