

Salt Spring Island Community Economic Development Commission
Thursday September 22 2011, 4-6pm
School Board Office

Minutes

Attending: Chair Wiltzen, Vice Chair McIntyre, Treasurer Grove, Commissioners Kerr and Mainprize, Director Hendren, Assistant Clark, Pat Gordon and Sharon Bloedorn

Regrets: Commissioners Scott and Muldoon

Call to order: 4:04pm

1. Approval of agenda

MOVED by Director Hendren, **SECONDED** by Vice Chair McIntyre the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED

2. Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held August 16, 2011

MOVED by Commissioner Mainprize, **SECONDED** by Treasurer Grove the minutes be approved as presented.

CARRIED

3. Delegations

3.1. Pat Gordon and Sharon Bloedorn- Sustainable Cities

Pat Gordon, Director and Sharon Bloedorn, Communications and Event Coordinator addressed the Commission on strategic planning, sustainable development, and possible next steps for the Commission.

- Ms. Gordon worked with the City of Calgary to prepare a sustainable development strategy
- Worked with input from 18000 citizens and 150 active stakeholders
- Over 2 years produced a concrete plan with overall vision and defined targets
- Looked at social, economic, natural, and governmental systems – i.e., whole systems view
- Used plan as mechanism to moderate development - in land use and transportation planning
- Important lesson was to have all relevant stakeholders involved in the planning process to ensure all are invested and willing to participate - plan won't just be shelved due to lack of commitment and accountability
- The most innovative solutions don't seem to come from federal or provincial level but from the ground, from the community - can use the plan as a tool to take to those levels of government and say here's what we need
- Formulation of the plan is a way to articulate what the community wants
- Governance will need to part of the discussion
- SSI is not unique in the disconnected method of governance, most cities/municipalities are governed by several bodies
- Need public sector, private sector and agencies at table to develop workable plan
- Definition of scope is large part of planning process - how far reaching is the plan,

depends on what Commission can actually accomplish

- Good to do combination of strategic planning and projects simultaneously - successful projects help foster confidence in the Commission
- Community input key part of process - what do we want, where do we want to be - can also get very innovative solutions/suggestions
- Plan should identify existing assets in the community and build on those - easier than starting from scratch i.e., foster existing businesses rather than focusing on attracting new
- Next step is to agree on where we want to go and what we want to do - skilled facilitators can greatly assist in that process
- Need up to date information i.e., census data is years old, explore how to update
- Trends can be important inputs but can also be swayed - not written in stone
- In current world economic climate important for the plan to help make the community more resilient
- Important part of economy on SSI is the volunteer base - Commission must look beyond dollar values when defining economy

ACTION: Assistant Clark to add PARC and the SSI Transportation Commission to the developed list of stakeholders.

4. Next meeting date

ACTION: Chair Wiltzen to poll the Commission to determine a date for the next regular meeting.

5. Adjourn meeting

MOVED by Director Hendren **SECONDED** by Treasurer Grove the meeting be adjourned at 5:50pm.

CARRIED