

Minutes of the meeting of the Denman Island Residents Association (DIRA) held Monday, February 9, 2015 in the Back Hall, located at 1196 Northwest Road, BC, commencing at 7:30 pm.

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

Meeting was called to order: 17 attended.

Motion (Bill Engleson) to adopt the agenda **Carried.**

Motion (Ralph McCuaig) to approve the minutes of January 12, 2015 General Meeting **Carried.**

Executive Report: Margie reported:

The CVRD are coming Feb. 18, 2015 to preview budgets and 5-year plans with various tax supported groups on the island followed by an open meeting for public questions and input.

The suggestion for a toilet facility at Millard beach brought up last month will be passed on to the Parks and Guardians of Denman Shores committees.

Old Business: Margie reported:

The DIRA executive is asking for a membership vote to approve DIRA purchasing a new computer mainly for accounting purposes. **Motion (Simon Palmer)** that the DIRA membership authorize the Executive to spend up to \$2000.00 for computer hardware and the necessary accounting software. **Carried.** Cost was discussed and it was felt the actual cost would be less than \$2000 and Ron's estimates sounded like a good buy.

New Business: John Wigle reported:

The Bill Mee Park Committee "rainy day" fund started in 1997 contains fees and donations at the park since that time. It is now a Regional District Park and has an annual budget from CVRD.

They agreed this locally collected money could be set aside for extenuating circumstances and it now totals \$15,000. **Motion (John Wigle)** that the DIRA membership recommend that the money collected in the Rainy Day Fund be kept by the Bill Mee Park Committee to be used for emergency maintenance and repairs in the park. **Carried.** This will be discussed with the CVRD at the Feb. 18, 2015 budget meeting. John discussed the recent Bill Mee breakwater extension proposal to be shared with CVRD which might also have used the rainy-day fund. However, the extension was seen as impractical. There was some concern regarding this possible CVRD contribution. **Motion (Doug Wright)** that DIRA wants to make it clear to CVRD that this money should be used on Denman Island for a local project. **Carried.** Discussion followed. We do not

want it to become competitive and there was general agreement that it go towards completing the Cross-Island Trail. **Motion (Ralph McCuaig)** that Bob French will bring to the Feb. 18, 2015 meeting with CVRD that DIRA recommends two possible projects where these Capital Funds could be redirected: Morning Beach Park Stairs and/or the Cross-Island Trail completion. **Carried.**

Committee Reports:

Community Dock: The Boat Ramp construction next to the dock may start by June 1st. This is not a firm date.

Trails: Ralph reported that work on trails in Boyle Point Park continues.

Transition Denman Island reports that the recent Seedy Saturday was a success and their next big event is the Sustainability Festival June 20 – 27.

Guardians of Denman Shores Committee: As a follow-up to their vehicle beach traffic survey, Edi Johnston put forward a motion they wished to be voted on at the March meeting: Guardians of Denman Shores Committee moves that they initiate the following actions:

1. Creation of works management plan to limit access to DI authorized beach access areas including a budget.
2. Consultation re this initiative with any agencies as required, Ministry of Transportation, Comox Valley Regional District, Islands Trust, Dept. Of Fisheries and Ocean, Forestry Lands and Natural Resources, BC Ferries, and all Denman Island Emergency Service Providers.
3. Advise DIRA and DI community of works management plan through local media such as the Grapevine.
4. Completion of works management plan further to the consultation process and further to the committee raising all funding required for the project.

Edi also brought us up to date with effluent treatment and release into Baynes Sound being discussed by the CVRD in response to the failing of on site waste water treatment systems in Royston and Union Bay. **Motion (Edi Johnston)** that Denman Island Residents Association send a letter to the CVRD asking that Option A – discharge to Baynes Sound, be removed from the list of possible options unless there is indisputable, scientific evidence that the marine environment will not be negatively impacted from all manner of effluent including, but not limited to, pharmaceuticals, Personal Care Products and microplastics. **Carried.** This letter will be prepared by the committee.

Denman Works!: Simon Palmer reported that Jenny Villard will have a workshop to help guide people applying for the Community Projects Grants. Denman Works! next meeting is Feb. 20th. There will also be a Solar Session on Feb. 14, 2015.

Liaison Reports:

Islands Trust: Laura Busheikin reported on their recent meeting to set up general goals and 3 top priorities: Finish compliance with Riparian regulations.

Review of visitor accommodations

Building relationship with local 1st Nations.

David Critchley will be working on Baynes Sound aquaculture plans with CVRD.

Ferry Advisory Committee: This group has not met recently. In late January there was a problem with very bright lights at Denman West for welding but now they are back to dim. Also some clearer signage was suggested.

Meeting Adjourned.

Next General Meeting March 9, 2015.

Chair:

Minute taker:

Margie Gang

Denise MacKean