

Minutes of the meeting of the Denman Island Residents' Association (DIRA)

Monday, July 14, 2014 in the Back Hall, 1196 Northwest Road, Denman Island,
commencing at 7:30 PM

Present: Chair: Frank Frketich
Minute taker: Margie Gang

Doug Wright
Bob French
Ron Shepherd

Apologies: Denise MacKean
Laurie Montemurro

Meeting was called to order: 15 Present

Motion to adopt the agenda: **Carried.**

Motion to approve the minutes of June 9, 2014 General Meeting:

Liz Johnston requested that the minutes of the June 9th DIRA meeting be amended by deleting the phrase "...but no renewal was pursued by the committee. In November 2012, just weeks after John Johnson resigned as Dock Chair..." from the last paragraph on page 2.

Carried as amended.

Executive Report: Frank reported:

- 1) The sailing club has not yet made suitable insurance arrangements. They may be required to provide lifeguards when boats are in use, and this may create difficulties. Morley McKeachie is looking into different insurance options. Consideration of making the sailing club a DIRA committee will be postponed until the September meeting.
- 2) The DIRA executive discussed and approved writing a letter to the Ko'moks First Nation requesting their support in securing a renewed lease on the Community Dock. Frank will write the letter.
- 3) Margie suggested she could take over the membership coordinator position from Anne Page, as Margie will be attending the meetings.
Motion: to appoint Margie to the position of Membership Coordinator. **Carried.**
- 4) A membership drive will begin in a couple of weeks, with a table at the General Store.
- 5) The Denman Parks Committee has approved the insurance agreement prepared for DIRA approval by B.C. Parks. The Denman Trails Committee would also like an opportunity to review this agreement, and will do so at their meeting next week. The agreement will then be brought to the DIRA membership at the next general meeting, in September.

New Business:

- 1) Placement of the anchor and welcome sign at the altered ferry terminal: B.C. Ferries has agreed to place them. Frank suggested that they could be put at the corner between the

parking lot and the ferry ramp, where there may be a small green space. Credit was given to Wes Piercy and Jim Kirk for salvaging the anchor.

- 2) Marine stewards Liz Johnson, Edi Johnston, and Shelley McKeachie reported their frustration in trying to prevent shellfish operators from driving on Denman beaches in areas where forage fish spawn. No spawning activity has been noted in areas of compacted substrate caused by driving. If shellfish cultivators own the property above their tenure, they may legally drive on the beach; but if they have a “license of occupation” then driving on the beach in the area above the high tide line (which is Crown Land) is illegal. This group has asked the LTC to pass a bylaw forbidding driving on the beach, but the LTC responded that the Trust has no jurisdiction on Crown Land. The ADIMS has been referred to DIRA, and requests that a temporary DIRA committee be formed to urge the LTC to pass such a bylaw.
- 3) Liz submitted a notice of motion to form this DIRA committee, with the intention to promote more community involvement. Terms of reference for the committee will be posted on the ADIMS and DIRA websites.

Committee Reports:

- 1) **Waste management:** Bob French reported that almost two months into the new MMBC regime there have been no significant problems; all seems to be working.
- 2) **Transition Denman Island:** Veronica reported that this year’s Sustainability Festival will be held on the last weekend in September, and will have a “water” theme. Also, a new food directory will be produced, and there will be a first annual Apple Festival, featuring Denman apple products, for Thanksgiving this year.

Liaison Reports:

- 1) **Denman Island Fire Department:** A complete fire ban is now in effect, with the fire hazard indicated as “high.” Work with power tools in the forest is only allowed in the mornings, until noon. When the fire hazard is “extreme,” no such forest work is allowed at any time.
- 2) **Ferry Advisory:** a proposed new schedule for September onwards has been posted on the B.C. Ferries website. B.C. Ferries Corp. is seeking public comments on this schedule.
- 3) **VIRL:** Denman now has access to a VIRL virtual library. An e-librarian –Emily – has been hired. Emily will visit Denman (on Mondays and Fridays) to present demonstrations about available e-services.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15

Next General Meeting September 8, 2014.