

Minutes of the meeting of the Denman Island Residents Association (DIRA) held Monday, January 12, 2015 in the Back Hall, located at 1196 Northwest Road, BC, commencing at 7:30 pm.

Present: Chair of the meeting: Frank Frketich
Executive: Denise MacKean, minute
taker
Doug Wright
Bob French
Ron Shepherd
Margie Gang
Laurie Montemurro

Apologies:

Meeting was called to order: 24 attended.

Motion (D. Frketich) to adopt the agenda **Carried.**

Motion (B. Whitehouse) to approve the minutes of November 10, 2014 General Meeting **Carried.**

Executive Report: Frank reported:

The meeting with CVRD officials to review the DIRA Budget and Service Agreement discussed the costs of a yearly Financial Review and CVRD agreed that a “retired” accountant was sufficient at this time.

DIRA will be closing off its books for the year 2014 and the financial review is coming up.

The Welcome to Denman Island sign at the ferry is ready to go up and we thanked Peter Karsten and John Johnston for all their work on this. Carl Goodwin asked about including the 1st Nations name for the island on the sign and Peter and Frank agreed this is a good idea.

DIRA is considering purchasing a computer and accounting program. CVRD has allocated funds for this in our budget. The question of monthly fees on these programs came up.

Old Business: Frank reported:

We had 4 questions about the boat launch construction and Jeff West of BC Ferries answered positively to all of them. They will put it out on a slight angle to ease access. They will pay costs of the application and survey. They will cover full construction costs. They will cover the costs of monitoring required by DFO. We are now awaiting the application process to be completed. Questions arose about parking and the Dock area may accommodate some vehicles, otherwise it will be up the hill. The issue of deep water access was brought up. It is hoped that the OK will come by June, 2015. Doug Wright urged members to support attempting to get our local MLA behind this and David Critchley, our trustee, promised to pursue it. The present footprint of the project is smaller than originally envisioned.

New Business:

Bob French presented the amended Waste Management Budget and explained the higher DIRA administration line item. This represents CVRD money channelled through to DIRA.

Motion That the amended Waste Management Budget be accepted **Carried**.

Robert Fox explained the application for a Grant-in-Aid from the Dock Committee to set up a monitoring system at the Dock. They would like video cameras at the dock which would largely help the wharfinger but could be public as well. The records would be kept with the wharfinger and the committee. If a problem is noted the wharfinger would deal with it face-to-face without intimidation and if a problem arises would back off and notify the committee for further action. Privacy issues should not arise on a public space. At present there is no wharfinger on duty and committee members are doing it. The monitoring would help resolve “over-stays” and could make the wharfinger job more efficient. **Motion (R. Fox)** that the membership approve this application for a Grant-in Aid to buy and install a monitoring system at the Dock **Carried**. Although they have some cash on hand they need a “rainy-day” fund.

Jacky Barnett brought to our attention the human waste problem at Mallard Beach and suggested approaching CVRD for an outhouse. DIRA Board will explore this.

Committee Reports:

Waste Management is engaged in getting a project manager for their proposed addition. They are looking at a June start-up date.

Community Dock will be posting a notice for a wharfinger position.

Bill Mee Park has a cost estimate from CVRD for a breakwater extension which is technically feasible but too expensive and have decided to leave things as they are.

Parks was reported on by Peter Karsten who discussed access to the north island Provincial Park. Vehicle access is needed for the Checkerspot recovery program and also their workers are now DIRA members which enables them to get insurance in the park. He mentioned a Maple Park work-bee coming up and also a project to document the history of the CVRD parks on Denman. He also told us about a slumping problem on the lower section of the stairs at Morning Beach Park due to erosion on the beach bank below.

Graham Lake Swim Dock might need non-slip wire mesh.

Transition Denman Island is presenting Seedy Saturday soon.

Guardians of Denman Shores: Edi Johnston reported on the results of their recent survey which indicated a strong approval by islanders to limit vehicular traffic on beaches. She also reported on a CVRD move to address the treatment of sewerage in Royston/Union Bay/Cumberland which presently is draining into Baynes Sound. It was pointed out that they look at mainly fecal matter and not other chemical pollution.

Liaison Reports:

Islands Trust: David Critchley described jobs coming up for him as trustee. Denman Against Coal and the sewerage problem outlined above are important and there will be a Public Meeting in Union Bay soon on the sewerage issue.

Ferry Advisory Committee was reported on by Frank. They were part of a meeting with the Ferry Commissioner recently who is presently working on the next fare cap. His recommendations will go to the Government and BC Ferries to then figure out how that will be met. The financial pressures are great.

Meeting was adjourned.

Next General Meeting February 9, 2015.

Chair:

Minute taker:

Frank Frketich

Denise MacKean