

Minutes of meeting on Tuesday, 27th February 2018.

Present: Allan, Graeme, Ian, Margie, Michael, Ralph, Rick, Tim.

Regrets Anne, Camilla, Frank, Harry, Howard, Gina.

Guests: Daniel May. CVRD.

Points of discussion:

The January 2018 minutes were approved as e-mailed.

Discussion with Daniel May:

Generally the feedback regarding the new trail extension was good, in particular people liked the trail surface and the great views obtained along the East Road section.

Signage pertaining to Graham Lake has been covered up on the trail sign posts.

Some repairs to the existing trail were discussed while nothing was decided a couple of areas were mentioned, namely, the area near the mailboxes and the trail in-front of the marsh.

Regarding leaves on the trail, Michael suggested purchasing a battery operated blower that is light and very portable and may work well. Graeme suggested if we purchased one it could possibly be stored at the Fire Hall where the maintenance person of the month would have access to it.

Regarding trail extensions, Daniel informed us that there would be no more work this year. A suggestion has been made by the CVRD folks that the next section of trail to be built could be along East Road south from the junction of Owl Crescent. The reason given was that from the existing end of trail on East Road and Corrigal people can safely walk along Corrigal, Jemima and Owl to re-connect with the new trail on East Road.

This would allow the trail to extend and give more time to consider the Corrigal Road RoW route. While the committee saw some sense in this suggestion there was some disappointment at the lack of commitment to making a decision on the Corrigal RoW.

Graeme suggested that perhaps a better route would-be to continue the trail down East Road from Corrigal if permission from land owners of the gazette road sections could be obtained. Further, it has been previously suggested by Erica Bland, representing the Denman Conservancy that a trail in Lindsey Dickson Park paralleling East Road would not be objectionable. Food for thought.

A suggestion was made to Daniel regarding the "Volunteer Thank-you" and the matter was left to him.

Regarding CVRD maintenance of the trail, Daniel agreed that twice a year the CVRD will contract a person to cut back the vegetation at the sides of the trail. In addition, Kyle Robinson may be hired to remove grass from the trail and repair ditches where necessary.

Mention was made regarding the Co-Op grant, while Margie brought the matter up previously Allan referred it to Daniel who in turn sent it to CVRD people. All rather complicated and unfortunately with a fast looming close date nothing was done. Apparently this is a yearly offering for new trail construction and hopefully CVRD can apply next year for the grant.

Graeme asked the question regarding chainsaw use on the trail, after a brief discussion with Daniel it was decided that as long as the Trail Committee members felt confident in the work that was fine. It was mentioned that 4-members of the Committee have been passed by BC Parks to use chainsaws in the Parks.

Reports:

Due to needing to leave to catch a ferry Rick gave a quick verbal report on his trail maintenance and will e-mail Allan a full report shortly.

It is important that written reports are made each month, the report is then forwarded to Daniel and makes a record of our trail maintenance endeavors.

Regarding the January minutes report; *The Parks Committee has learned from Erica Bland that Sean White is now willing to sign over a small portion of his land to Denman Conservancy which will allow a portion of the trail that flows from the Conservancy lands into the BC Parks land to become public property. This will save the conservancy the expense of building a boardwalk over the marsh.* Tim suggested this may not necessarily be the case; Tim will try to verify the above.

Old Business:

Nothing to report.

New Business:

As our last work party was cancelled due to bad weather we have re-scheduled the work party for **Sunday, 4th March, meet at 10-am at the corner of Northwest and Creekside roads.** We will be improving a trail in Denman Island Park that leads to the bluffs.

We also scheduled a second work party for **Tuesday, 20th March. Meet at the Tree in the Road, (Head of the Main Trail.) at 10-am (10.00-hrs)** to cut back the sides of the trail of salal.

People were enthused to go on another group hike and **Elk Falls** was suggested. We will meet at **the Denman West ferry terminal to catch the 8.40-am (08.40-hrs) ferry.** Once there we can do some car-pooling.

In April it is hoped that ferry fares for seniors will again be free. At that time we should take advantage in organizing a hike on Hornby. This will be discussed at our March meeting.

The Cross Island Trail maintenance walks are as follows:

Ian, March. Graeme, April. Tim, May. Margie & Ralph, June. Frank, July.

Please call Allan if the maintenance person needs any of the following equipment:
Blower, Hedge trimmer, Brush cutter, rake, loppers, pruning saw.

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, 27th March at 7.30 am (19.30hrs) at the Fire Hall.**