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**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the  
Southern Gulf Islands Community Economic Sustainability Commission  
Held November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 3:00pm by Zoom Video Conference**

**Present:**       **SGI CESC Commissioners:** David Howe (Director), Mike Hoebel, Vice Chair (Galiano), Paul Brent, Treasurer (Saturna), Deb Goldman (Mayne),  
**Staff:** Don Elliott, Senior Manager, Housing; Justine Starke, Manager, SGI Service Delivery; Melody Pender – Recorder; SGI Liaisons: Emma Davis (Galiano), Katie Dentry (Saturna), Kat Ferneyhough (Mayne)  
**Guests:** Ed Andrusiak, Allister Hain, Neil Smith

**Regrets:** Ian Elliott, Chair (Pender)

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1. Territorial Acknowledgement/Call Meeting to Order  
Commissioner Hoebel provided the territorial acknowledgement and called the meeting to order at 3:03pm
2. Approval of the Agenda  
Addition of item 11.2 under new business to add commissioner recommendations. The Food and Ag update and SGI Housing Strategy items #6 and #8 we requested to be moved up in the agenda. The agenda was adopted as amended by consensus
3. Approval of Minutes from October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
The minutes of October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021 were adopted as circulated by consensus.
4. Financial Report – Paul Brent  
2022 Budget allocations and year to date ending October 31, 2021 CESC budget were reviewed by Commissioner Brent. The 2021 budget report is much the same as last month and the 2022 Budget allocations previously distributed are relatively the same as last year.  
  
Moved by Commissioner Brent and Seconded by Commissioner Goldman that the 2022 Budget allocations and year to date ending October 31, 2021 be adopted. **CARRIED**
5. Food and Ag Update – Ed Andrusiak  
Rebecca Ewing, Erika Preece and Ed are working on the LAFAP and to have the report ready for review by the CESC, FRA member and other stakeholders by mid December.
6. SGI Housing Strategy – Justine Starke and Don Elliott  
The SGI Housing Strategy was previously distributed for review. Don and Justine briefly went through the report.
  - Justine went over the principles, goals, objectives and strategic actions.
  - This document is a draft and will still require input from others including Islands Trust and key stakeholders.
  - Don mentioned that the current approaches to regional housing do not address the needs of rural areas like the Southern Gulf Islands.
  - Don discussed how to actively move this strategy forward. There is data and information that require updating and hoping to have it updated by the end of 2021. He also went over the next steps.



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- The Commissioners were pleased with the report and felt it has addressed many of the concerns of the island housing societies and the communities. One item that was missing was the loss of rental housing stock in the last couple of years.
7. Island Updates – the Commissioner updates were previously distributed and there were no questions.
  8. SGI Liaisons Update – Justine Starke/Liaisons
    - The transportation survey closed on Monday and some of the islanders have indicated they did not get the mailout in time to respond. There will be further engagement in the new year. Justine mentioned the panel discussion videos that have been uploaded to Bang the Table.
  9. Connected Coast Discussion
    - Commissioner Goldman wanted to ensure that the two islands without planned landing sites would get required infrastructure while the Connected Coast initiative is being rolled out.
    - Confirmation was obtained that Connected Coast has applied for funding to bring last mile and additional landing sites to the remaining islands. No announcement has come yet as final decisions have not yet been made.
    - The CESC has completed a connectivity road map and an infrastructure study for the SGI Electoral Area. This will support funding applications and decisions by other levels of government and third party internet service providers. While decisions are still pending, islanders can write to their MP's and MLA's that better internet is required.
  10. Old Business
  11. New Business
    - Article topic for January 2022 for Island Papers  
Commissioner Goldman will craft the article before December 15<sup>th</sup>.
    - Commissioner recommendations – Four applications were received and reviewed for the Pender Island vacancy.
    - Motion to recommend that the SGI Electoral Area Director recommend Richard Piskor for the Pender Island Commissioner vacancy was passed by consent.
    - Motion to recommend that the SGI Electoral Area Director recommend Deborah Goldman be reappointed for Mayne Island was passed by consent.
  12. Next regular meeting will be December 14<sup>th</sup> at 1pm.