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

Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at 1:00pm

Held by Zoom Video Conference

MINUTES

SGI CESC Commissioners: Paul Brent, Director, Chair (Saturna), Mike Hoebel, Vice Chair (Galiano), Richard Piskor, Treasurer (Pender), Deb Goldman (Mayne), Rob Fenton (Pender)

Staff: Justine Starke – Manager, SGI Service Delivery; Melody Pender – Recorder/Pender Liaison; SGI Liaison: Emma Davis (Galiano)

Guests: Ed Andrusiak and Janey Rowland, Southern Gulf Islands Community Resource Centre Society

Regrets: SGI Liaisons: Katie Dentry (Saturna), Kat Ferneyhough (Mayne)

1. Territorial Acknowledgement/Call Meeting to Order

Chair Brent provided the territorial acknowledgement and called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.

2. Approval of the Agenda

The following amendment was made to the Agenda under **4. Financial Report:** Commissioner Piskor will provide a short Financial update.

MOVED by Commissioner Piskor, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Hoebel to accept the Agenda as amended.

CARRIED

3. Approval of Minutes from June 27, 2023.

MOVED by Commissioner Goldman, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Hoebel to accept the minutes of June 27, 2023 as presented.

CARRIED

4. Financial Report – Richard Piskor

Commissioner Piskor provided a summary of finances to date. The Financial Report was received for information by the Commission.

5. SGI Liaisons Update – Justine Starke, Liaisons

Justine Starke – Urban Matters has been awarded a contract to complete the Rural Housing Program feasibility study to inform the CRD's board report at the end of this year. The CRD is also partnering with Islands Trust on a Rural Housing Accelerator application that will fund a rural housing pilot project if the application is successful. A consultant has been hired to hold meetings to conduct a Community Issues Assessment of Magic Lake Estates governance on North Pender Island.

Emma Davis (Galiano) – The Galiano Club will be applying for Community Works funding to renovate the old fire hall on Galiano into a new space for the food bank. Galiano is not currently represented on the SGITPS board so residents are wondering how to voice their concerns at a local level. There is a new restaurant opening this weekend. Emma is



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liaising with local non-profits to investigate funding options for a community bus.

Richard Piskor (Pender) – The Pender Island Fall Fair was a great success and was well-attended following a three-year hiatus due to the pandemic.

6. Housing NOW Final Report and Phase III Statement of Work – Southern Gulf Islands Community Resource Centre

The Commission received the Housing NOW Final Report and the Phase III Statement of Work. Seven successful housing matches have been made. It is challenging to meet the needs of all applicants and hosts, but as the database grows more options will be available to suit a broader range of budgets and circumstances.

Phase III of the project would address the data storage compliance requirements necessary to expand the functionality of the housing database and perform character reference checks of applicants and hosts.

MOVED by Commissioner Fenton, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Hoebel that the Housing NOW Phase III Statement of Work be approved and the requested \$10,000 funding be allocated to support the project.

CARRIED

7. Update on affordable housing – Rob Fenton

Commissioner Fenton is continuing to research trailers/trailer parks as an affordable housing solution on the SGIs. Utilities and scarce resources are a major issue, as is finding a middle ground between land preservation and housing affordability groups on the islands.

8. Old Business – None discussed.

9. New Business – None discussed.

10. Next proposed regular meeting September 19th, 2023

Date change: September 26th, 2023 meeting date approved by consensus.

11. Meeting Adjournment

MOVED by Commissioner Piskor, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Hoebel that the meeting be adjourned at 2:33pm.

CARRIED