

Galiano Island Parks and Recreation Commission

March 3, 2011

Galiano Island Trust/CRD Office (23 Madrona)

MINUTES

Present: Allan Doty, John Hancock (CRD), Betty Kennedy (Acting Chair), Don McKinnon, Mario Szijarto, Rose Marie Umana, Cheryl Bastedo, John Coulthard (alternate Recording Secretary) and a member of the public.

Regrets: Travis Beaulieu, Jennifer Margison (Recording Secretary), Keith Hutchinson.

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:34am.

2. Approval of Agenda

Don McKinnon moved and Mario Szijarto seconded that the agenda be approved. CARRIED.

3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Rose Marie Umana moved and Ken Hancock seconded that the minutes of January 6, 2011 be approved. CARRIED.

4. Delegations

Paul LeBlond, from the Galiano Trail's Society, presented a short history of the Trails Society, its formation and current progress. Their first project is to build a trail that will connect Retreat Cove across the island to Cable Bay by going through two private properties and DL 66 (the old highways gravel pit area). Permission has been received to create the trail on DL 66 and agreements have been signed with private landowners. Paul circulated a copy of the agreement with the private landowners. The Trails Society is looking at creating trails in other areas. Paul sees the Trails Society as a form of "service provider" for Parks and Recreation, creating trails in situations where it would not be easy for Parks and Recreation to do so.

In response to questions from the Commission, Paul noted that the length of the trail on DL 66 was about 800 metres. Part of it is on an existing road. They didn't have to cut any trees. Outside lot 66, the trail connects to an existing trail that goes down to Cable Bay on conservancy land. On the Retreat Cove side the trail goes through private property. The Trails Society Agreement with the property owners is canceled if the property is sold. Each agreement comes with a map and is valid for 5 years. It can be canceled on 90 days notice by either party. There is no cost to the Parks and Recreation Commission but the Trails Society may approach the Commission for a grant.

5. Correspondence

The Treasurer received correspondence that will be dealt with in his report.

6. Primary Business

6.1 Bike racks

Mario reported that a bike rack has been installed at Morning Beach and access #50.

Mario showed the Commission proposed signage; "no bicycles allowed" and "no overnight camping". The Commission preferred the "no overnight camping" sign that had the image of the RV Camper on it. He also showed an amusing sign ("It's Now or Never") indicating that there were no toilet facilities further down the trail. Some members thought that the toilet sign might be a "collector's item" and thus tend to disappear. Mario noted that only two of them are required.

6.2 Skate park issues

Peter Rabatich has not completed his work on the roof yet. He is also checking the Skateboard Park each week.

Betty will include in the Active Page article a request for someone to act as a "Skateboard Park Representative. There is a sense the Park is under utilized. The Skateboard Park Coordinator would act as a public interface and monitor it. Allan will go through the old files to see what the Skateboard Society used to do.

It looks like the Skateboard Park Society is going to disappear and according to the lease this Commission will take over responsibility. If the park were to be abandoned we would be responsible to re-mediate the site. The Commission has put over \$80,000.00 into the park. Perhaps others uses should be found for the park. It is a useful facility.

The lease is up at the end of April. The CRD is working on a new lease. The Lions have informally said there wouldn't be a problem. We need a motion to go ahead and approve the lease.

Don McKinnon moved and Rose Marie Umana seconded that the Commission ask the CRD to renew the lease with the Skateboard Park with the Lions Club on our behalf.

CARRIED.

6.3 Maintenance contracts

Skateboard Park: Peter Rabatich has the maintenance contract. He is also checking the park weekly. There was discussion about whether this represents a conflict of interest. The consensus seemed to be that while this is possible it was not happening and it is best to leave the arrangement as it is until the Commission has a volunteer.

Trails: It is proposed that this contract go to Michelle Fox. It includes quarterly visits to all trail accesses. The cost is approximately \$2,100.00 per year and does not cover beach cleanup.

Don McKinnon moved and Rose Marie Umana seconded that the Commission approve the maintenance contract with Michelle Fox.

CARRIED.

6.4 Website update

The agenda is supposed to be up four days in advance of the meeting. Jennifer could do it. All she has to do is cc the agenda by email to "webdesk@crd.bc.ca". The minutes should not be put on the website in draft form. They should be put up after they have been approved by the Commission.

With respect to changes for the rest of the website, all one of the Commission members has to do is email the edit requests to "webdesk@crd.bc.ca". Rose Marie will see if she can access the site and if so will review it.

6.5 April Commonality Meeting

This will be held on April 5th in Victoria. Galiano will host the meeting in the fall. Galiano should bring a report on our activities. Commissioners will look through the old Active Page articles and mention the 3-4 shore access we are working on presently.

A Parks and Recreation regulatory by-law has been proposed. It was not warmly received at the last commonality meeting. Pender has looked at it and wondered why we need it. It doesn't apply to Crown Land or ocean accesses. It will be on the agenda but may be irrelevant. The other item on the agenda is the protocol with the local Islands Trust. There will also be a brief presentation from Real Estate Services.

6.6 Capital Projects

No report.

7. Reports

7.1 Chair's Report

No report.

7.2 CRD Director's Report

No report.

7.3 Treasurer's Report

7.3.1 Status of Accounts

As of February 28, 2011:

Imprest account: \$1000 balance

Parks Improvement Account: \$3598 spent; \$30,212 balance

Maintenance account: \$525 spent; \$6685 balance

Recreation account: \$22,900 balance

7.3.2 Invoices to be Approved

Mario Szijarto moved and Cheryl Bastedo seconded that the Commission pay the Applepie invoice for brochure printing in the amount of \$1,305.92. CARRIED.

Mario Szijarto moved and Cheryl Bastedo seconded that the Commission pay the invoice from Rene Zeitch for trailwork in the amount of \$1,071.00. CARRIED.

7.3.3 Report on Payment of Invoices

Stevens Excavating: \$984 for trail gravel.

7.4 CRD Parks Report

No report.

7.5 Shore Access Report

7.5.1 Zelter #64

A sketch has been made. Registered letters have been sent to the neighbours and we have received some responses. A meeting by one of the neighbours has been requested. Don, Mario and Rose Marie will attend.

7.5.2 Zenner #65

No action. This would be a gorgeous trail. Because bridges would be required this should wait until after the new OCP has been adopted which will simplify the approval process for bridges.

7.5.3 Retreat Cove #31

There is a concern about encroachment onto the road allowance as well as the ocean access. Betty and Mario will get together and write a letter to the landowner.

7.5.4 Matthews #15

Allan will check this access.

7.5.5 Morning Beach

No action.

7.5.6 Montague at Oceanview (end of Southwind)

A registered letter was sent to the neighbours three weeks ago and so far there has been no response.

7.5.7 Salamanca #59

A registered letter has to be sent notifying adjacent landowners that we will be proceeding.

7.5.8 Other Shore Access Issues

We should be sending out our "Sharing our Shoreline" brochure with each letter. Copies were distributed to members. This makes it clear that shoreline access is a CRD issue as well as a local one.

7.6 Trails Report

7.6.1 Sturdies Bay Trail

No report.

7.6.2 Georgia View/Sticks Allison Trail

This item should be kept on the agenda. We would like to get a license of occupation. Once we have one there is no requirement that we improve it. What are our objectives? Concern was expressed that if we take on maintenance of the trail there will be expenses and potential liabilities. But it should be kept on

the table - it is a beautiful forest and there has been some tree cutting occurring nearby. The Commission would like to make it clear there is a local group interested in this area and monitoring the situation.

7.6.3 Other Trail issues

No report.

7.7 Parks Report

7.7.1 Return to Crown Strip

Not much has been done but we are still interested. We need to write a letter documenting our position. All we want to do is protect it, not construct a trail. Perhaps more signage, for example, "Wildflower Area" would help. This should be left on the agenda.

7.7.2 Sticks Parks #69

We are waiting for bigger logs.

7.7.3 Other Parks issues

7.8 Recreation Report

7.8.1 Funding Applications

Applications will be accepted until the end of May. Applicants will be notified during the summer. We have had two so far.

Parents Advisory Committee: \$1,400 for bee keeping activities.

Jane Wolverton: \$4,320 to fund someone to handle the bookings for the South End Hall. Betty will write and let the applicant know that this application does not fulfill our criteria for funding.

7.9 Volunteers Report

No report.

Removal of invasive species (Daphne): Should we get Michelle to remove it from our property or is this something that can be done by volunteers? Betty will talk to Michelle.

8. Projects

8.1 Shore access guide/draft brochure

This is under way.

8.2 Rockfish Conservation Areas

Travis has not had any response to his phone call regarding these areas. Cheryl will follow up on this.

9. Other Business

9.1 Un-addressed Thoughts and Concerns (and input from any members of the public)

It was noted that Travis Beaulieu has resigned and another commissioner has missed three meetings, creating one and perhaps two vacancies on the Commission.

10. Date for Next Meeting

April 7, 2011

**Don McKinnon moved and Cheryl Bastedo seconded that the Commission move in camera to discussion of Commission appointments.
CARRIED.**

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:55am

Betty Kennedy, Acting Chair
Galiano Parks and Recreation Commission