

## Trails Minutes Summary September 2016

Allan did the September CIT maintenance. The fall and winter maintenance involves picking up garbage and cutting back overhangs. On each maintenance walk Allan pulled at least 10-clumps of grass from the trail. Allan used his Stihl motor with a cultivator head attached to attack the most overgrown parts; the trail across Central Road from the Denman Green Cemetery. The cultivator removed clumps of grass and other shallow rooted plants from 90 ft. of trail, the long rooted plants stayed, and a lot of hand work and raking was necessary. Before and after photos were circulated to the committee.

The monthly maintenance list is as follows:

**Tim, October: Margie & Ralph, November: Anne, December: Frank. January:**

Our recent work party in Boyle Point Park cleared a popular trail of salal and fallen trees. Howard and Camilla used a hedge trimmer to clear a trail from the steep slope to our 2-year old bridge over the creek.

Margie and Ralph picked-up some equipment from Comox Rental and Recreation including a blower, a second weed-eater head and several blades.

Tim reported that at a recent Parks Committee meeting confirmation was received that the CVRD will be able to acquire lands off of Park Road to make it possible for a trail/vehicle access into the Denman Island Park from that side.

### OLD BUSINESS:

It was re-affirmed that building a switchback trail to replace the direct route on the bluff area above Betty's Beach is a priority. By the fall we hope a new route will be flagged and downed trees available for this project will be noted.

A donation was received from Baynes Sound Insurance of \$100.00. Allan delivered Thank You notes to both Baynes Sound Insurance and Re/Max for their donations.

Graeme will chase up the Coast Realty Group who offered to donate and when/if we receive a donation from them Margie/ Anne will publish a letter in our local paper publicly thanking them all for their donations.

### NEW BUSINESS:

Allan recommended obtaining a wheeled Stihl motor driven cultivator for removing grass from the trail. We had hoped to let the CVRD do this work, but Daniel May has been unable to find a contractor. With the equipment on wheels, the monthly maintenance person could spend up to a couple of their "Walks" on clearing a short section of grassy trail. Allan will e-mail Doug DeMarzo and Daniel May to seek their approval and possibly get extra money to cover the purchase. Graeme suggested that he try the cultivator on the back of his tractor to loosen the gravel and extra people would rake and lift the weeds. A date was set for this "try-out" on Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> October; unfortunately the work party was cancelled on the day due to rain.

Our next trail clearing will be in Denman Island Park where we hope to clear the brush from a multi-purpose trail that leads to Graeme's Shady Lane Trail. We will meet at the top of ***Wren Road on Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> October at 9.30-am.*** Hopefully the weather will co-operate!

Mapping was again discussed; Camilla showed us a map put out by the Hornby mountain bike group that was offered for sale at \$5.00- a copy. We still have no specific action plan on mapping. Allan will talk to Derek Moore of BC Parks regarding the possibility of getting a digital copy of the map they recently produced for both Boyle Point and Denman Island Park trails. Our committee wants to put up signage in the 2-Parks to guide the general public.

There was a suggestion that Daniel May had mentioned that asphaltting the Cross Island Trail was not very expensive; Allan will e-mail him regarding this issue.

Our next meeting is on **Tuesday, 25th October at 7.30-pm at the Fire Hall.**

