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**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission  
Held February 22, 2016, Portlock Park Portable Meeting Room, 145 Vesuvius Bay Road,  
Salt Spring Island, BC**

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**Present:**       **Director:** Wayne McIntyre  
                  **Commission Members:** Robin Williams, Scott Simmons, Gregg Dow, Seth Wright, Rod Martens (4:34), Ross Simpson (4:35)  
                  **Staff:** Tracey Shaver, Recording Secretary  
                  **Absent:** Nigel Denyer, Karla Campbell, Senior Manager

**Others Present:** BC Transit staff: M. Moore, T. Wegwitz, M. Boyd, I. de Jong; J. McClean; M. Ogilvie, E. Nolan.

Chair Williams called the meeting to order at 4:33 pm.

**1. Approval of Agenda**

**MOVED** by Commissioner Dow, **SECONDED** by Director McIntyre,  
That the order of the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission agenda of February 22,  
2016 be approved.

**CARRIED**

**2. Adoption of Minutes of January 25, 2016**

**MOVED** by Commissioner Dow, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Simpson,  
That the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission minutes of January 25, 2016 be  
approved.

**CARRIED**

**3. Presentations/Delegations**

**3.1 BC Transit**

BC Transit staff were invited to attend and provide some information on fare options and operating costs for Route 1 (Ganges Local) and Route 9 (Ruckle Park summer trips).

The SSI Transit overall system outperforms similar sized regional transit systems (Agassiz-Harrison, Williams Lake and Quesnel) with an average of 16.6 riders per hour compared to 8.2. The cost recovery by passenger fares for the SSI transit operation is 38%. Although Route 1 performs lower than other SSI Routes, it still exceeds the other regional systems at a 9 riders per hour rate.

Route 1 is focused on the core area of the system and targets those with mobility challenges. The estimated revenue loss of converting Route 1 to a free service would be about \$8,000 (\$1.70 x 4700 rides). Route 1 runs along a common corridor being served by routes 1, 3, and 5 between Ganges and destinations further along Lower Ganges road. It is not recommended to allow different fare policies on routes operating on a common corridor.

Route 9 Ruckle Park summer service was run last year as a pilot project and considered to be successful. The service hours are already in place this year to continue this summer service along Beaver Point Road without an increase in operating hours.

**MOVED** by Commissioner Martens, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Dow,  
That the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission recommends to BC Transit that the summer service to Ruckle Park along Beaver Point Road be continued.

**CARRIED**  
**Commissioner Simmons Opposed**

After further discussion it was recommend by BC Transit staff to seek a comprehensive fare study with a completion date of September 2016; the last fare study for SSI was 2012.

BC Transit will let the Transportation Commission know if transit staff workloads can accommodate this additional request. Most regional transit systems have a fare review study every three years and several are already underway for this budget year.

The Commission will need to provide some parameters and system goals in order for BC Transit staff to prepare an effective fare study.

*Chair Williams invited Jenny McClean appear as a delegation*

### **3.2 Jenny McClean – Bus Passes- Provincial funding**

Ms. McClean advised that she learned of a change in the Provincial budget which will have an effect on Persons with Disability benefits and the BC Bus Pass program. Ms. McClean wanted to know if there would be a way to address any loss of ridership locally due to the changes.

BC Transit staff have not had a chance to assimilate the information as it was just released late last week. The fee structure changes can be addressed during the SSI Transit fare study.

## **4. Reports-Chair and Director**

### **4.1 Director Report**

- The three elected officials from Salt Spring Island sent a joint letter to the Minister of Transportation, Todd Stone, with a request to urgently address the current disrepair of roads on Salt Spring.
- Very impressed with the new transit busses.
- Recent study on Salt Spring estimated a core of about 100 people who are homeless on the island.
- CRD Board participated in emergency planning session with focus on oil spills, earth quakes and fire.
- Attended public consultation for the Ganges Boardwalk Project.
- Attended Island Pathways AGM and a local event for Coast Salish First Nations Day.
- Feasibility study underway for a First Nations Cultural Centre in Burgoyne Bay Regional Park.
- Liquid Waste Receiving Station project moving forward and to be run locally. Liquid Waste Commission is actively seeking replacement volunteers.
- Integrated Waste Management Number two priority of the CRD.

#### **4.2 Chair Report**

- Attended the Island Pathways AGM and presented information on current SSI Transportation projects
- Attended public consultation for the Ganges Boardwalk project or newly named “Ganges Harbour Walk”

### **5. Outstanding Business**

#### **5.1 Capital Budget Revision**

In September of 2015 the Transportation Commission recommended approval of the draft budget for 2016. The draft budget is projected based on information available at that time. Once the year end reconciliation is done a Final Budget for 2016 is passed in March by the CRD Board which reflects definite numbers. The Schedule G in the agenda package shows a revision due to Canada 150 Grant not being awarded.

**MOVED** by G. Dow, **SECONDED** by R Martens,  
That the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission recommends to the Capital Regional Board that the 2016 Capital Budget Schedule G be approved as amended on the Schedule G

**CARRIED**

*Chair Williams requested that item 5.2 North Ganges Transportation Plan and Project Management Plan be moved to item 6.2*

#### **5.3 Bus Shelters**

Discussion took place to gain consensus regarding the bus shelter project for the next location which is considered “Heritage Place”. Commissioners Wright and Williams will bring the desired timelines and scope of service for the RFP to the March meeting for consideration.

**MOVED** by Commissioner Martens, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Wright,  
That the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission proceed with the design build bus shelter competition for the Heritage Place location with a maximum contribution of \$15,000 towards the total project costs.

**CARRIED**

**Commissioner Simmons Opposed**

#### **5.4 Parking Issues**

Establishment of a parking authority on Salt Spring Island is a long standing issue with many considerations. The CRD could pass parking Bylaws which could then be enforced by fine under the CRD Planning and Protection Services Department.

Director McNytre would support a working group to study the inventory background, enforcement consequences, economic factors and community consensus prior to establishing a parking authority for Salt Spring Island.

Parking will be brought back to the April agenda for further consideration.

**6. New Business**

**6.1 Development Permit -111 Rainbow Road**

Islands Trust planning staff sent over the layout designs for a development permit along a commercial property on Rainbow Road and the developer, Martin Ogilvie, was invited to share his opinion for the property and surrounding area.

The Transportation Commission will not provide any comment or recommendation on the permit application until a formal request for input is requested by the Islands Trust.

**6.2 North Ganges Transportation Plan and Project Management Plan**

The Transportation Commission reviewed the plan and requested a change to item 1.4 Project Scope.

**MOVED** by Commissioner Dow, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Simpson,  
That the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission recommends that under the Project Charter and Project Management Plan for North Ganges Transportation Plan, Phase 2 & 3, Item 1.4 Project Scope, specifically the numbers 7, 8 and 9 be changed from "OUT" to "MoTI" and remain in the Project Scope as the responsibility of the Ministry of Transportation to complete.

**CARRIED**

**7. Next Meeting:**

March 29, 2016, at the Salt Spring Island Public Library at 4:30 PM. Regrets noted from Commissioners Simmons and Martens for the March meeting.

**8. Adjournment**

**MOVED** by Commissioner Dow, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Simmons,  
That the meeting be adjourned at 6:25 pm.

**CARRIED**

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**CHAIR**

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**SENIOR MANAGER**