

Denman Island Residents Association Public Meeting November 18, 2019

Present: Ron Shepherd, Doug Wright, Bob French, Frieda Werden, Chris Danks, Howard Stewart and 15 other members

Meeting called to order at 7:30 P.M.

Motion to approve the agenda - moved, seconded and all in favour - **Passed**

Motion to approve the minutes of September 9, 2019 General Meeting- moved, seconded and all in favour - **Passed**

Budget Presentations

1. Fire Department: John Ralston advised residents that the fire department has requested a budget from the CVRD for 2020 in the amount of \$129,700 which is slightly larger than 2019, with minor changes between some expense accounts. The one big increase (\$3,000) is due to adding more large water cisterns around the island to supplement water where it may be needed including at the firehall. He explained that the buildings, vehicles, insurance and some staff are another part of the CVRD budget, beyond their control.

John also distributed information regarding the prevention of chimney fires.

There was a motion to show DIRA support for the Fire Department 2020 CVRD operating grant. The motion was seconded and all voted in favour. **Passed**

2. Waste Management: Bob French presented the 2020 budget with 2019 comparison numbers. 2020 revenue is projected to be about \$95,000 and expenses are projected to be about the same. The revenue requested from the CVRD for 2020 is about \$76,000 which is an increase of \$5,600 from 2019.

The largest portion of the budget is for garbage pick-up which is about 31% and when the dump tipping fees are added that raises to 40%.

Large item pick-up has been popular and will be offered again in the new year.

A wage increase for employees has been approved and accounts for about 70% of the budget increase. This is the first increase since 2016 and represents a medium wage rate when compared to similar jurisdictions.

There was a motion to approve the budget. The motion was seconded and all voted in favour. - Passed

3. Bottle Depot: Bob French presented the Bottle Depot 2020 budget with 2019 comparison numbers. 2020 revenue is budgeted to be \$60,900 and expenses are budgeted to be about the same. Bob advised everyone that revenue projections in this business are very speculative. The revenue has been increasing every year due to constantly increasing volume.

The \$5,000 increase in budgeted expenses is due to increased payouts to customers and a wage increase the same as approved for recycling centre employees. This is the first increase since 2016.

There was a motion to approve the budget. The motion was seconded and all voted in favour. - **Passed**

4. Bill Mee Park: Andrew presented the 2020 budget showing operating expenses of \$3,485 which is unchanged from the previous few years. There was a motion to approve the budget. The motion was seconded and all voted in favour. - **Passed**

5. DIRA: Andrew presented the DIRA draft 2020 general budget showing the total revenue requested from the CVRD is budgeted to be \$87,177. The budget requests from Waste Management, Parks, Trails, Bill Mee and Pesticide Free are increased to fund DIRA administration expenses such as insurance, hall rental, bookkeeper, auditor and the recreation grant. Insurance premiums are expected to be significantly larger in 2020. DIRA is waiting for a quote for 2020. There was a motion to approve the budget. The motion was seconded and all voted in favour. - **Passed**

Committee Reports:

6. Wildlife Advisory Committee:

Peter Kasrsten explained the purpose of the committee is to deal with wildlife concerns such as stray dogs, dogs harassing wildlife, illegal and unsafe hunting practices, rescuing or dealing with distressed animals and confirming bear and cougar sightings.

Dennis Forsyth is retiring after many years and in appreciation the WAC presented him with a framed Robert Bateman print: "Mountain Goat at Kakwa".

An article was recently put in the Grapevine letting residents know who is responsible for specific functions.

Four blue 'deer alert' signs have been placed on busy roads. Possibly related, the number of road kills is down this year. Additions signs may be added in areas known for road incidents.

7. Community Dock Committee:

Doug Wright advised the only problem is collecting unpaid moorage at the moment.

8. Marine Guardians Committee:

Edi Johnson reported that during the annual beach clean up over 200 oyster baskets nets, ropes and much more debris was collected, in addition to the yellow and blue BC Ferries cable covering. The next day there was a storm and over 90 oyster baskets were collected.

Once again, Marine Guardians hosted the BCIT Ecological Reserve Masters Students during the first week in November. They roamed the island and chose to look at mitigation measures for the expected sea level rise on the Komas Bluffs, ongoing beach compaction in the Hinton Road area and restoration of Windy Marsh. They will now make a weekend visit an annual event within their course.

9. Parks Committee:

Tim Fuchs let everyone know that the trail connecting Park Road to the Provincial Park has been completed and the landowner was in agreement with the right-of-way. Signs have also been posted on Park Road.

A gate has recently been installed to prevent access at another spot.

10. Trails Committee:

Parks and Trails work cooperatively and Allan Danks explained the difference between the two as follows: Parks - does lots of the planning, Trails - does most of the maintenance.

The Cross Island Trail is getting resurfaced in the downtown area. The initial work to establish the trail is paid for from the carbon tax and then maintenance is done by the trail committee members.

Future trail building could take one of the following options (yet to be decided):

- continue down East Road where landowner agreement and right-of-way exists,
- down Corrival to Owl, or
- down Jemima.

11. Waste Management Committee:

Bob advised waste management is discussing a new cardboard bailer with the CVRD which may be installed next month.

12. Climate Action Committee:

Frank Frketich let everyone know that the committee had its first meeting and the following executive were voted in:

Ron Wilson - Chair, Debbie Frketich - vice chair, Frank Frketich - treasurer.

The next meeting will be next Tuesday in the library where they will decide on what the next steps will be.

Liaison Reports:

13. Ferry Advisory:

Frank Frketich advised that Hornby reps on the committee would like to reserve spots on the 8:40 A.M. ferry, in addition to the reserved spots they have on the 8:00 A.M. ferry. One resident expressed support, another said definitely not and another asked what would they be willing to trade.

Frank also was looking for feed-back on a no cost reservation system for everyone which wasn't very popular when it was suggested Hornby could reserve an entire sailing.

The CEO of BC Ferries acknowledged and apologized for the plastic coating which is shredding from the cables and polluting local waters. However, BC Ferries has one more plastic coated cable in stock which they will use before switching to a steel cable.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 P.M.