

DIRA General Meeting Monday, March 14, 2016 Back Hall

Present: Frank Frketich Chair
 Laurie Montemurro Minute Taker
 Denise MacKean, Doug Wright, Ron Shepherd

19 people in attendance

1. Meeting called to order at 7:33 pm.

2. Motion to adopt the Agenda. Add item under New Business - Solar Panel Project grant application. Passed

3. Motion to approve the minutes of the January 11th General Meeting. Passed

4. Motion to approve the minutes of the February 8th General Meeting.

Edina noted that a quote ascribed to her was incorrect as written, will be amended.

It was requested that mention of the current DIRA Executive Chair stepping down be included as part of the minutes.

Motion Passed

5. Executive Report

a) Telus - The person DIRA has been dealing with is no longer responsible for Telus cable issue. Maintenance and Operations is now responsible for this issue. Frank has contacted them four times and will try again next week.

b) Boat Ramp - the water lot is approved for the ramp. Jeff West from BC Ferries confirmed the ramp will be 5 m wide and construction will start late May or early June.

Bonita Wallace is our Ministry of FLNRO contact person. She contacted the K'omoks First Nation and they no longer oppose a 30 year lease for the Community Dock. They do want to be able to come over and check out any archeological sites that might be on or near the dock property. Frank would like to be there on behalf of DIRA this summer to welcome them and offer any assistance should they require it.

Query: Who will be the point person on the project once Frank resigns as Chair of DIRA?

The Executive promises to bring the issue to the membership at the next general meeting for their consideration.

c) Two applicants responded to the ad for a bookkeeper for the Waste Management Committee. Ron Shepard and Denise Mackean will organize the interviews for DIRA. They will be joined by the current bookkeeper and managers of the Recycle and Bottle Depot.

A long term possibility for this position is to include the overall DIRA bookkeeping as part of their job description. The Executive acknowledged that they have been considering this possibility and would like to wait to see how the successful applicant adjusts to the role within the Waste Management position before expanding their responsibilities.

6. Old Business

a) Quinsta Ferry, there are eleven employees are leaving/retiring. Doug Wright wanted to acknowledge their efforts and proposed to gift each individual with a framed photo taken by Andrew Fyson of the ferry crossing Baynes Sound. Andrew is donating the photos. Printed on the photos is:

Thank you for your long service to the residents of Denman Island

Membership approved.

b) The following motion was made regarding a previously presented letter from the Marine Guardians Committee:

That the DIRA membership approves the Marine Guardians sending their letter to Telus at this time

The Chair clarified for the members present that the Executive had requested the Guardians hold off sending their letter until after the issue around the DIRA/Telus cable contract is resolved. Much discussion ensued, ranging from why vehicles are on the beach to is there documentation that the forage fish habitat has been compromised by vehicles driving on this stretch of beach. Dorrie was able to provide background information on the decline of forage fish in Baynes Sound.

Some members felt the Executive's decision should be respected while other members felt the letter could be sent. Doug Wright requested they wait until the boat ramp is built as once the ramp is in place there should be no reason for people driving on that stretch of beach.

A friendly amendment was requested to remove mention of heavy equipment from the letter.

It was noted this motion is being used to appeal an Executive ruling. The procedural point was made that if a motion is put forward by a member then it can be voted on to counteract the recommendation of the Executive.

The vote was called and the motion failed.

7. New Business

a) Letter re: Cross Island Trail up Denman Hill

Motion: *That the membership approves the letter to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure regarding the Cross Island Trail up Denman Hill.*

This letter will be sent to Don MacRae, Bruce Joliffe, Todd Stone, Christie Clark, and the local Manager for the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure. The central issue is the need to do some repairs to the hill before the Cross Island Trail is constructed up that portion of roadway.

CVRD Parks Planners do not to build the Trail believing it would be more cost effective to fix the hill first then build the trail.

Laura Bushiken said the Local Trust sent a letter to the Ministry around the safety of the road and the Ministry claimed no accidents have taken place there. Laura researched this and found them to be in error. She suggested a group effort amongst all parties for action.

Motion passed

b) Motion from Marine Guardians:

That the DIRA Executive bring back to the membership all of the information gathered from the 'exploratory phase' with Telus before any decisions are made on DIRA'S behalf.

Passed

8. Committee Reports

a) Community Dock - John Johnson is preparing a draft outlining the terms of use for the security cameras currently on the dock site. These will be presented to the Executive and the membership and signage will be put in place informing the public. There are currently cameras pointed at the dock, the parking lot and the proposed ramp site.

Some income has been generated from moorings during the last few months.

b) Bill Mee - damage to the boat ramp was sustained several weeks ago. Estimated cost of repairs is between \$500 and \$1,000.

c) Trails - there is a work bee tomorrow at Wren Rd at 9:30 am. Alan Danks is recovering well from surgery. The Cross Island Trail is being maintained by committee members on a monthly rotating roster.

d) Graham Lake Swim Dock - shares insurance with the Community Dock. The committee chair Chris Taylor has resigned. A large thank you to Chris for his work on this committee over the past several years.

Action: Laurie will send a thank you card on behalf of the DIRA membership.

e) Pesticide Free - received \$1,500 from the CVRD for invasive species (broom) removal and is expecting/hoping for another \$500 from the Garden Club. They hope to be hard at work by the end of April.

f) The Solar Panel Project is working through Transitions Denman to submit a grant under the auspices of DIRA for \$3,500 for the installation of panels on the Community Hall roof.

Motion: The DIRA membership approves the application of Transitions Denman Island committee for a Denman Works! Community Project grant for the installation of solar panels on the Community Hall roof.

Passed

g) The Marine Guardians included the attached letter as part of their report.

9) Fire Dept. The fire season starts April 15th. Burn permits will be required from that point on. The Fire Dept. website is being re-done. The Financials will be presented next month at the AGM.

Islands Trust - local Trust meeting tomorrow at 10:30 am. Density Transfer bylaw will be discussed. The Public Hearing begins at 10:45. Many are concerned with this issue. Other potential topics include: driving on the beach and farm plan implementation. Trust Council meets on Hornby for three days next week. Denmanites are encouraged to attend the

Wednesday morning meeting at 9:45 am. Discussion around First Nations bridge building, reconciliation and governance will be on the agenda. Also, a decisions on the upcoming year's budget will be made at this meeting.

There were no takers on the temporary use permits for secondary dwellings this year. This issue will be reviewed in a year's time.

There were several questions and some discussion around the shellfish application for a 1.5 km. raft tenure on the west side of Denman. Why is it not being zoned first before application for tenure is granted? If the application does not comply with current zoning then an application needs to be made to the Island's Trust for zoning change.

Ferry Advisory Committee: there is a meeting in mid-May at the Seniors Centre. Advertising will announce this meeting closer to the date.

Motion to adjourn at 9:36 p.m.

Reminder:

The DIRA AGM is on April 11. The Executive is recruiting three new members.