



Making a difference...together

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
GANGES HARBOUR WALK PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE
Held December 7, 2018, Portlock Portable, 145 Vesuvius Bay Road, Salt Spring Island, BC**

DRAFT

Present:

Committee Members: Matt Steffich, Peter Grove, Robin Williams, Chris Acheson, Gregg Dow, Gary Holman, Richard Kerr

Staff: Karla Campbell, Senior Manager, Salt Spring Island Electoral Area; Dan Ovington, Parks and Recreation Manager; Tracey Shaver, Recording Secretary

Chair Steffich called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

1. Approval of Agenda

MOVED by P. Grove, **SECONDED** by G.Dow,
That the Ganges Harbour Walk Project Steering Committee agenda of December 7, 2018 be amended and approved by adding a delegation of Mr. John Woodward under item number 3 and renumbering the remaining items accordingly.

CARRIED

2. Adoption of Minutes of February 20, 2018

MOVED by P. Grove, **SECONDED** by G.Dow,
That the Ganges Harbour Walk Project Steering Committee minutes of February 20, 2018 be approved.

CARRIED

3. Delegation- John Woodward

Mr. Woodward provided historical information on the original plan from 1980 and partial development of the Ganges Harbour Walk.

- Commercial uses were not a concern of the upland owners at that time.
- Community enthusiasm resulted in infrastructure being installed before proper legal rights of access were established.
- Issues of personal liability were the root cause of the project being suspended.
- Mouat's finished boardwalk around their properties and have provided maintenance.
- Request that the original design plan for the boardwalk be revisited.

4. Director and Chair Reports

4.1 Director Holman briefly stated the following:

- The right of access to crown foreshore belong to all BC citizens
- Property owners have riparian rights
- Public access should not be dependant or contingent on zoning issues
- Secure the right of way and then continue negotiations with upland owner

4.2 Chair Steffich briefly reported:

He views the role of this committee to be problem solving:

- Original design is available as a starting point

- Anything new will be within the low and high watermark
- In seven years the following has been accomplished:
 - CRD project charter
 - Reports on status of infrastructure and surrounding environment
 - Properties surveyed
 - Provincial Government involved
 - Property owners and community engaged

5. Outstanding Business-none

6. New Business

6.1 Ganges Harbourwalk Feasibility Report

CRD staff briefly reviewed report

- Not much useful life left in existing structure (approximately 10 years)
- No existing stamped engineered drawings
- Next steps 1- Obtain Statutory Right of Way (SRoW) 2- Harbour Area Plan to guide development
- Recommendation to hold in abeyance until foreshore right of way acquisition determined.

Discussion

- Remaining funds are from Gas Tax; constraints on what money can be spent on
- Original intent for Peck's Cove to be refurbished for Canada 150
- Integrate boardwalk with businesses and their established riparian rights
- Clarify zoning of upland properties
- Use of remaining funds towards design of boardwalk

6.2 Islands Trust Memorandum-Ganges Harbourwalk-Next Steps-October 1, 2018

Jason Youmans Islands Trust Planner briefly reported:

- Islands Trust in receipt of an interagency referral regarding the Ganges Harbour foreshore lease renewal application. 30 day response time.

Discussion

- Differences in property owner foreshore rights; one purchased filled crownland however property was never rezoned from water to land
- Assessment of properties zoning and compliance of those uses
- Engage upland owners to see if there is interest in developing a plan and what the zoning changes might be.
- Attempt to obtain security that SRoW will be granted by Province
- To this point First Nations has been supportive of boardwalk and against any upland development
- Province in considering granting Islands Trust the SRoW will be looking for guidance from a designed and funded project.

- Request extension from Ministry on referral response and prepare joint letter (Islands Trust, CRD, Chamber) to secure public access for the harbourwalk.

MOVED by G. Holman, **SECONDED** by R. Williams,
That the Ganges Harbour Walk Project Steering Committee requests that Islands Trust and the Capital Regional District seek a 30 day extension to the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development interagency referral package relating to the renewal of the Ganges Marina foreshore lease.

CARRIED

MOVED by G. Holman, **SECONDED** by R. Williams,
That the Ganges Harbour Walk Project Steering Committee requests a joint letter be drafted by Islands Trust, Capital Regional District and the Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce to the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development which offers support for the renewal of the Ganges Marina foreshore lease contingent on securing public access for the Harbourwalk so that discussions can continue with the upland property owner to design a boardwalk which protects their riparian rights, and benefits their business and the community of Salt Spring Island. Letter to be reviewed and approved by the Ganges Harbour Walk Project Steering Committee.

CARRIED

6.2 Ganges Harbour Walk Budget Update (November 2018)

Budget was reviewed.

Committee member Williams commented that remaining funds should be directed towards the rejuvenation of Peck's Cove park as intended in original request for gas tax funding.

7. Next Meeting-

Should referral extension not be granted the committee will reconvene to expedite letter to the Ministry.

8. Adjournment

MOVED by P. Grove, **SECONDED** by C. Acheson,
That the meeting be adjourned at 12:03 pm.

CARRIED

CHAIR

SENIOR MANAGER