

## Denman Island Residents Association Public Meeting September 11, 2017

Present: Doug Wright, Treasurer, Ron Shepherd, chair, Andrew Pringle, secretary and 10 members

Meeting called to order at 7:30 P.M.

Motion to approve the agenda - moved and seconded

Motion to approve the minutes of July 11, 2017 General Meeting- moved and seconded

### **Executive Report:**

#### Old Business

1. DIRA sent a letter to the Department of Fisheries (dated Aug 28, 2017) regarding resident concerns about intensive aquaculture, netting, rebar installation and the blocking of public access to the beach. The letter requests that fisheries inform DIRA about the infractions they were able to document and what follow-up action they are going to take.

There has been no reply yet.

Judy Armstrong let everyone know that she is planning to send a personal follow-up letter to fisheries and Ron encouraged anyone interested to do the same. Judy and Edi spoke about current conditions which includes, nets with floats, rebar spikes, berms and other safety issues for people, pets and wildlife.

Marine Guardians (representing DIRA) will be making a presentation to the Islands Trust at 2PM on Wed Sept 13th.

2. The consolidated financial statements for 2016 have been posted on the DIRA website.

3. Bert Taylor has been working extensively to review and ensure DIRA is in conformity with new Society Act requirements. His review and recommendations will next be discussed with the DIRA executive.

#### New Business:

1. The Denman Island Planning Charrette has been completed by masters of planning students from VIU and sponsored by the Island Trust. After input from residents and some downtown business owners many options were presented to improve the safety and aesthetics of the downtown.

2. The Pesticide Free Committee has been approved for a \$2,000 grant, which will be used to pull broom.

### **Committee Reports:**

Graham Lake Committee: Over the summer there have been some resident complaints regarding needed repairs and water safety. Resident volunteers did the repairs.

Waste Management Committee: The garbage tag fee has increased from \$2.50 to \$2.75

Community Dock Committee: Edi reports that there have been very few disturbances and everyone has been respectful over the summer. Over the past 3 weeks over \$800 has been collected.

Trails Committee: Tim Fuchs reports that the new section of the Island Trail from Corrigal Road to Swan Road will begin soon.

The trails in Boyle Point have had some work and new directional and trail-head signs will be installed.

There is work on a new trail off Creekside Road, which will connect to the BC Park  
Tim reminded everyone that the Trails Committee is always looking for new members.

Marine Guardians Committee: Edi already reported that Marine Guardians would be making a presentation to the Islands Trust regarding the current issues.

Parks Committee: Tim Fuchs reported that there is no good public access to Chickadee Lake and the Trails Committee can build a new trail. An environmental impact study raised no issues regarding a new trail.

The Islands Trust has approved a boardwalk for the land by Morrisons Marsh.

Improvements to the trails in Central Park are ongoing.

Ferry Advisory Committee: Frank reported that there would be a meeting on Sept 20th to discuss parking and the traffic congestion at Gravelly Bay. The next step will be to discuss BC Ferries proposals with the people living in the area.

The BSC is scheduled for 4 days maintenance soon.

There was a good meeting with the new minister and she is planning a full review of BC Ferries operations. There was also a meeting with Mark Hollis the CEO for BC Ferries.

Concern was raised by residents regarding the apparent lack of maintenance to the old dock where the Quinitsa is berthed.

Concern was also expressed by residents regarding the lack of medical emergency evacuation options when the BSC is being repaired which is usually at night and there is no back-up vessel available.

Liaison Reports: none

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M.