

EDC Meeting May 27/13 – Panorama Rec Centre – 9:00 am

In Attendance: Michael Hoebel – Chair, Brian Crumblehulme, Dave Howe, Brian Dearden, John Simpson, Larry Peck, Arnie Bell, Wendy Gardner, Derek Masselink,

Regrets: Ed Andrusiak

Director's Update:

- Dave updated us about funding. He spoke about Gas Tax Funds and what has been allocated so far out of the \$400,000 total. As follows:

ETGI - \$120,000 over 2 years

Lyll Harbour Water - \$125,000

Magic Lake Water - \$100,000

Other water systems are likely to need funds in near future (\$300,000 – 400,000)

A change in the management at CRD and a reorganization has created complications but may also open some doors. Bob Lapham who understands the financial piece is now in charge and understands that we need money allocated to us. We may have approx \$75,000 to work with. We are always looking for other funding sources.

Galiano Island Terms of Reference

– handout was distributed . Arnie said that much of this was modelled on info from Sustainableislands website. Missing is Resource Inventory, information for which is being gathered. Brian Crumblehulme suggested that under Point 2 (Process) communication with Islands Trust is included.

Wendy Gardner motioned that the EDC accept the Galiano Island Terms of Reference with Brian Dearden seconding. All in favour. Motion carried.

ETGI

- ETGI meeting May 15th, 2013 was very successful with 50 attendees representing all island teams as well as Trails BC, Trans Canada Trails, Parks Canada. All endorsed the initiative. Henny Schnare will get the video & images to Wendy for posting on the website. Danica Rice, the planner who has been hired for the ETGI will travel to each island. Michael suggested that we need to get 1st Nations involved somehow.

Apparently Parks Canada is working on establishing this relationship. There has been public consultation about ETGI on all islands except Saturna. Larry will follow up with Ed Andrusiak about planning a meeting for Saturna.

Dave said that EDC was created to address year round economy and it needs to be balanced between tourism and local transit. Originally ETGI fell under transportation and has now landed under parks and so seems to be looked at more as tourism by CRD staff. Michael said it involves many aspects for residents and visitors.

Transportation

A proposal to establish an SGI Transportation Commission that came out of the Transit meeting held on March 26/13 was handed out. Larry asked how this would affect private enterprise. Would the short term initiatives that are underway get lost in the long term planning? Discussion followed.

Dave said that the CRD is trying to decrease the number of commissions not increase them. Salt Spring began with a private enterprise and we could do something similar. There is a private company on Pender owned by Marty Swan, which is interested in inter island transit. Ina will send contact info for Marty to all. Dave had already put forward a motion to the CRD board to have a transit study done.

Wendy motioned to endorse and support a transit study involving transit and CRD as asked for by Dave. Seconded by Brian. All in favour. Carried.

Question came up – should this be another commission or can we do this by committee? Given the discussion the proposal was pulled and Larry Peck will form a sub-committee for transportation.

Broadband

- Not much progress. There is a good relationship developing with Beacon Wireless and there may be an agreement between them and Sam Boyte to put their equipment at Hope Bay to shoot signal to Mayne Island and possibly Galiano.

Resource Inventory

- Arnie said that through the creation of a Galiano website for artists & venues, a marketing and promotions working group was formed to find out what resources exist on Galiano in order to create a database. Mayne Island has two sub committees, one working on chronological data to 1850 and the other on existing resources through the Trincomali Arts Council. Islands Trust is also a good resource. John Simpson gave an update on what is happening on Saturna. Ina to email all contact info for the student who has been hired for the summer, Jake Skinner.

Education

Derek spoke about the Telanet Centre for Innovation and Peace at Hope Bay. Created to provide open space for meetings and provide a place to come together and work on bringing activity to the island as well as for workshops and learning. Example is the upcoming Pender Boat festival. This will in turn try to drive traffic to Mayne Island Music Festival and the Saturna Island Lamb BBQ.

Galiano has a similar space that is beginning to work effectively, a multi purpose space where ideas can be exchanged.

Larry suggested that all islands have a unique identity. Saturna is developing a marine program and just hosted their Moby Doll symposium which attracted 220 people and made connections with Uvic & Camosun. They plan to make monthly presentations during the summer and are in a good position to find major funding. Community was 100% in support.

Social Finance

- Wendy distributed posters about the Stephen Whipp workshop on Impact Investing. All were encouraged to promote it.

Communications

- SustainableIslands website is up. There will be some revisions made. We need to drive people to the site via social media as our print ads are not attracting anyone. We also need internal communication. Dave motioned that we use BaseCamp as our communications platform and that the CRD endorse and fund it. Seconded by Brian Dearden. All in favour. Passed. Derek will be the support person for BaseCamp.

Proposed additional Initiatives

- Agriculture & Food – Dave said that the Islands Trust asked if we would support an Ag Plan for Pender but he suggested it should be a regional plan. Dave will pursue getting Gas Tax Funds for this. A motion was presented by Dave to adopt Agriculture & Food Security as another priority initiative of the EDC. Seconded by Larry Peck. All in favour. Carried.

Seniors- there was a discussion around the topic of seniors needs. Brian Dearden wondered if this was really a topic for the EDC and Dave wondered what would be the benefits of raising this to the commission level. Perhaps this is a topic to be discussed within one of the other initiatives. No motion was put forward.

Strategic Plan

Derek will provide us with a scope of plan.

It was decided to hold quarterly meetings at Panorama Rec centre. Next meeting July 15th at 9:00am to be followed by meeting on October 14th.

Meeting adjourned. At 12:00 pm