

Minutes of the meeting of the Denman Island Residents Association (DIRA) held on Monday, March 12, 2012 in the Back Hall, located at 1196 Northwest Road, BC, commencing at 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT:	Chair	Frank Frketich
	Executive	Denise MacKean
		Anne Page
		Bert Taylor
		Doug Wright
ALSO PRESENT:	Minute Taker	Wind Rombough

APOLOGIES:

Agenda Items

Call to Order

14 people in attendance for the general meeting, plus the 5 executive members. The chair suggests we make it an official meeting even though we don't have quorum. There was agreement.

Motion to Approve Agenda

THAT the agenda be approved.

CARRIED

Motion to Approve February 13, 2012 General Meeting Minutes. The chair read the minutes aloud.

THAT the minutes be approved.

CARRIED

Executive Report:

Nominations for DIRA Executive - Denise MacKean reported on the current nomination drive. They have found 1 new executive member but need at least 3 more.

Director's Insurance - Frank Frketich reported if the executive opts for the policy change to Axis Insurance it will save DIRA about \$400 per year in fees. The compromise is lower coverage.

Recreation Grant Procedure Review - Bert Taylor reported that the executive members have been reviewing the process by which DIRA disburses the Rec Grant, with the goal of making it more formal. The new process is being posted on the website and feedback is requested. They will bring the new process to the next general meeting for approval. Discussion ensued around the acceptability of applying for more than one tax-based grant, aka "double-dipping". He will follow up by asking the CVRD about their official policy in this matter.

DIRA membership - Anne Page reported that the current membership is 206 people. They can vote at the AGM next month. She outlined the options for becoming a member with voting rights.

Committee Reports:

Dock Committee - Dave Pick reported on the recent damage to the concrete bench (someone backed into it with a truck) and repair of the storm damage to the landscaping.

Parks Committee - Peter Karsten reported that the recent 30 knot winds knocked down the Purple Martin houses.

Motion to Approve new location for the Purple Martin houses

THAT if BC Ferries permits the Parks Committee to put the Purple Martin houses on ferry pilings the committee will do so under the auspices of being a fully insured entity and will take full responsibility for the project.

CARRIED

Motion to Approve sending a letter to BC Parks

Frank Frketich read a draft letter written by Wendy Pope.

THAT DIRA send an official letter to BC Parks concerning the interim protection of Denman Parks while in Treaty negotiation.

CARRIED

Wild Life Advisory - Dennis Forsythe reported that the advisory is now compiling stats on winter kill in the Denman deer population. Also, the herring run was 15 miles long this year and has brought about spectacular birding activity.

Liaison Reports:

Fire Department - John Ralston reported that at the next meeting the 2011 financials of the DIVFD will be presented. They are going to have an open house at the Fire Hall to discuss the financials and other things of more interest. He reminded everyone of the date of the Fire Department Auction, April 15, and in case of chimney fire to call 911. A cheque for \$600 has been sent to DIRA with a letter of thanks for being able to participate and present at the general meetings.

Denman WORKS! - Simon Palmer reported that the next Society meeting is March 21st at 3 pm, and that 24 people showed up for the recent Hazelnut, Cherry and Plum Tree Pruning workshop. The Community Project Grants are now online. He commented on Society constraints in helping private individuals. He made an appeal. There is a sector on the island of entrepreneurs and small business operators who don't have a non-profit umbrella organization to support them. If individuals would like to step forward to help instigate or lead an umbrella organization like a Business Group, there is a need for it. In highlighting this need he alluded to the turnout for the Women's Business Forum 6 months ago where 40 people attended. Denman WORKS! is instigating and investigation of Bylaw 186 by the Islands Trust, minding that tourism is the second most important factor in our island economy.

Islands Trust - Laura Busheikin reported that a Community Information Meeting will take place in the Back Hall on Wednesday at 7:30pm about Bylaw Enforcement on Denman Island. There is a movement to examine how the Islands Trust enacts enforcement. Starting on April 3rd, the LTC will have a new venue for its monthly meetings: the Seniors Lounge. Local Trustees will hold office hours at the Old School every second Saturday starting on March 24th. The hours will coordinate with Depot hours of operation. There is a call for nominations for the Community Stewardship Awards. Nominations need to come from community members.

Ferry Advisory Committee - Dennis Forsythe reported that in response to BC Ferries request for Expressions of Interest for alternative service providers, they received 3 responses. They are now moving forward to request proposals. It is apparent BC Ferries is planning on going forward with the cable ferry. He reminded everyone that there is a smaller ferry for the next 3 weeks so plan on arriving early for ferry departures.

Library - CVRD members have passed a motion of approval for the idea of having a VIRL branch on Denman Island.

New Business:

Denman Conservancy - Peter Karsten reports on upcoming workshops.

Adjournment:

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

Time: 8:57 pm.

Minute Taker:
Wind Rombough

Chair:
Frank Frketich