

**SOUTHERN GULF ISLANDS ELECTORAL AREA  
COMMUNITY ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, December 09, 2019 at 10:00am**

**VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE**

**#31-4605 Bedwell Harbour Rd,**

**Pender Island, BC**

**SGI CESC Commissioners:** Deb Goldman, Chair (Mayne) Ian Elliott, (Pender) Mike Hoebel (Galiano), Priscilla Zimmerman (Saturna), David Howe (SGI Director), Justine Starke (CRD Staff) Community Liaisons: Emma Davis (Galiano), Jean-Daniel Cusin (Mayne), Katie Dentry (Saturna), Melody Pender - Recorder

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1. Meeting started 10:03am
2. Approval of the Agenda – **MOTION:** Mike moved, Ian seconded. **CARRIED**
3. Adoption of the Minutes October 31, 2019 – **MOTION:** Mike moved adoption, Dave seconded. **CARRIED**
4. Financial Report YTD 2019 Ian spoke to budget – approximate surplus of \$5,000 for 2019. Ian suggested the creation of a reserve account and this money be retained for commission operation in the future. Operating reserve to receive any surplus from 2019.  
**MOTION:** The SGI CESC recommend the creation of a reserve account and any surplus from their funds be moved into that account for future operational use.  
Moved by Ian Elliott  
Seconded by Dave Howe **CARRIED**
5. Strategic Plan Document update: plan to bring a draft plan of the strategic plan with the action of who is going to implement, and cost associated with it. Refined plan for review next meeting. Each initiative will have its own operating plan that will get into more detail.  
**ACTION:** Ian will have the preliminary review ready for Deb’s review by year end.
6. SGI Liaison Offices
  - Budget 2020 – Justine requests the CESC to contribute to Mayne and Saturna office rent
  - Justine sent a spreadsheet for Island office rentals
    - Request for the CESC to consider contributing as the CRC is not able to sign an annual lease as they do not have secure funding and will be going month to month which introduces a level of risk to the CRD.
    - Ian and Mike requests time to discuss with the commissioners and look at the operating plan when we look at our initiatives. We will come back to Justine at next meeting
    - The commissioners recognize the importance of these offices to the community and would like to see them sustained.  
**ACTION:** set up meeting time to discuss as a commission in the New Year.

## 7. Project Updates:

- Transportation
  - Draft TOR was circulated after last meeting. Contractor, Andrea Mills has been hired to update the Bus Needs Assessment report from 2016.
  - SGITP received a grant and are looking at a Pilot project – water based, land based and trail network. There is a potential support for the busses from SGITP through advertising on the bus  
Dave reminded everyone that if this turns into a service it will require a referendum to raise SGI's taxes. Mike and Deb requested that Justine still pursue this and continue to gather the information and decide which way to take it as we go along. They would like some studies and to prepare a business case for review. Justine commented that this type of integrated system is very customized and complicated and requires a lot of work to move it forward. The CESC is asking Justine to continue to move forward with the commissions support of the ToR.
- Housing
  - SGI Housing Strategy

### **MOTION:**

**THAT the Southern Gulf Islands Community Economic Sustainability Commission request the Electoral Areas Committee direct CRD staff to report back on options for pursuing a housing strategy in the Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area.**

Moved by Ian Elliot

Seconded by Dave Howe

**CARRIED**

- Discussed ideas that the CRD could support the Island's housing societies. Justine brought out other ideas as well that were discussed. Justine will put this into a Staff report including costs associated.

## 8. Connectivity Update

- Connectivity plan and community Engagement updates
  - 3 meetings on three islands, the process is underway and general feedback is positive
- CRTC Broadband investment fund – new stream of funding has been introduced. Justine would like to advance an expression of interest with an Internet Service Provider to partner with the CRD for this funding. Mike would like to know who they are considering and how they would be approached. It was requested that Justine send an email with a bit more info and also when the closing date of the CRTC fund is.

## 9. CRC/CESC contract

- Justine requested more direction from the commission on what deliverables for the standing contract for services for the Community Resource Centre. Ian would suggest aligning it with the CESC initiatives and create small silos of deliverables

within the contract. We can get a list of deliverables and use the standard contract for services template. They should also include what the CRC already provides that the CESC can further support.

10. Island Economic reports - to be circulated after the meeting.

- Mayne – MI DTF a report will be presented to the CESC soon. Jean Daniel will send the link for commissioners to read more. Much thanks to the CESC for their financial support.

11. Rural Islands Economic Forum update – Mike Hoebel

- Over 100 attendees
- Very concentrated conference, lots of content and presentations in short period of time
- Attendee evaluations were very positive and good feedback, overwhelmed with too much planned and would like to have more networking opportunity.
- Content and presentations will be added to the website
- Steering committee is meeting to continue the momentum and keeping the connections alive. There is talk of another Forum in the next year.

12. New Business - nothing

13. Next meeting – TBD – 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week of January. Melody to set up a separate meeting to discuss the Strategic Plan.