



DECISIONS AND ACTIONS

Steering Committee
 Tuesday, February 14, 2017
 Colwood Municipal Hall

Present: Emily Rudderham, Jacklyn Barrs, Michelle Holmes, Roberto Molfi, Ivo van der Kamp, Ken Morgan (by phone), Gayle Johnston, Judith Cullington, Jody Watson, Jason Nault Judy Nault, Phil Lambert, Beth Mitchell, Kitty Lloyd

Guest: Ross Myles, Public Works Manager

DECISIONS				
1	ELSI will provide input to roadside maintenance regime at Coburg Peninsula			
Next Meeting:				
ACTIONS			ACTION BY	DUE
1	Send updated Royal Bay environmental development permit when ready	Ivo	When available	
2	Request that signage at the lagoon be added to Parks & Recreation committee agenda	Jason	ASAP	
3	Scope out the opportunities for ELSI sponsoring a tour of lagoon with experts and OCP review committee/Colwood councillors	Jason, Ivo, Kitty and Jody	Spring	
4	Organize an event with Fort Rodd Hill to celebrate the MBS	Kitty, Beth, Michelle	Spring	
5	Contact CWS in Delta to see if MBS events are planned for our area	Ken	ASAP	
6	Meet Ross Myles at the lagoon bridge at to discuss roadside maintenance	All	Feb. 17	
7	Get comments to Kitty about OCP letter	All	Feb 17	

INFORMATION

Review of action items from last meeting:

- Colwood meeting to discuss waterfront activities at lagoon in the summer planned for March, Kitty will be invited
- 2005 report by RRU students on groundwater quality assessment in lagoon watershed is at CRD, data is available in electronic format
- Response from Craig Barlow, environmental consultant for Ocean Grove, re Selleck Creek:

“... the developer is currently in discussions with the City to determine how the project will proceed with respect to the construction of the remainder of the enhancement works and

associated riparian revegetation. Until an agreement is reached, it may be premature to attend your meeting as I cannot provide any further information other than referring back to the original channel design. I will consult further with the developer regarding attending your meeting.”

- Laura Rechwan is the new director of Coast Collective Art Collective, replacing Cindy Moyer

Development Updates:

Royal Bay:

- Rezoning application went through committee last week, going to council tonight
- If accepted tonight, will draft bylaws for next meeting this month to have 1st and 2nd readings
- Working on issuing a preliminary layout for Latoria Phase 2, 125 lots including an attached townhouse site; once that is issued, lots of work to service lots and build roads
- Started a pilot project tree planting on sloped area parallel to Copper Rd. The draft development agreement states that these slopes are to be revegetated at a certain tree density, pilot is to determine spacing etc. They will see how many trees can be planted on these slopes. 1,500 trees are now planted, seeing how many will last over 1 year, then plant more following that

Ocean Grove:

- Waiting for plans to be submitted
- Q: Any chance of getting an emergency egress through there before developer applies for plans?
 - Plan is to eventually connect with Seafield and onto Goldfinch, will start by creating single family lots off Goldfinch, each portion of Ocean Grove will have its own access. So locals will have access through OG, once the internal road is connected, but not right away

Pacific Landing:

- Application for parking variance has gone through PLUC twice, now going to council
- Construction of Phase 1 is underway

Brooks School (formerly called Dwight School):

- Ongoing discussion regarding the environmental aspects of the site, working on developing a reasonable plan that retains the riparian area; Aqua-Tex is doing the environmental work

OCP committee:

- Meeting this week, Feb 16, going to council Monday Feb 27
- Consultant will be reporting to council on public consultation done over past few months
- Any change in OCP with news about RRU/DND lands?
 - No, this has never been part of the OCP as it's not land that is considered in Colwood municipality
- ELSI letter will be submitted with the agenda package for that meeting

Discussion: Event planning for Canada 150, with Parks Canada at Fort Rodd Hill – Michelle Holmes, Site and Visitor Experience Manager, FRH

- Good opportunity to celebrate Canada 150 and 100th anniversary of establishment of MBS convention act

- Michelle: Parks and National Historic Sites across Canada have free entry this year
- 1,300 people visited over the weekend (Family Day long weekend) – this is a huge increase over the usual attendance for that weekend
- Although the site is open year round, staffing is seasonal
- There are many events planned for the year, next one is commemoration of 100 years after Vimy Ridge on April 8th 6 – 9pm, this is being recognized all around the world at same time
- Lots of staff changeover recently, Michelle is the new site manager, sees it as an exciting opportunity to work with community
- Discussion around timing of a joint event with ELSI, don't want to plan for same date as other major regional events
- Let's tie in with bird watching, emphasize that aspect, so don't hold the event too late in the season
- Ken – lagoon is not a major area for shore birds, focus on whatever birds are abundant at the time
- CWS planning anything specific?
 - Ken does not know at this point
- International Migratory Bird Day?
 - May 13, there's an annual event at Elk/Beaver Lake
- Ann Nightingale is willing to give a walk at the lagoon at any time
- Beth offered to work with Kitty and Michelle to organize this event

ACTION: Come up with some dates, get input from Courtney and Sandra/City of Colwood

- Ken will ask Courtney whether that section of EC is planning anything
- Other events: There's a talk at Bateman Centre April 4, by Ann Nightingale
- The boat tour of Victoria Harbour and Esquimalt Lagoon MBSs on Feb 19 is full with a wait list; aim is to raise awareness of the MBS and abundant wildlife on our front door; part of the Urban Sanctuary project with other regional partners

Public Works plans for improving the road shoulder along Coburg Peninsula:

Ross Myles, Public Works manager (rmyles@colwood.ca)

- Planning road improvements at peninsula, fixing potholes, working on the north shoulder
- Want to improve pedestrian walkway, may involve removing some of grass along the shoulder and adding some screenings, to make it safer
- Need to keep water running off the road and make the roadside more pedestrian-friendly
- would like ELSI input for what to do along some of the peninsula
- Parking area at the bridge is challenging, section beyond that is basically straight line
- Ross' suggestion - 3m maximum from white line on the road,
- They have a mandate to maintain the road, north side of the road has not been maintained in about 10 years, opposite side is graded 3 times/year
- How much habitat will be lost?
 - A lot of it can be made 3m wide with only losing some grass and a few Nootka rose,
 - Make it more pedestrian friendly, encourage people to walk there rather than through the marsh habitat nearer the lagoon
 - This area has some rare onion plants (*Allium amplexans*), Jody will see if we have GPS records of its location
- Did ELSI see plans for this last year?
 - Ross was told the plan was approved by phone call

Decisions and Actions – ELSI Steering Committee
Tuesday, February 14, 2017

Page 4

- Starting the work tomorrow, budget is in place to get this work done soon, about a month's worth of work
- Let's have a site visit, Friday at 10:30am

ACTION: Meet at the lagoon by the bridge at 10:30am Friday Feb. 17

Discussion/update: Royal Roads Group – Judith Cullington

- Not a formal group, just a group of people who care about this land (DND land at RRU being transferred to First Nations)
- Want to give the community a voice, we may not be listened to, but if we don't say something no one else will; Colwood cannot play this role as an advocate for the community, they are bystanders in the process
- Negotiation going on between federal agencies and FN; Colwood is on the sidelines, and can't discuss what goes on at the meetings
- Unknown: format, treaty land or fee simple, will Beecher Bay nation be involved, timing
- Leaves community in an awkward spot, not knowing what the situation is
- FN will be our new neighbours, we want to be good welcoming neighbours
- Pull together existing scientific info, there's lots out there, may be pieces of info that ELSI group knows about
- Pull together how the community feels about the land, present it to the negotiating team so at least the community voice is heard
- 2 different leases on RRU lands: one includes all buildings that are part of the campus; other is the forested lands; DND holds the lease for all the land, gets renewed with RRU every ~5 years, campus land is part of the 80 (?) year lease
- Management of forest lands is done through DND in Ottawa
- Ken – until recently management of forest was through Forestry Canada: inventory, clearing the broom, etc is done under the agreement with Forestry CA; Environmental Science Advisory Committee – Tony Trofymo is chair of ESAC committee in charge of this
- Is there a map?
 - It was published in the Times Colonist when this first became public
- Beth has the 1997 commemorative integrity statement that recognizes the whole area as part of the historic site, including the forested lands; discussion about this, and what land is part of this integrity statement
- The community may want to have a look at Langford and Metchosin where lands that were significant to the community became part of a land swap with FNs; regional government went ahead and negotiated with local FN for a land swap, there were wins all around for those involved; FN has stake in new development and gets some revenue, Metchosin gets green space that stays green
- Maybe this is a model that Colwood could investigate
- Not the same situation as the land swap in Metchosin, this is federal land
- Federal agencies are not talking with the community, only the FNs, another unknown is timing, some treaty negotiations take years
- Key point is that discussion is occurring
- Judith: if anyone has sources of scientific studies on these lands that would be useful
- Michelle will see if there are some maps that are relevant
- Ken – mention the work of Forestry Canada, they have GIS files of all the inventories they've done over the years

Coordinator updates

- Draft letter to Colwood with ELSI input to OCP review was discussed
- Mention Interim Management Guidelines for Coburg Peninsula, remind council that Colwood has guidelines in place, these were adopted by the city in the past

ACTION: Get comments to Kitty by this Friday so it can go to council

CRD Harbour Program updates:

- The province is currently looking at the Water Quality Objectives document
- Ministry of Environment staff was gutted by events in northern BC
- Rosy is dedicated to next 2 months looking at Sooke and Core Area WQOs. We're at the point of having to do the 5 yr attainment monitoring
- End of annual budgeting process, Jody thinks she can get the habitat inventory of intertidal done this year, very high resolution imagery, with some ground truthing for verification
- 67km of shoreline to cover in the harbours
- Met with 2 companies who use drones
- Issues with drones in a bird sanctuary, contact Courtney Albert for permissions
- Michelle – working with drones at their site, working with DND and Transport CA to see about the permissions
- Updated watershed boundaries, incorporating stormwater drainage systems into natural boundaries; Bee Creek watershed boundary had a significant change because of that data

Partner updates:

Jason (Colwood council): Nikii Hoglund is the new Colwood Director of Engineering, recently from District of Sechelt, starting end of March; Parks committee – took a tour of new part of Meadows Park in Royal Bay, to be dedicated to Colwood when completed, stormwater management system, problem with Canada geese, went up island to get a hawk trainer who visits regularly, and this has been effective; no one liked the gabion walls, are building stone walls instead. Looks like it's being built as plans actually showed; Royal Bay very impressive in that regard

Beth – completed 5 in 30 water quality monitoring at Bee Creek, using sites CRD technician Dean Lacey showed them. Also monitored 2 sites outside the Pacific Landing gates, where bridge goes over road at entrance, capturing water flowing from RRU lands – tested turbidity to compare, turbidity higher above the construction site, but generally not bad

Judith – RRU update, working with SeaChange in Tod Creek, underwent a massive transformation on the weekend, levelled and added gravel and sand on top on the beach

Judy (Bee Creek): no big updates, Kitty came over today for a tour and look at the new trout spawning channel

Emily, Jacklyn – helped with the water sampling, will start on Selleck Cr 5 in 30 monitoring next week

Phil (VNHS) – talk tonight at UVic on human responses to climate change; botany night: new discoveries from northern BC, birders' night: birding an Attu Is.

Meeting adjourned: 4:30pm