

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

PRESENT:	Chair	Frank Frketich
	Executive	Bert Taylor
		Doug Wright
		Bob French
		Anne Page (minute taker)
APOLOGIES:		Denise Mackean

Agenda Items

1. Call to Order

Frank Frketich called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm

2. Motion to Approve Agenda

It was moved and seconded to approve the Agenda as presented. **Carried**

3. Motion to Approve Minutes of October 15 General Meeting.

It was moved and seconded to approve the Minutes of the October 15 General Meeting as presented. **Carried**

4. Presentation of local RCMP Representatives: Issues around policing a rural community. Questions and Answers

Three members of the Comox Valley RCMP Detachment attended the meeting (Staff Sergeant A.F. (Andrew) Isles, Corporal V. E. (Tori) Cliffe and Constable Daina Basso). The RCMP members were invited to the DIRA meeting to receive input from residents and to hear residents' concerns. Cpl Cliffe gave an overview of her background and some of the policing issues on Denman Island. Some of the main points raised by the RCMP and residents were:

- A catamaran boat is kept at Ford's Cove which is used to educate both commercial and recreational boaters and enforce boating safety regulations,
- A car was parked on Denman which is used for emergencies after hours,
- The RCMP is using a community policing rather than an enforcement based approach,
- Will have more of a presence this winter,
- If there are concerns please phone the police. They can't do anything if they don't know a problem exists. Victim Services can provide assistance to victims of crime,
- There are changes to liquor licensing specifically for events and the liquor license inspector will be on hand to educate people regarding the new liquor rules,
- In response to a request by residents for faster reporting on crimes such as break & enters, there will be a monthly column in the Flagstone starting with "Who is Policing Your Island",
- Speeding is a major concern – 90% of the offenders are Denman and Hornby Island residents and not tourists, therefore need to educate residents, reader boards to indicate speed are a good speed deterrent, might use reader boards and volunteers to get background data on speed issue, RCMP will be educating/enforcing again next spring,

- If residents see someone speeding they are encouraged to contact the RCMP, letters/tickets can be mailed to registered owners of vehicles, complainants' information is not revealed unless the case goes to court,
- The issue of having a safe house for domestic violence victims was discussed and the RCMP felt that since Denman Island is so small that having a safe house on Denman would not be a good idea and that it would be preferable to have victims taken off island to a safe location. DIWOS is disbanding due to insurance reasons,
- ATV's are not to be operated on public roads, need to be trailered and used on private property, they are uninsurable because they don't meet ICBC regulations,
- The issue of vehicles blocking access to the south end of East Road at Gravelly Bay was raised, would be nice to have a pull out lane but not much room, maybe pylons could be set up to keep vehicles as far right as possible so that traffic and emergency vehicles can get through, might be referred to the RCMP Media Liaison,
- There is no definite schedule for when the RCMP are on Denman.

Frank Frketich thanked the RCMP members for attending the DIRA meeting.

5. Executive Report

- a) **Resignation of John Johnston as Chair of Dock Committee** – Frank reported that John has resigned as Chair of the Community Dock Committee and Frank wanted to publicly thank John for all his work in getting the dock built and that it was very much appreciated. The Committee currently does not have a Chair and if anyone is interested in taking on this job, please contact the Executive.
- b) **Website Upgrade** – The Board tried to solicit responses from local Denman Islanders however three people that were contacted were not interested. The Executive received two proposals by the deadline of October 15, 2012 and has chosen Premium Impression Consulting to do the work at a cost of \$297. Frank advised the membership that the President of PIC is a relative of Anne Page's however Anne stepped aside when the decision was made. Frank asked if anyone had any questions and only one person asked if \$297 was a good price. The new website will be launched November 30, 2012.
- c) **Director's Insurance** – DIRA currently has \$1million coverage. Frank presented information from Axis Insurance advising that most non-profit organizations of our size choose \$1million coverage, that most claim settlements are well under \$1million and therefore the Executive has decided to retain our \$1million coverage. Frank asked the membership if anyone had any concerns about the Directors' Insurance and none were expressed.
- d) **Feedback re: Executive Goals** – two comments were received and Frank summarized the comments and the Executive's response.
 - **List of correspondence in the Minutes** - As we have only six members on the Board (we are two short), including the incoming and outgoing correspondence in the DIRA Minutes is very time consuming, however the list of correspondence may be available on the new DIRA website. Minutes including correspondence will be available in the Library once the renovations have been completed and the Library re-opens.
 - **External financial review** – the previous Treasurer (Derek Hood) felt that an external review was recommended when DIRA was managing large sums of money while the Community Dock was being built, however since that project has concluded he advised that an annual external financial review would be expensive and may not be necessary and recommended that one every two years would be fine. DIRA will have an external financial review done in 2014.

- **Directors' Insurance** – dealt with under item 5c.

6. New Business:

a) **Ferry Consultation Process – Community Meeting Dec 8, 3-6 pm, Community School**

Dennis Lavallee (FAC – DICES rep) and Terri Wenner (FAC – Seniors rep) provided their thoughts on the Ferry Consultation Process. DIRA is not currently represented on the FAC and DIRA members were encouraged to nominate an FAC rep. The Open House meeting on December 8 is an opportunity for residents to speak with Ministry of Transportation officials regarding our ferry system. There will be a Question and Answer session at the meeting.

There are three important issues coming up soon: the go/no go decision regarding the cable ferry, the terminal design consultation process and the ferry consultation process (on line survey which is available to all BC residents). Dennis and Terri both encouraged residents to submit their comments after answering the survey questions. Terri provided her contact information if anyone had any questions regarding the FAC or the ferry consultation process.

7. Committee Reports

- a) **Waste Management** – Bob French – Bob reported that on November 19, 2012 a new program addressing producer responsibility will be introduced in BC that will come into effect May 2014. The way that we currently recycle will change with the introduction of this program overseen by a non-profit organization MMBC (multi materials BC). Producers of products will contribute funds to this program and will affect mostly packaging materials.
- b) **Bill Mee Park** – Anne Page – Anne reported that John Wigle advised that the Committee has installed dock bumper edging on the ramp timbers.
- c) **Community Dock** – a resident asked about recent vandalism at the dock that the Executive had not heard about. Frank advised that a new Chair is needed for this Committee.
- d) **Trails** – Allan Danks – Allan gave an update on the Cross Island Trail (CIT) and other projects:
 - Road survey for the CIT is now completed to the junction of Corrigan and Marcus Roads and Karin Albert (CVRD) has walked these roads with the Committee,
 - By next spring the CVRD hopes to have enough funds to complete a section of the CIT from the top of the Ferry Hill to the bottom of the Big Hill as a great start to the project,
 - In January 2013 there will be a public meeting sponsored by the CVRD to give information and receive feedback from islanders about the CIT. At this meeting a progress report, maps of the intended route and the planned phases of the project will be provided. It is hoped that the feedback from residents will show strong support for the trail which will let the CVRD know how important the CIT is to Denman.
 - The Trails Committee is working with Derek Moore (BC Parks) to make official a couple of well used trails in Boyle Point Park. The only official trails in the Park at present are the trail from the end of East Road to Boyle Point and the short trail to and from the viewing area overlooking Eagle Rock. The reason that the Trails Committee wants other trails to be designated “official” is that it will allow our committee members to work on maintaining these trails while being covered by BC Parks insurance. In the meantime with advanced permission from Derek Moore, our committee will upgrade these trails we hope to have designated “official” including: re-routing trails that pass near steep drop offs, provide a switchback trail to replace a steep section of trail that descends a hill, dismantle various “bike jumps” with Boyle Point Park and replace a small bridge over a creek on a trail overlooking Baynes Sound.

- The Trails Committee is very pleased to be working with the Parks Committee in planning trails in the future BC Park in the Northlands area. While the Parks and Trails committees have similar interests in green spaces on Denman, we have agreed on a protocol that we both support and are working together for the good of Denman Islanders in general.
- We have seven dedicated members on the Trails Committee and additional members are welcome.
- e) **Parks** - no report.
- f) **Graham Lake Swim Dock** – Frank Frketich – Frank reported that the current sign will be modified to include “no lifeguard on duty – swim at your own risk”.
- g) **Wildlife Advisory Committee** – Dennis Forsyth – Dennis reported that fawns were out early, there were a lot of late fawns born this year, the buck are in full rutt and there were unsubstantiated reports of a possible cougar on Denman and Hornby Islands. Dennis advised that if a cougar, bear or sick/injured deer is sighted to please call the WAC. Christine Danks is the contact for lost dogs.
- h) **Pesticide Free** – no report.
- i) **Old School** – no report.

8. Liaison Reports

- a) **Denman Island Fire Department** – a letter from John Kirk was received regarding the new relationship of the Fire Chief to the CVRD who will essentially become an employee of the CVRD. This is largely for insurance purposes and firefighters will also be covered by that insurance. John Kirk also advised that the CVRD will be responsible for providing fire protection services while the Denman Island Firefighters Association will be responsible for administrative matters including financial administration of operational grant funding, budgetary oversight and community engagement.
- b) **Denman Works!** – no report
- c) **Islands Trust** – no report.
- d) **Ferry Advisory** – Frank reminded members that a DIRA rep on the FAC is requested.
- e) **VIRL** – Frank reported that Bill Engleson advised that the Dora Drinkwater Library should re-open by the end of November.

9. Reminder – Second Denman Debates is Tuesday, November 13 at 7:30 pm at the Seniors’ Hall.

10. Adjournment – a motion to adjourn the meeting was moved and seconded with the meeting adjourned at 9:22 pm

Minute Taker:
Anne Page

Chair:
Frank Frketich