

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

Commission Meeting Minutes

**Tuesday, Sept 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 1:00pm**

**Held by Zoom Video Conference**

**SGI CESC Commissioners:** David Howe (Director), Deb Goldman (Mayne) Ian Elliott, Chair (Pender) Mike Hoebel (Galiano), Paul Brent (Saturna), Justine Starke (CRD Staff) Melody Pender – Recorder

Guests: Ed Andrusiak, Andrea Mills; SGI Liaison: Emma Davis, Katie Dentry

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1. Election of New Chair

- Ian Elliott elected as the new chair.

2. Approval of the Agenda

**MOVED** by Commissioner Brent **SECONDED** by Commissioner Hoebel that the agenda be approved as presented. **CARRIED**

3. Approval of Minutes July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020

- Island food security report status update – Ed Andrusiak and Andrea Mills
- Andrea gave a summary that the report focused on changing regulations and increasing capacity.
- What is needed now is to determine next steps. What capacity does the group have and what tools and funds are available to move the ideas forward.
- The motivation for looking at the report was to determine what actions could be taken as soon as possible around food security (i.e. researching how insecure or secure our food is).
- Possible next steps are included on page two of the report. Steps that might be best to complete first are programs and focus groups, as they could create action faster. Another option would be to encourage year-round markets, road side stands, and new programs that use the Galiano food program model. There are many groups working on food security in the SGIs.
- A suggestion was made to look at VanCity as an opportunity for funding.
- We need an analysis of the financial side of the report to determine how much budget is needed and where the budget will come from.
- An idea for next steps is for the working group to go through the recommendations in the report, and assign a budget to each. These will then be brought to the next meeting as potentially actionable items.

**MOVED** by Commissioner Goldman, **SECONDED** by Director Howe to approve the minutes of July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 as presented. **CARRIED**

4. **Treasurer** Report – Ian Elliott

- Reviewed budget for 2020. The mid-year snapshot budget was reviewed.

- The 2021 draft budget was reviewed. Originally, the 2021 budget was based on the 2020 budget, but with a 1.5% increase for cost of living considerations.
- There is now a provisional increase in the budget for 2021 due to various reasons which include: budgeting for an external fund development service, reallocation to expand partnerships with several organizations, continuing contractual arrangements to provide administrative support to the CESC, continuing contributions to the Gulf Islands Tourism Partnership, and continuing the partnership with the Southern Gulf Islands Community Resource Centre.
- There is follow up that needs to be done in terms of the existing contract with the Southern Gulf Islands Community Resource Centre. This topic will be revisited in the fall.

**MOVED** by Director Howe, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Hoebel to accept the budget in principle as received. **CARRIED**

5. Director's Report

- No report given.

6. Island Economic Reports

- Island Economic Reports were distributed.
- Melody commented that Islands Savings is closing the Pender Island Branch.

7. Old Business

- The final report for Community Support & Sector Consultation was distributed.
- The report was received and appreciated, and will be available online on the CESC website here (<https://www.sustainableislands.ca/crd-crc-covid-19-recovery>)
- What can we take from the report to follow through this winter? How can we keep the work going? What will the role of the CESC be?
- Justine will check back with her team to determine what is already being done, and this item will be rolled over to the next meeting.

8. New Business

- There is a request for the CESC to provide a letter of support for a grant that the Rural Islands Economic Partnership is applying for.
- A discussion on the Islands Trust Council ensued and this should be added to the agenda for October, regarding policy wording changes.

**MOVED** by Director Howe, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Goldman to approve writing a letter of support. **CARRIED**

- Social Finance Initiative project – Mike Hoebel
- A proposal was brought forward based on the idea of local capital investing in small businesses and social enterprises on the islands.
- The proposal included phase 1 and phase 2 of the project. The purpose of phase 1 would be to complete research to understand current assumptions. These assumptions broadly include: Are there really things that need support on the islands? Is there local capital potentially interested in contributing to support these community initiatives and enterprises?
- The purpose of phase 2 would be to research financial community investment type vehicles that are place based, and determine what the advantages and disadvantages of each model are. An implementation plan would be created

pending this research.

- Melody, Justine, Mike, and Ian will communicate to discuss the next action steps.

**MOVED** by Commissioner Hoebel, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Brent that the CESC apply to the community works fund or other funding source for \$35,000 to investigate the feasibility of, and develop an implementation plan for, a social finance investment program for the Southern Gulf Islands. **CARRIED**

9. Next regular meeting – proposed Tuesday, Oct 20th, 2020 at 1pm.

Meeting adjourned at 3:08 pm

Total time 2 hours 8 minutes