

Denman Island Residents Association Public Meeting May 14, 2018

Present: Ron Shepherd; chair, Doug Wright; Treasurer, Andrew Pringle; Secretary, Frieda Werden; Member-at -Large and 7 other members

Public meeting called to order at 7:30 P.M.

Motion to approve the minutes of April 9, 2018 with an amendment to correctly report the minimum number of board and general meetings which will be reduced from 10 to 6 per year.

The motion was moved, seconded and passed.

MOTION PASSED

EXECUTIVE REPORT:

1. The DIRA executive for 2018 will be as follows:

President - Ron Shepherd,

Vice-President - Bob French,

Treasurer - Doug Wright,

Secretary - Andrew Pringle

2. The term each person is expecting to run:

2 years - Ron Shepherd and Bob French

1 year - Andrew Pringle and Frieda Werden (member-at-large)

NEW BUSINESS:

3. There was a request for a general letter of support from the DCLTA (low income senior housing on Denman). There was a motion from the floor to ask the DCLTA to compose a letter for DIRA to sign subject to DIRA approval.

The motion was seconded and passed - subject to DIRA executive approval.

4. Proposed neighbourhood park on highways right-of-way opposite Piercy Farm. The Parks Committee and other residents have indicated support for converting the highways right-of-way opposite Piercy Farm to the beach into a park.

There was a motion for DIRA to send a letter of support to the CVRD recommending changing the right-of-way to a park. The motion was seconded and passed.

MOTION PASSED

5. Request for approval for Graham Lake Swim Dock (DIRA committee) to apply for a \$500 Recreation Grant. Ron explained that the cost of insurance is \$500.

There was a motion to support Graham Lake Swim Dock applying for a \$500 Recreation Grant. The motion was seconded and passed.

MOTION PASSED

6. Complaint received regarding hitting the gate-posts at the south end of the community dock parking lot. The letter of complaint was sent to the flagstone. Ron responded with a sympathetic letter explaining the gates are 16 feet apart and the use of that access is at the users own risk (as the sign states).

7. Improved internet access on Denman. Graham Hayman would like Denman Island to get better internet access and is exploring ideas for pursuing this. There is a fiber optic cable which will be installed from Vancouver to the north end of Vancouver Island but currently Denman is not on the list of communities to be connected. This may change if the BC Government knows about our interest.

Graham has been working on this initiative on his own. Ron said that if Graham can get a group of residents together to work on the project they may be eligible to become a committee of DIRA which would permit them to apply for grants that are available only to registered organizations. Another member suggested contacting Denman Works because they have staff and financial resources which DIRA does not have. Also, contacting our MLA would be an important step.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Waste Management:

The recycling centre has been reorganized to better facilitate the flow of people. The only comment was that bigger signage would be helpful.

Boat Launch Committee:

Doug reported that the boat launch is generating some revenue and the ramp is kept clean. There have not been any complaints.

Parks Committee:

Ron discussed concerns with sight-lines and clean-up of debris on Graffiti Hill. Ron sent a letter to highways describing the poor sight-lines at the bottom of the hill and previous clean-up where debris was left on a trail. The response from highways was favourable and in complete agreement with the request for improvement.

Pesticide Free Committee:

Doug reported that the broom pullers are ready to go and will start next week.

LIAISON REPORTS:

Islands Trust:

Laura Busheikin reported that the new Farm Plan is moving ahead. A draft by-law has been written with changes to commercial opportunities and new rules around cannabis. Islands Trust has also partnered with the World Wildlife Fund to look at ways to protect Baynes Sound.

The driving on the beach by-law has had third reading and has gone to the executive committee. If approved by the executive it will go back to the Local Trust Committee for adoption.

Laura has been successful in getting approval to have the concrete barrier in front of the school removed and likely replaced with something more appropriate for the location.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 P.M.