

4. Reports - Verbal

4.1 Chair Report – welcomed new Commissioners Harkley, Foster and Mayes.

- Experience The Gulf Islands report is going to the CRD Board this week, great progress. Strengthening our collaboration with the Southern Gulf Islands and there is a survey that the SGI has put together that will try and assist the demand for a water taxi to link the gulf islands and that will be in next version of Island Tides.
- The Islands Trust is moving ahead slowly on the Boardwalk, to try and produce a drawing of an extension of the boardwalk, to try and start a conversation with the property owners and the public.

4.2 CRD Director Report

- Mail ballot voting, will be proceeding for next election.
- A set of guidelines for electronic participation for committees and commissions has been set up and will be circulated soon.
- Met with Island Community Economic Trust regarding long standing issue with SSI being considered Urban and they reluctantly agreed to review their policies regarding SSI.
- Conference coming up for Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities on April 11 hoping they will do a presentation on economic impact of the ferry policies that exist today.
- Hope to get some traction this year on affordable housing on Drake road.
- Meeting with key people with interest in the boardwalk, Peter Grove and Director McIntyre to meet with owner of the marina this week.

4.3 Commissioner Updates

- Commissioner Bowers reported that he has been working with Matt Steffich on reinvigorating shop local projects, delivering letters in nine different zones that talk about getting to know your merchant neighbor. There will be visits to these different zones on a Wednesday afternoon so people can get to know one another and try and stimulate the local economy. Been working with Commissioner Foster and Chair Tylee on the BCIT Tourism Project, three student groups working on three different research processes on tourism on SSI. There doesn't seem to be much support for students from their Academic staff.
- Commissioner Foster gave an update on what the three individual BCIT groups are working on.
- Commissioner Martin working with CRD to add in an 18 month calendar and will have database by the end of March.

5. Reports

5.1 Financial Report – as presented

6. Outstanding Business

There were no unfinished business items for consideration at this time.

7. New Business

7.1 Regional Transportation Plan Feedback

Chair Tylee reported that he provided Commissioner McLennan with the following feedback:

- a. Need to think holistically about transportation among the islands so we can make ETGI work.
- b. Need to identify how trails come together with bike trails and pathways.
- c. Regarding Ganges bypass, something has to be done about it to be truly pedestrian friendly.

Commissioners to send comments to Staff.

7.2 CEDC Logo

MOVED by Commissioner Bowers, **SECONDED** by Director McIntyre
That the Commission endorses the new Economic Development logo as presented.

CARRIED

7.3 Ferry Service and the Economy of Salt Spring Island

Each member of the Ferry Alliance was asked for their perspective on the impact of ferry fare to be put on the Ferry Alliance Website. Chair Tylee and Commissioner Martin did up a document that is posted on the site.

MOVED by Commissioner Bowers, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Quiring
That the Community Economic Development Commission ratify the Ferry Service document that is posted on the Ferry Alliance website.

CARRIED

7.4 Community-Based Visitor Experience Project

Vancouver Island University approached the Commission to provide an up to date data collection set the Commission currently lacks. They are offering to do visitor perception surveys distributed through draw boxes with an incentive to win a Nanaimo Prize Package. The cost is \$5,000.

Commissioners Harkley, Foster and Bowers to obtain more information and report back to Commission.

7.5 Letter of support for Island Pathway's Active Transportation Innovation Infrastructure Grant Application.

MOVED by Commissioner Bowers, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Martin,
That the Economic Development Commission endorse the letter of support for Island Pathway's Active Transportation Innovation Infrastructure Grant Application.

CARRIED

7.6 Letter regarding BC Ferries and Sustainable Island Economies to Honourable Minister Todd Stone

MOVED by Commissioner Quiring, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Bowers

That the Economic Development Commission approve the letter written by Chair Tylee and Commissioner Michael Hoebel, Southern Gulf Islands Economic Development Commission, to Honourable Minister Todd Stone regarding BC Ferries and Sustainable Island Economies.

CARRIED

8. Correspondence / Information

8.1 Salt Spring In the City – Advertisement

Commissioner Quiring to follow up with Deanna Milligan to get a written report summarizing the event the Commission provided a grant for.

9. Motion to Close the Meeting at 5:35pm

MOVED by Director McIntyre, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Martin

That the Community Economic Development Commission meeting be closed to the public in accordance with the Community Charter, Part 4, Division 3, Section 90 (1) (k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality if they were held in public.

CARRIED

10. Adjournment

That the meeting be adjourned at 5:35 pm.

CARRIED

CHAIR

SENIOR MANAGER