



Lasqueti Island Local Trust Committee Minutes of Regular Meeting

Date: April 11, 2022
Location: Judith Fisher Centre
 #1 China Cloud Bay Road
 Lasqueti Island, BC

Members Present: Peter Luckham, Chair
 Peter Johnston, Local Trustee by Zoom
 Timothy Peterson, Local Trustee

Staff Present: Heather Kauer, Regional Planning Manager
 Katherine Vogt, Recorder by Zoom

Others Present Regional Director Andrew Fall
 Approximately three (3) members of the public

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Luckham called the meeting to order at 11:30 am. He apologised for the technical difficulties causing a late start to the meeting. He acknowledged that the meeting was being held in territory of the Coast Salish First Nations and welcomed everyone at the meeting.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following additions to the agenda were presented for consideration:

- Under New Business add item 12.3 Tree Cutting.

By general consent the agenda was adopted as amended.

3. RISE AND REPORT

4. REPORTS

4.1 Trustee Reports

Trustee Johnson reported on the following:

- Attendance at the recent Policy Statement event at False Bay; staff and consultants were pleased with the volume of public responses received.
- The archaeology project is gearing up for week-long sessions in May, June and July; and B.C. Parks will be hosting an event at Squitty Bay on Friday, July 15 to erect a plaque in honor of First Nations' ancestors.

Trustee Peterson reported on the following:

- Recent comments from members of the public that Local Trust Committee (LTC) meetings held during work hours were inconvenient.

- Less public interest in the Trust Policy Statement than in local issues.
- Lasqueti Island LTC meetings attendance compared to municipal public meetings attendance. Given its population, Lasqueti public meetings seem well attended.

4.2 Chair's Report

Chair Luckham reported on the following:

- The approval of the budget at the March Trust Council meeting.
- The Islands 2050 community outreach program involving visits to all the islands is expected to be completed within 10 days.
- Trust Council will most likely consider only preliminary reports of public feedback to the Islands 2050 project at its upcoming June meeting, due to the enormous number of comments received.
- The threat of spillage accidents from increasing numbers of freighters in the Salish Sea.

4.3 Electoral Area Director's Report

Regional Director Fall reported on the following:

- The British Columbia Government Employees Union (BCGEU) Local 702, which represents librarians, has been on strike.
- The qathet Regional District (qRD) has rolled out the Lasqueti Island Volunteer Fire Department (LIVFD) Asset Management Survey for public feedback to help the qRD plan for future equipment acquisitions and service levels.
- The qRD will soon be releasing Coastal Flood Mapping information and is working to obtain high resolution air photos for the entire qRD. He requested that new air photos of Lasqueti Island held by the Islands Trust be shared with the qRD to aid emergency operations.
 - Chair Luckham invited Director Fall to contact Senior Technical Analyst Mark van Bakel.

5. TOWN HALL

Members of the public spoke on the following:

- A Toronto Star article of 18 months ago regarding Trust-wide regulating of tree cutting on private property contradicts recent Trust communications which have been bureaucratic and secretive.
 - Chair Luckham responded that the Trust was asked to explore the idea for a tree-cutting regulation by some residents of the Southern Gulf Islands; the Trust asked the Province for advice and was asked to provide clarification of intent which the Trust has not set.
 - A Trustee noted that a tree-cutting regulation would not pass on Lasqueti Island; he asked Chair Luckham if, hypothetically, it could be imposed.
 - Chair Luckham responded that it was possible but unlikely that 26 members of Trust Council would vote to impose it.
- There is more volume of timber on Lasqueti Island now than 20 years ago and this should be measured and documented by the Trust.
- The Trust should research the economic impact of discouraging private timber use which may intentionally force certain tax bracket people off the island.
- The Trust could offer a tax break for preserving trees on private property.

- A private property can become a private woodlot with a minimum of 60 acres, so a tree cutting bylaw would only affect small landowners.
- Lasqueti Islanders build and heat with wood.
- Lasqueti Island's distinctness from other islands is often not acknowledged by the Trust.
- Members of the public should be able to privately record at the Local Trust Committee (LTC) meetings.
 - Chair Luckham noted that members of the public should ask for permission before recording at LTC meetings as a courtesy. The legality of private recording at meetings needed to be ascertained.
- The requirement for delegations to present information two weeks in advance of a Local Trust Committee (LTC) meeting is censoring.
 - Chair Luckham noted that information from delegations was put on the agenda and checked for defamatory content before publication.
- The terms 'exotic' and 'feral' to describe local Lasqueti sheep should be replaced with the terms 'wild' and 'herbivores.'
- Engagement with First Nations has delayed the Lasqueti Official Community Plan review.
- Who do you represent as trustees and what is the basis for who you believe you represent?
 - Trustee Peterson responded that he was elected on Lasqueti and represents the electors on Lasqueti regarding local business meetings and that he has taken an oath to uphold the object of the Trust for all British Columbians and so he is also representing all British Columbians.
 - Trustee Johnston responded that he represented the landowners, taxpayers, residents and other people connected to Lasqueti which to some extent includes all British Columbians.
 - Chair Luckham responded that as an outside Chairperson he attempted to represent everyone at the meeting and connected to Lasqueti Island in an unbiased way; and, also, all British Columbians by upholding the object of the Trust and Provincial directives on First Nations reconciliation.
- An email of March 31, 2022 by Trustee Johnston suggested that information in a publication from the Southern Gulf Islands Coalition was misleading.
 - Trustee Johnston invited the member of the public to email him directly for clarification.
- The 2022/2023 Trust budget was increased by 2.4 million dollars to approximately 9.2 million yet a recent Islands Trust survey determined that 80% of residents did not want a budget increase.
 - A Trustee noted the survey being referred to was more a feedback session.
 - Chair Luckham explained how some of the facts were being misinterpreted.
- Regarding the issue raised at the last Lasqueti meeting by a member of the public who had been informed by Bylaw Officer Warren Dingman that her use of the word 'grandfathered,' instead of the term 'legally non-conforming' was racist; this person felt unfairly accused of using a racist term which the minutes of February 2, 2022 fails to convey.
 - Chair Luckham acknowledged that the minutes could be corrected. He noted that a broad selection of people do consider the term 'grandfathered' to be racist.

6. MINUTES

6.1 Local Trust Committee Adopted Minutes dated February 7, 2022

The adopted minutes of the Lasqueti Local Trust Committee Meeting of February 7, 2022 were received for information.

A Trustee noted that the Minutes had been previously adopted by Resolution Without Meeting, with no discussion.

6.2 Section 26 Resolutions-Without-Meeting Report dated March 31, 2022

Received.

6.3 Advisory Planning Commission Minutes - none

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

7.1 Follow-up Action List dated March 30, 2022

It was requested to remove the abbreviation 'PJ' in two places and replace with the full term 'Project Charter' to avoid confusion.

7.2 Fees Bylaw No. 99 - Staff Report

Regional Planning Manager Kauer presented the staff report that asks Trustees to consider giving First, Second and Third Readings and forwarding for Executive Committee approval for the updated Fees Bylaw No. 99 which replaces the LTC Fees Bylaw No 85. She noted that all references to development permit fees had been removed since there are no development permit areas on Lasqueti.

LA-LTC-2022-012

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that the Lasqueti Island Local Trust Committee request that community benefit be reinserted in the Lasqueti Island Local Trust Committee Fees Bylaw, 2022.

CARRIED

LA-LTC-2022-013

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that the Lasqueti Island Local Trust Committee request that section 2.1.6 and item 2 of Table 4 in draft Bylaw No. 99 be deleted.

CARRIED

LA-LTC-2022-014

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that the Lasqueti Island Local Trust Committee Bylaw No.99, cited as "Lasqueti Island Local Trust Committee Fees Bylaw, 2022, be given first reading as amended.

CARRIED

LA-LTC-2022-015

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that the Lasqueti Island Local Trust Committee Bylaw No.99, cited as "Lasqueti Island Local Trust Committee Fees Bylaw, 2022, be given second reading.

CARRIED

By general consent the meeting recessed at 1:35 pm and reconvened at 2:05 pm.

8. APPLICATIONS AND REFERRALS - none

9. LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE PROJECTS

9.1 Lasqueti Island Official Community Plan (OCP) Comprehensive Review - Staff Report

Regional Planning Manager Kauer presented the memorandum and suggested that it would be helpful for Trustees to reach out to Snaw-na-as First Nation by letter or other means for feedback. Recent responses from the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD) point to the legal, procedural, staffing, and budgeting inability for the Ministry to share decision-making authority on crown lands and resources over which they have been given exclusive jurisdiction.

LA-LTC-2022-016

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that the Lasqueti Island Local Trust Committee draft a letter for the Chair's signature responding to the September 21, 2021 letter from Snaw-na-as First Nation requesting a meeting.

CARRIED

LA-LTC-2022-017

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that the Lasqueti Island Local Trust Committee request Staff to add 'define community benefit' to the Official Community Plan project.

CARRIED

LA-LTC-2022-018

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that the Lasqueti Island Local Trust Committee request staff to examine the letter forwarded from Christina Forbes from the Ministry of Agriculture with information about the terms 'feral,' 'invasive,' and 'exotic' in relation to their use in the Official Community Plan and to inquire of the Ministry of Agriculture on the terms 'heritage' and 'wild' in regard to sheep.

CARRIED

LA-LTC-2022-019

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that the Lasqueti Island Local Trust Committee refer the section on the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources and Rural Development comments on the Official Community Plan to the Advisory Planning Commission for recommendations on removal amendments or additions to the proposed policies.

CARRIED

9.2 Meeting Procedure Bylaw Amendments - for discussion

Regional Planning Manager Kauer noted that the new Meetings Procedure Bylaw had recently been given Third Reading. Trustees expressed the need for an addition to the bylaw of a minimum time frame for giving public notice of Local Trust Committee (LTC) meetings. Although meeting notices were posted on the Trust website and at the meeting venue, many members of the Lasqueti public were not internet connected and may appreciate a more specific or noticeable posting.

LA-LTC-2022-020

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that the Lasqueti Island Local Trust Committee request staff to report back on either amending Bylaw No. 100 or creating a standing resolution regarding public notice of meetings.

CARRIED**10. DELEGATIONS - none****11. CORRESPONDENCE**

(Correspondence received concerning current applications or projects is posted to the LTC webpage)

11.1 Email dated March 3, 2022 - Greetings from the BC Electoral Boundaries Commission

Received.

12. NEW BUSINESS**12.1 Advisory Planning Commission Appointments - Staff Report**

Regional Planning Manager Kauer presented the staff report and advised that the terms of the Advisory Planning Commission (APC) members, of which there are presently 7, expire in June. A Trustee noted that APC members were on two year terms whereas Trustees held four year terms.

LA-LTC-2022-021

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that the Lasqueti Island Local Trust Committee request staff to: a. Send letters to members of the Advisory Planning Commission whose terms will expire on June 22, 2022, thanking them for their participation and inviting their expressions of interest for reappointment for another two-year term; and b. Advertise for public expressions of interest for new members.

CARRIED**12.2 Definition of Sleeping Cabin in Land Use Bylaw - for discussion**

Regional Planning Manager Kauer clarified, that in relation to Land Use Bylaws (LUB) s, a sleeping cabin is considered the same as a guest cabin, whereas a sleeping unit relates to a hotel room.

12.3 Tree-cutting

A Trustee shared that he had recently received an email from a member of the public expressing concerns that tree-cutting regulations could be imposed on Lasqueti. The Trustee questioned if Trust Council was planning to put a tree-cutting regulation in its directives policies and noted that he had been recently advised by Local Planning Services Director David Marlor that it would most likely be up to each LTC to decide whether to adopt tree-cutting regulations.

- Chair Luckham responded that currently there was no Trust language for tree cutting regulations; rather, inquiries had been made to the Province regarding the possibility for them.
- Regional Planning Manager Kauer added that Director Marlor was most likely referring to tree protection bylaws which the Trust currently has no authority to apply; but, if such authority were granted, it was anticipated that each LTC could then consider them.

13. REPORTS

13.1 Trust Conservancy Report dated January 25, 2022

Received

13.2 Applications Report dated March 31, 2022

Received

13.3 Trustee and Local Expense Report dated February, 2022

Received.

13.4 Adopted Policies and Standing Resolutions

Received.

13.5 Local Trust Committee Webpage

14. WORK PROGRAM

14.1 Top Priorities Report dated March 31, 2022

Received.

14.2 Projects List Report dated March 31, 2022

Received.

15. UPCOMING MEETINGS

15.1 Next Regular Meeting Scheduled for Monday, June 6, 2022 at 11:00 am at Judith Fisher Centre, #1 China Cloud Bay Road, Lasqueti Island, BC

16. ADJOURNMENT

By general consent the meeting was adjourned at 3:19 pm.

Peter Luckham, Chair

Certified Correct:

Katherine Vogt, Recorder