



## DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

**Steering Committee**  
 Tuesday, April 08, 2014  
 Colwood Municipal Hall

**Present:** Beth Mitchell, Joe Richardson, Judy Nault, Jason Nault, Ivo van der Kamp, Alan Haldenby, Phil Lambert, Cindy Moyer, Jody Watson, Kitty Lloyd, Nancy Wilkin, Judith Cullington, Iain Bourhill

| DECISIONS                         |  |             |        |
|-----------------------------------|--|-------------|--------|
| 1                                 | ELSI will submit coordinated responses to Colwood's OCP review, as well as three proposed developments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Royal Bay</li> <li>Ocean Grove (Aquattro)</li> <li>Seafield Cottages</li> </ul> |             |        |
| 2                                 | ELSI will host an invasive species awareness event in conjunction with Parks Canada/Fort Rodd Hill   |             |        |
| 3                                 | ELSI will ask Ann Nightingale to give a bird talk during Basically Birds event at Coast Collective in August   |             |        |
| <b>Next Meeting: 10 June 2014</b> |  |             |        |
| ACTIONS                           |  | ACTION BY   | DUE    |
| 1                                 | Send out the Saanich InfoSheet about lesser celandine  | Kitty       | ASAP   |
| 2                                 | Send the broom pull poster to ELSI   | Kitty       | ASAP   |
| 3                                 | Ask Ft Rodd Hill if they would be willing to have a public event focused on invasive species management  | Kitty       | April  |
| 4                                 | Book the watershed model for outreach events on Canada Day and Basically Birds event   | Kitty       | April  |
| 5                                 | Interpretive Signs and Mural: discussion with Iain Bourhill on how to proceed  | Jody/Kitty  | Spring |
| 6                                 | Send Lesser Celandine information brochure to ELSI members   | Kitty       | ASAP   |
| 7                                 | Let Jody know what water quality parameters should be measured in Bee Cr.  | Judy        | Fall   |
| 8                                 | Send a photo of the motorized hang glider at the lagoon to Kitty, who will contact Courtney about this   | Beth, Kitty | ASAP   |

## INFORMATION

**Review of Action items from Feb 2014 meeting:**

Kitty summarized the dune grass meeting, held 14 February at the Coast Collective:

- ELSI will pay the costs for providing water to the dune grass plants, approximately \$40/year.
- Extra dune grass plants being propagated will be kept adjacent to the existing enclosure, since deer don't seem to eat it
- Project may continue for a few more years until there are enough plants propagated to plant out at Coburg Peninsula

Action Items from Feb Meeting:

- Dog off-leash area: Parks department is working on signage
- Scotch broom: Ivo hasn't heard back from Parks Dept, we should contact them directly via Gord Beauvillier
- Transportation Master Plan open house April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 3pm – 6pm at Colwood Municipal Hall

### **Interpretive signs and mural:**

- Iain: Colwood's focus is to get past the issues of spiritual work that needs to be done; has been working closely with staff at Esquimalt and Songhees Nations.
- Waiting to hear back from Songhees regarding the ceremony that Esquimalt Nation has approved, and Colwood is paying for. Iain is working with Ken Cossey at Songhees to get the chief's approval for the proposal that Esquimalt Nation put forward.
- Remains uncovered during sewer works were re-interred at Songhees village unilaterally.
- Colwood okay with ELSI moving forward with installation of the signs and mural. Iain is trying to honour the staff-to-staff communication; Mayor Carol Hamilton has consulted with the chiefs, and this is the approach Colwood has chosen to take. Doesn't want to compromise good relations, happy to wait for the right time, and be respectful of the issues.
- ACTION: Jody and Kitty will have a conversation with Iain about how to proceed to get this resolved.
- BC Hydro recently uncovered human remains at the lagoon, they and Colwood are well aware of the implications, and have a good relationship with provincial Archaeology Branch. D'Ann Owens at Millennia Research Ltd is the contractor that Hydro uses when archaeological remains are found; property owner is informed when developments are planned on potential archaeological sites; no formal policy but would like to have a better system enshrined in policy. The OCP revision underway now will have a new section addressing this concern. Jody pointed out that CRD contracts have it written in that contractor must follow all regulations; have to an archaeological impact assessment, so there is a process around that regulation. Colwood is talking about going above and beyond that – ie pre-emptively letting homeowners know when archaeology might be an issue on a site.
- Another idea being considered by Colwood: people have treasure troves of archaeological material in their basements – hoping to encourage people to repatriate these items, museum can act as repository.

### **2014 Colwood OCP review:**

Alan: Original OCP is available on the Colwood website

- Focus on Development Permit Areas and neighbourhood plans; need to redo area plans for Ocean Grove (Aquatro) area, and Royal Bay area in conjunction with new applications

### **Development Plans:**

#### **Royal Bay:**

- Amendment to OCP regarding this development will happen at same time as OCP review.

- Application has been coming in bits and pieces,
- Deadline for submission of main plan is April 14<sup>th</sup>; changes are being requested to current area plan, and redrafting of policy statements.
- Applying for an OCP amendment for the time being, followed by rezoning application
- Hoping to get amendment adopted as part of the OCP bylaw by end of June – but this is very tight time line for Colwood; 4<sup>th</sup> open house for Royal Bay planned for late April, prior to going in front of committee
- Colwood will forward proposed plan to ELSI as soon as it's available. ELSI's opportunity for input is to the Committee of the Whole meeting on May 6<sup>th</sup>;
- GWL developers have agreed to provide Colwood with funds to hire an external contractor for the review process, due to short timelines. Third and final report to committee due at the end of April; public open house last half of May – another opportunity for the public to see all the proposed changes and provide comment.
- Following public open house bylaw goes to council early June. OCP review amendments adopted as bylaw by end of Sept., hoping that will work in with the timing of the Royal Bay OCP amendments.
- Jeanette Elmore (Ekistics) would be keen to come to an ELSI meeting to discuss Royal Bay project. Kitty reported that she contacted the GWL representative Geoff Heu about coming to this meeting, but never received a reply from him

Beth – intent is to develop the side away from ocean; next phase is single family development (100 lots) around new high school; this can proceed without OCP amendments; OCP review covers all the remaining area both sides of Metchosin Rd.

**Seafield Cottages:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of proposed new zoning bylaw to occur at council meeting April 14<sup>th</sup>; public hearing on May 12<sup>th</sup>; with final reading immediately after.
- Proposing a phased development, starting with the north and east side of property first, once that's completed, will close existing Seafield Rd and construct new road that will run between the two rows of houses. Access will be directly off Heatherbell.
- Concern expressed about the wetland at the top of Seafield Rd, very marshy there, how will all that flow be managed?
- ACTION: ELSI will submit a coordinated response to Seafield proposal; May 12<sup>th</sup> is final opportunity for public input.

**Ocean Grove:**

- Colwood staff not expecting it to go through OCP amendment process until May 20<sup>th</sup> at the earliest; they have provided a draft of desired changes to zoning and OCP.
- Proposing to increase density by 30% to a total of 900 units; buildings may be up to 20 stories
- Do they need to go through the same process as previous developer? Information such as environmental review would stay the same; traffic counts may have to be revised with new density proposed;
- What about traffic calming on Ocean Blvd? Colwood will be reviewing all this over next few weeks;
- Two cul-de-sacs are proposed, not a circular road through the development as in earlier plan
- ACTION: ELSI will submit a coordinated response to Ocean Grove proposal; Ivo will keep ELSI up to date with reports etc.

**Pacific Landing:** nothing new

**Outreach events:**

- **Broom pull** May 3<sup>rd</sup> 10am – 12:30pm at the lagoon; poster to be distributed
- **Bird Presentation:** Ask Ann Nightingale to give a bird talk during the Basically Birds event at Coast Collective, August 6 – 24<sup>th</sup>; ELSI will be there Aug 9<sup>th</sup> with the watershed model and display

**Invasive species:**

- Suggestions to invite Rachelle MacElroy from Capital Region Invasive Species Council to discuss and tell people about invasive species, what to watch out for, how to remove them
- Jody: Lesser Celandine is now a big problem on Bowker Creek, spreads very fast; Saanich has developed an InfoSheet that we will send to ELSI
- Nancy - CRD Round Table on the Environment provided \$500 for students to work on invasive species at RRU; goal is to come up with governance model for invasive species in the region; biggest issue is disposal; students were all surprised at the social, environmental and economic impacts of invasives; report will be done by August, Nancy will share with ELSI; Japanese knotweed at RRU – being watched, very expensive to eradicate; there's a clump of the invasive species of knotweed in the Japanese garden, being kept in control by the trees surrounding it; thanks to Beth for doing a tour with the international students
- Milk thistle at Royal Bay – containment process in place; can see progress from the top of Grafton

ACTION: arrange to have a public event at Ft Rodd Hill regarding invasive species management

**Other Business:**

- Beth: A motorized hang glider spent many hours at the lagoon on Sunday, refuelled on the road, it was buzzing up and down the beach close to shoreline

ACTION: Beth to forward a photo to Kitty, who will let Courtney Albert know and ask what are the regulations there

- Lots of sand lance have been hatching along the beach. Beth brought a sample for us to view, lots of birds are feeding on them right now

**CRD Harbours and Watersheds Updates:**

- Jody: data are now in a format that can be summarized and displayed, hasn't had time to fully review;
- Water Quality Objectives – waiting for data to be interpreted by provincial staff, who have been redirected to work on LNG issues in northern BC; limited resources so we just have to wait

**Partner Updates:**

**RRU-** Nancy: Vice President Cindy McLeod is leaving at the end of April, Pedro Marquez is acting VP; carbon emissions are down 60 tonnes from last year; now at 20% reduction; carbon offset funds will now be available to do more (\$25/tonne for emissions). Policy shift to allow public institutions to apply for these funds to use for further reducing emissions (formerly only the business sector could use those funds)

**VNHS** – Phil: Natural History Society and Rocky Pt Observatory are co-hosting Nature BC conference May 1 – 4<sup>th</sup> at Harbour Towers, 30 field trips are planned, lots of great speakers coming, can register for one day or whole event

**ELEA** - Joe: Broom pull on May 3; Thursday Beth and Joe are working with Lisa Lockerby and Nature Kindergarden kids, putting the fish traps into Bee Cr and along service road to RRU; they did this last year too, kids loved it; Judy's restoration group will also be there on Thursday

**City of Colwood -:** Judith:

- New CAO James Moller, he will come to the next ELSI meeting;
- Solar Colwood hot water tank grants are now on offer throughout the CRD; only 100 grants left;
- Colwood got approval to investigate tertiary small footprint sewage treatment plant under the Park & Ride at Juan de Fuca; would include heat recovery, part of district energy route downtown, use wastewater for irrigation; recharge the groundwater; working with Patrick Lucey of Aquatex; Colwood Cr is getting increasingly dry, possibly use wastewater to recharge Colwood Cr, or provide water to golf course; Jody is concerned about nutrients, there are now new guidelines for phosphorus in creeks; newsletter being developed; April 30<sup>th</sup> open house to discuss this project, 5-8pm drop in;
- Parks survey underway at the moment, go online to see it; suggest filling it in for Coburg Peninsula;
- “Selfies in Colwood” contest, winner gets an iPad, details online

**Coast Collective:** Cindy: “Basically Birds” event during August; Hometown Hero award application submitted for Judy Nault for her work on Bee Creek; restoration project has been underway for 10 years now; ELSI and Colwood provided support letters

**Bee Creek Restoration:** Judy: wondering about stocking Bee Creek with fish; request for water quality testing for Bee Creek; has there been any water sampling done on Bee Cr, eg for turbidity? Jody will ask whether CRD does any sampling there;

ACTION: let Jody know by fall what parameters Judy wants to have sampled

**Meeting adjourned:** 4:30pm