

**Minutes of the meeting of the Denman Island Residents Association (DIRA)  
held on Monday, May 13, 2013 in the Back Hall, located at 1196 Northwest Road, BC,  
commencing at 7:30 pm.**

**Present:** Chair: Frank Frketich  
Executive: Bob French  
Ron Shepherd  
Doug Wright

**Apologies:** Denise Mackean  
Laurie Montemurro

1. **Call to Order:** Frank Frketich called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.
  
2. **Approve the Agenda:**  
**Motion** that the Agenda for May 13, 2013 be approved as presented. **Carried**
  
3. **Approve the Minutes:**  
**Motion** that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of April 8, 2013 be approved as presented. **Carried**
  
4. **Executive Report:** Frank Frketich reported:
  - a) **New Executive Positions:** President: Frank Frketich, Vice-President: Bob French, Secretary: Denise Mackean, Treasurer: Doug Wright. Laurie Montemurro and Ron Shepherd are also on the Board.
  
  - b) **DIRA Application for a Grant-in-Aid:** Frank Frketich advised that a motion was passed at the Annual General Meeting that DIRA apply for a GIA in the amount of \$2,000 (\$1,000 for insurance and \$1,000 for administration costs). The Waste Management Committee had also allocated \$850 to be used by DIRA towards administration costs. Since the AGM, the CVRD has agreed to give DIRA \$2,122 for administration costs and an additional \$700 specifically for administration costs associated with the Recreation Grant process. In light of these new CVRD allocations to DIRA the Board felt that it was reasonable to reduce the amount of the GIA application to \$1,000. The Board requests that the membership approve the revised GIA application.  
**Motion** that DIRA approve a reduction in the Grant-in-Aid application to \$1,000. **Carried**
  
  - c) **Recreation Grant Applications:** Frank Frketich advised that the Graham Lake Swim Dock Committee and the Trails Committee have submitted applications for Recreation Grants for insurance costs and for parks signage costs, respectively.  
**Motion** that the membership approve the submission by the Graham Lake Swim Dock Committee and the Trails Committee for Recreation Grants in the amounts of \$725 and \$1,125 respectively. **Carried**

**d) Appointment of Anne Page as Webmaster:**

**Motion** that Anne Page be appointed as Webmaster for the DIRA website. **Carried.** Anne Page advised that she would do this as a volunteer position as a contribution to DIRA.

**5. Old Business: Discussion and approval of Terms of Reference for Transition Island**

**(Transition Denman Island).** The new Terms of Reference were presented and after a lengthy discussion it was agreed that this Committee would amend their Terms of Reference and present them at a future DIRA meeting for discussion and approval.

**6. New Business: None presented.**

**7. Committee Reports:**

**a) Bill Mee Park Committee:** No Report

**b) Waste Management Committee:** Bob French advised that the Committee:

- has received their 2011 HST rebate from CRA,
- is conducting a Logo Content for the Recycling Centre,
- has advertised for bids to replace the fence at the Recycling Centre, and
- has a deadline for Bottle Depot Summer Assistant position of May 17.

**c) Old School Committee:** No Report

**d) Community Dock Committee:** Doug Wright advised that:

- \$406.70 in dock moorage revenues have been received,
- The 2 large boats that were moored at the dock were asked to leave due to concerns about possible damage to the dock. It was a difficult request as the boat owners have family ties to Denman. The boat owners have paid \$140.70 to date and still owe \$180.30,
- A few boats have been tied up to the dock which has contributed to the local economy,
- The Community Dock Committee would like to hire a Wharfinger. A job description was presented for discussion.  
**Motion** that the concept of hiring a Wharfinger be approved. **Carried.**
- The Wharfinger position would be seasonal from May to September at a salary of 50% of moorage revenues,
- Two residents are interested in the Wharfinger position.
- **Motion** that Louis de Ernsted and Perry be offered the Wharfinger position for one month at a rate of 50% dock revenues received which will give DIRA time to post and hire for the Wharfinger position. **Carried.**

**e) Parks Committee:** No Report

**f) Trails Committee:** Frank Frketich advised that a bridge project was completed at Boyle Point Park and that a fallen tree was removed from the Graham Lake trail area.

- g) Transition Island Committee:** Herb Jones provided a report regarding the various sub-committees of the Transition Island Committee:
- Arts & Entertainment: Facilitator/Contact Bentley LeBaron. Report in local paper May issue re Festival August 22-31. Again this year: pub night, open air concert, picnic, gallery show, croquet, food preserving workshops, Tzeporah Berman special guest speaker, produce show and competition working with the Blackberry Faire.
  - Agriculture – Food Sustainability: Veronica Timmons. June 1 launch of “Buy Local-Eat Local” campaign at the General Store. There will be Supplier displays and taste testing. Equipment rentals are busier now with the good weather. New dehydrator and seeder have been purchased. Contact Doug Wright for details on rentals.
  - Natural Building: Barb Heywood-Jones. Sustainability Festival Ecotour – August 29 small affordable mostly natural, owner-built homes on Denman – carpooling, picnic lunch at mid-day, biking possible due to close proximity of sites (off grid recovered, self-milled clearcut home, self-milled lumber with chip slip, sod roof; small log with some wattle and daub, stone floor, cob with Mud Girls; straw bale on urbanite (co-housing). Registration tba.
  - Education & Reskilling: Danni Crenna. Workshops are planned for the Sustainability Festival.
  - Health & Well-Being: Danni Crenna.
  - Heart & Soul: Bentley LeBaron.
  - Renewable Energy: Bob Vosburgh. A crop has been planted with the air of a VanCity grant of \$8500. We are continuing with our study to determine whether it is possible to grow feedstock on Denman Island that will produce enough ethanol to be financially viable. Through the assistance of Denman Works we were successful in a grant application to VanCity Credit Union who has given us \$8500 for our study. We have arranged with Katherine Vogt on Lacon Road to do a test planting of 3 crops (Sweet Sorghum, Sugar Beets and Fodder Beets). We chose the crops because they have the potential for high sugar yield and are known to grow in our climate. Our growing experiment will confirm the yield and give us useful information about growing techniques and requirements. We have contacted a manufacturer of vehicle conversion kits to gather information about installation, operation, warranty and pricing; they have an 8-year track record of success and will sell them to us at wholesale (about \$200 each). We have spoken with the BC Cooperative Association and have determined that a co-op is a very suitable structure for our business if we decide to proceed.
  - Transportation: Herb Jones. Our project team has unanimously agreed that we would make it non-profit (a Community Service Cooperative) required to use any surplus for community benefit and forbidden from distributing it to members. We have created an initial framework for design of the processing and production operation, based on a permaculture approach and maximum re-use of by-products to enhance our self-sufficiency. We have started to look for legal assistance to research the many regulations that will govern our operation, so that we can take them into account in our production framework and financial model. We are developing a communication plan that will involve online, print (Flagstone, Grapevine) and face-to-face events so that people can learn more about our project and maybe get involved. We hope that by the end of 2013 we will have enough information to be able to decide whether and how to proceed with creating the cooperative and starting up the business.
  - Water Sustainability/Waste Disposal: (open) dormant.
  - Other – Natural Environment: Andrew Fyson

- h) Graham Lake Swim Dock Committee:** No Report
- i) Wildlife Advisory Committee:** Dennis Forsyth advised that there was a credible report of a cougar siting on Denman and that the cougar seemed shy and not large. This is the time of year when young cougars leave the family group. Cougars have large territories and residents should respect any bears or cougars on the Island. Cougars are not afraid of dogs and residents are advised to keep dogs on leash and small children close by especially in large wild areas such as Boyle Point Park or Central Park.
- j) Pesticide Free Committee:** No Report

## 8. Liaison Reports:

- a) Denman Island Volunteer Fire Department: No Report**
- b) Denman Works!: Simon Palmer** advised that:
- Denman Works! had an Open House a couple of weeks ago with about 15 residents attending,
  - The next meeting is in the Seniors Lounge on May 20 at 1 pm,
  - Denman Works! has received applications totalling \$50,000 for the Community Projects Grants but have only \$25,000 in the budget.
- c) Islands Trust: Laura Busheikin** advised that:
- the Islands Trust has received two applications from Denman Island for the annual Community Stewardship Awards, one for Ana Miriam Leigh and one for the Denman Island Volunteer Fire Department. Awards will be decided in June,
  - a Housing Policies Review will be started in July and Islands Trust wants to get feedback from residents regarding Secondary Suites, Elderhousing, Care Housing, Cottages, etc. This review will take place over the summer and into the fall,
  - Keystone Project – affordable housing project,
  - Next meeting is June 4.
- d) Ferry Advisory Committee: Frank Frketich** advised that the issue of Experience Cards was raised and that discussions will happen further down the road.
- e) Vancouver Island Regional Library: Frank Frketich** advised there was nothing to report.

**Motion to adjourn at 9:07 pm.**

**Minute taker:**

**Chair:**

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Anne Page

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Frank Frketich