



DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

Steering Committee
Tuesday, October 8th, 2013

Colwood Municipal Hall

Present: Ken Morgan, Jason Nault, Judy Nault, Cindy Moyer, Joe Richardson, Beth Mitchell, Yvo Van der Kamp, Gayle Johnston, Phil Lambert, Nancy Wilkins, Iain Bourhill, Jody Watson, Natalie Bandringa

Guest: Ray Parks, Pacific Landings Trustee

DECISIONS				
1	Explore potential links to 2014 events with Cindy (Coast Collective) and Parks Canada			
Next Meeting: TBA 2014 (1/4'ly meeting schedule)				
ACTIONS			ACTION BY	DUE
1	Check with CRD water samplers re: Colwood creek site and July water temperature and levels, report back to ELSI		Kitty	ASAP
2	ELSI to consider hosting 1-2 Speakers Series in 2014 ideas: First Nations in conjunction with mural and interpretive sign, Mr. James, WW1 & 2		Kitty	TBA
3	Colwood working with both the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations regarding disturbance due to construction of pump house (2003)		Iain	ASAP
4	Dune Restoration: - work with Camoson, Colwood Parks and ELSI volunteers to plan planting event Spring or Fall 2014		Kitty & Dave Blundon	Feb 2014
5	Draft public consultation for Water Quality Objectives		Kitty & Jody	Fall
6	Forward information about Darlene Gait's painting to staff at Blue Heron House at RRU (via Nancy Wilkins' contact)		Kitty	Fall
7	Dogs on Leash Outreach: send draft of flyer to Colwood (M. Baxter & I. Bourhill) for their consideration: > suggested ideas: stickers on garbage cans at lagoon, handouts, webpage > Colwood consider off-leash dog area signs on current sign posts on peninsula pointing people to the defined area west of pump house > Re-engage Citizen Canine, ask to put new flyer on their website		Kitty & Colwood	Colwood October 2013 budget discussion for 2014 action

8	Send out video regarding Metro Van's technique for Scotch broom control	Kitty	Fall
9	Colwood Parks: consider 2014 action and budget for Scotch broom removal within Selleck Creek park	Colwood Parks	Oct 2013
10	Send out labyrinth proposal at Coast Collective to ELSI	Kitty	Oct 2013
11	Continue discussing how to find consultant to bring together all lagoon water quality data, inputs, function/flushing of lagoon to determine how to improve water quality	Kitty	When funds are available
12	Request presentation to ELSI from new site owners to discuss potential changes to the various development proposals	Kitty	Next meeting

INFORMATION

Approval of Agenda

- approved

1. Pacific Landing (formerly Essencia)

Ray Parks, former CEO of the Provincial Capital Commission, current trustee with the Pacific Landing Trust:

- no major changes to original Essencia development proposal
- have not spoken with Colwood yet, but plan to soon, and hope to move forward with plans in 2014

2. Interpretive Signs and Mural

Colwood reported that discussions with both Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations both continue to go well. Esquimalt Nation developed a proposal for a ceremony to mark installation, now submitting to Songhees and Colwood for their input. Timeline and details to be announced.

3. First Nations House at RRU (former boat house)

Opening celebrations for Blue Heron House were successful. Staff has been hired to coordinate activities. It is hoped that Darlene Gait's painting created for the First Nations interpretive sign can be acquired for this building.

4. Colwood Development Updates

- **Ocean Grove** (under new ownership, formerly called Aquattro)
 Sea Cliff Development (new owners) spoke with Colwood recently about potential amendment to original site plan, nothing has been received by Colwood. Many of the previous owner's commitments carry forward to new owner, who have said they conducted "community consultation". Local residents present were not aware of any consultation and are concerned with a number of commitments the community and ELSI expects (i.e. sewer hook-up for specific properties, traffic calming along the Coburg Peninsula, Selleck Creek restoration, interpretive centre, Murray's Pond, commitments made to First Nations)
- **Pacific Landings**
 Colwood had no further updates

- **Royal Bay**

Currently in site preparation phase as outlined in Master Development Plan and working with the original timeline. Phase 1 – High school is planned to be opened Sept 2015, most likely with single family lots developed as road access is created.

5. DND House on Coburg Peninsula

This was recently demolished and removed. Colwood and DND are talking about the land and remediation options for this site.

6. Coburg Peninsula Memorial Bench Program Review

Currently, Colwood is not considering any new benches. They will work on a case by case basis as they receive requests for memorial benches. ELSI members suggested Colwood staff look into details of the bench program, as plaques were originally intended to remain for a 10 year period. Perhaps plaques could be renewed by original families, or replaced with new memorials.

7. MBS and Off-leash Area Signage and Handouts

Natalie drafted and received ELSI input on flyers that could also be used as stickers on existing garbage cans. ELSI recommends putting signage up directing dog walkers towards off leash area west of the pump station. Discussion followed regarding how to achieve this. Suggested that the proposal be forwarded to Michael Baxter for discussion at Parks Committee and consideration for including this item in 2014 budget request.

8. Broom Control around the Lagoon

Colwood Park on the foreshore of the lagoon at new Selleck Creek channel and wetland is now overrun with very large Scotch broom. ELSI volunteers cannot handle this site. Should Colwood consider using a method that Metro Vancouver is currently using: cutting the main stem and painting with herbicide? Natalie will send a link to a video showing this method. Colwood needs to look at all viable options and follow regulations.

9. Outreach Events, Materials and Website

- 2012 ELSI Annual Update was handed out and will soon be up on the website
- Upcoming new CRD website will continue to host the ELSI website and has updated the website look (keeping original ELSI logo with the addition of “proudly supported by CRD”), along with complementary new templates for outreach materials

2014 Outreach Events

- Speaker’s series to coincide with Fort Rodd Hill’s events planned to mark the anniversaries of WW 1 & 2. Speakers could include First Nations.
- Art proposal at Pacific Landings: ELSI reviewed the idea/proposal of a local artist to create a labyrinth to the southwest of Pendray House. MBS regulations suggest that it should be located outside of the MBS which extends behind Pendray House.
- Coburg Peninsula Driftwood Art Event: proposal and discussion led by Cindy Moyer. Proposing an event similar to one held in summer 2008, but on a smaller scale and limited to Coburg Peninsula. Holding a 2 day event would allow access to potential funding. Activities could include driftwood art creation, music, food trucks, celebration of First Nations and the importance of the MBS, lagoon, etc. Dates are flexible but not during “Rock the Shores” event.
- Dune Grass Planting: plugs at Camosun College are not healthy enough to plant (watered too much in summer); planting event could take place in Spring or Fall 2014; need to work with David Blundon at Camosun to plan this. Dune grass plugs at Bee Creek greenhouse are doing well.

10. CRD Harbours and Watersheds Program

- Natalie had been offered a new position at CRD, so will be leaving her role as ELSI Coordinator this month; position to be posted ASAP

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- Harbours Survey results: 740 responses; Esquimalt Lagoon section was handed out; this will give us a good idea of how the Esquimalt Lagoon and other harbours are used, what people's visions and concerns are for each area
 - Next Steps:
 1. Analyze results, create summary report
 2. Meeting with municipal staff to review results (Fall 2013)
 3. Host several community Open Houses in early 2014

- **Water Quality Objectives (WQOs) – sampling results, consultation and drafting**

CRD's IWMP continues to work with the provincial government to draft WQOs for the 5 harbour areas. The Harbour Survey and public consultation will provide information to be considered in development of WQOs.

Colwood Creek flow monitoring indicates that Colwood Creek is one of the healthier creeks being studied. Langford's weather station will give us data to align with flow data and will assist in developing discharge rating curves. Summer temperatures in Colwood Creek seem very high, station data does not align with data from years of Community Fish Monitoring. Natalie will check with CRD samplers.

11. 2014 Work Plan

ELSI will continue with regular outreach events, and hopes to work on/with:

- Colwood on dogs-on-leash issues within the MBS
- Camosun College on dune grass planting
- Cindy and Fort Rodd Hill (Matthew) on a potential summer celebration along the Coburg Peninsula
- CRD on providing input to development of WQOs for Esquimalt Lagoon

12. Partner Updates

RRU/Nancy:

- Group of students will be researching how Regional Districts in the area are dealing with invasive species. They will draft a report to the CRD's Roundtable on the Environment
- 2014 anniversaries: 75th for military college and 100th for Hatley Park
- roads and trails network is complete, in 2014 work will be done to install culverts for fish passing under Cottonwood Rd. This will also help with flooding issues

Jason: interested in the flow data that is being generated by CRD for Colwood Cr.

Gayle: concerned about the health of the lagoon with the current discoloration in patches and white foam; no report of a "turnover" thus far this fall. The two developments that may start up again in 2014 will have an impact on the lagoon. Jody has had discussions with sampling staff at CRD, we have lots of water quality data and reports, but need an external expert to bring together all the data to make some recommendations. Funding would need to be in place to move forward.

Joe: Continuing with the Community Fish Monitoring. Important to note that we have found cutthroat trout in Selleck Creek. Joe and Beth hosting outdoor kindergarten class there for fish trapping (2nd year)

Beth: Put notice up on ELSI website about ELEA

Meeting adjourned 4:45 pm
