

Denman Island Residents Association Public Meeting April 9, 2018

Present: Ron Shepherd; chair, Doug Wright; Treasurer, Andrew Pringle; Secretary, Frieda Werden; Member-at -Large and 30 members plus 4 non-member residents

PART 1

1. Public meeting called to order at 7:30 P.M.
2. Recreation Grant Committee: A member informed everyone that this is not a committee of DIRA and it is a committee of Denman Island residents which will make recommendations to the CVRD to approve the annual recreation grant. DIRA is responsible to identify 3 members for the committee who will make allocation recommendations to the CVRD (which are usually approved).

A member asked why the grant of \$20,000 has not been increased in years although taxes go up every year. Another informed member stated that an increase to the grant would require a referendum.

The Board would like to nominate: Jack Forsyth, John Andrew and Catherine Kimmins to the Recreation Grant Committee for 2018.

3. Call for other members to assist the committee.

No further nominations were received from the floor.

4. There was a motion to accept these 3 names, which was seconded and all voted in favour.

MOTION PASSED

5. Motion to adjourn the public meeting approved at 7:40

MOTION PASSED

PART 2

1. Annual General Meeting called to order at 7:45 P.M.
2. Motion to adopt the agenda (dropped approval of minutes from Mar 12th meeting as there was not a quorum at the meeting) - moved, seconded and all in favour -
MOTION PASSED

3. Chair Report:

Ron thanked all the committees, fellow board members and other helpers for the hours of volunteer work they do every year on behalf of Denman Islanders. Ron added that he personally wanted to thank everyone for "getting things done". Other things coming up include the renewal of the garbage contract and ongoing efforts to create an email list informing all members of public meetings and what will be discussed at those meetings.

4. Election of DIRA Executive Board:

There was one nomination from the floor for Bob French to join the board, which he accepted. There was a motion to renew the existing board members (Ron, Doug, Andrew and Frieda) and elect Bob French. The motion was seconded and all voted in favour.

MOTION PASSED

5. Annual Year-End Financial Report:

Doug started by reviewing the account balances at the Union Bay Credit Union. The balances were (rounded) as follows: general chequing \$17,500, dock account \$36,000, misc. account \$100, share account \$3,000, GIC's \$2,400, Letter of Credit (in trust for the dock) \$5,000 and a long term GIC for the dock \$17,000.

Then Doug reviewed in detail the revenue and expenses. All cheques are numbered and recorded and assigned to a committee or administration.

Doug reported that the consolidated financial report has been prepared, will be audited and then presented to the members.

There was a motion to accept the financial report, which was seconded, and all voted in favour.

MOTION PASSED

6. **Annual Reports from DIRA COMMITTEES**

Parks Committee:

Tim Fuchs reported that this committee has 5 to 8 members who meet every month at the fire hall to discuss work-bees and other issues. They are always looking for new members. Some of their accomplishments mentioned include: access to the old gravel pit on the east side of the provincial park with approval from private landowners and BC Parks, working with BC Parks to establish permanent access to Chickadee Lake (the Lake Farm driveway is not a public access, work with the CVRD regarding Morning Beach Park beach access due to erosion, clearing several historical trails linking the east and the west side of the island, work on Maple Park, and clearing in the butterfly reserve. Tim also mentioned there is a small booklet they have published called The Joy of Walking which can be downloaded from the Denman Activity website or bought from Remax. In addition, the committee has purchased new equipment and yellow cedar for Morning Beach stairs and are responsible for helping to ensure no poisonous spraying in Fillongley this year.

Trails Committee:

Allan Danks spoke about the Cross Island Trail extension just completed which was funded by gas tax money and the same funding source is expected to enable further extensions. During 2017 280 volunteer hours were spent keeping BC Park trails cleared and a further 100 hours maintaining the Cross Island Trail and about 120 hours of planning for about 500 hours of volunteer time. This active committee is always looking for new members.

Pesticide Free Committee:

Anne Page reported (on behalf of the chair Peter Thomsen) that their approach to removing broom is safer than spraying. Funds for broom eradication were received from the CVRD, grants, the garden society and a quilt fundraiser. This committee meets every month and has the following plans for 2018: community workshop/education, monthly articles in the Grapevine, encourage non-pesticide use by local businesses and further lobby for the ban of pesticides to remove invasive plants (such as holly).

Marine Guardians Committee:

Edi Johnston reported some of the activities they have been involved in during the past year, which include: a letter to fisheries regarding geoduck farming, The Great Canadian Shoreline Clean-up, participation in CPAWS (national organization), hosting 14 BCIT students studying the foreshore and urging all levels of government to protect the beaches.

Bill Mee Committee:

Ralph McCuaig reported that there are work-bees to maintain the park and boat ramp. Someone has done donuts (again this year) in the parking lot, which will require the repair or replacement of some concrete barriers. In addition, a gatepost is missing which will need to be replaced. Ralph also mentioned that season parking passes are available.

7. Liaison Reports:

Islands Trust:

David Critchley reported that the trust council held their last quarterly meeting on Salt Spring Island, which was opened by 3 First Nations elders from Cowichan. The Islands Trust is trying to develop more trust between themselves and First Nations and would like to include First Nations in all of their meetings. The budget for \$7.8 million has been approved. The increase from previous years is mainly due to hiring 3 new specialized staff (specialist in first nations, fresh water specialist to model aquifers on Denman and Hornby and a senior staff person). Islands Trust is doing a lot of advocacy work and they are looking at the effects of climate change such as increasing storms, rain events and dryer summers. They are also working with the K'omoks First Nation in a series of 3 meetings to get to know each other and build trust. The 3rd of these meetings will be held in May.

Ferry Advisory:

Frank Frketich reported that the advisory committee has been working positively with BC Ferries as evidenced by everyone's work to eliminate the mid-day gap. Other recent positive steps taken by BC Ferries include a 15% drop in fares and a reduction in the minimum load on the prepaid cards. The advisory committee is working to further reduce the minimum load for walk-on prepaid cards. Next week all Ferry Advisory Chairs will

have a conference call with a BC Ferries contractor allowing them to air their views and concerns. The next Ferry Advisory meeting will be in April and Frank said if anyone would like to make a presentation they should let him know. Frank seems to be hearing conflicting stories regarding after hours ferry availability and asked if he could be informed when the Ferry was not available. There is a plan to expand the Gravelly Bay Ferry Terminal to get more cars off the road.

8. Bylaw Changes

The bylaw changes to the constitution changes voted on in 4 motions as follows:

The changes are as follows (in red):

Section 3.2

In all matters the members at a General Meeting are the final authority of the Association. They may, by **Special** Resolution, give direction to the Board of Directors and may also overrule a decision of the Board of Directors.

The change is to comply with the Societies Act.

Section 3.5

At all meetings of the Association any member may **rise on a question of privilege to move that** any issue be decided by secret ballot.

This is to correct a procedure and comply with Roberts Rules of Order.

There was a motion to accept the changes, a member seconded and all were in favour.
MOTION PASSED

Section 3.1 and 3.3

The Board proposed reducing the minimum number of General meetings From 10 to 6 per year and the number of members constituting a quorum from 12 to 3.

This proposed change generated much discussion. Some members said reducing the number of meetings will reduce DIRA's relevance and some members said reducing the number of meetings would make those remaining meetings even more important. One member feared it would take too long to get a letter from DIRA if needed. Reducing the quorum to 3 is consistent with the Societies Act however one member thought 3 was an unreasonably low number of people to represent the residents.

A friendly amendment was proposed by a member to reduce the number of meetings from 10 to 6 per year and the number of members constituting a quorum from 12 to 8.

A motion was put forward to reduce the number of meetings from 10 to 6 per year and reduce the quorum from 12 to 8. The motion was seconded, 20 members voted in favour

and 1 member voted against.

MOTION PASSED

Section 4.1 and 4.3

The board proposed reducing the minimum number of Board meetings from 10 to 6 per year and the number of board members constituting a quorum be reduced from 4 to 3.

This proposed change also generated much discussion. A motion was made from the floor to leave the minimum number of Board meetings at 10 per year and reduce the Board quorum from 4 to 3. The motion was seconded, 10 members voted in favour and 14 members voted against. This motion was not passed.

The original motion reducing the minimum number of Board meetings from 10 to 6 per year and reducing the quorum from 4 to 3 was represented and was seconded. 20 members voted in favour and 1 member voted against.

MOTION PASSED

Section 5.1

The board proposed reducing the minimum number of Directors from 6 to 3.

There was no further discussion on this proposal and it was moved, seconded and all voted in favour with one member opposed.

MOTION PASSED

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 P.M.