

Valdes Island Conservancy
December 2016 Meeting Minutes

Date: December 12, 2016

Time: 7pm

Place: Conference Call

Present: Alexandra de Jong Westman, Diane Burton, Warren Warttig, Doug Cochran, Dan White, James Lang, Julian Noel, Doug Campbell, Emrys Prussian; Marja de Jong Westman

Missing: n/a

Regrets: John Hurd, Allan Doolittle

Recorder: Marja de Jong Westman

1. Routine Business

1.1 Call to Order - at 7:06 by Warren Warttig

1.2 Approval of the Agenda – Motion to accept agenda: Doug Campbell; seconded by Diane Burton – carried

1.3 Approval of November Minutes – Motion to accept November meeting minutes: Diane Burton; seconded by Doug Cochran - carried

2. Officer's Reports

2.1 President's Report

- The Executive met to set the agenda last week.
- Alexandra and Warren have been in communications with Galiano Conservancy. The Galiano Conservancy have requested another letter of support from VIC ahead of the pending proposal intake for additional funds from the Habitat Stewardship Program Fund. This proposal would provide more funds for dive surveys, videography, and signs at major fishing points (Steveston, Ladysmith, etc.). We will come to the board for ideas and requests for additional sign placements when further funding is approved.
- Warren has been working on developing an article for Galiano Conservancy newsletter on Rockfish Conservation Areas and the active research which is ongoing. (Warren
- Island Timberland's update on upcoming logging plans (Warren) (past newsletter article on forestry posted to Basecamp). Access to properties via Island timberlands may be problematic for islanders once logging commences.
- Discussion points:
 - RCA have been moderately successful
 - many rockcod are being found outside the conservation areas
- VIC should consider requesting the expansion of the areas to incorporate more biologically significant locations for species conservation - **ACTION: Warren/Alexandra**
- Steller's sea lions – boost in population noted on the south coast; consider an article for the newsletter on this topic and the engagement of biologist Andrew Trites – **ACTION: Dan/Marja**

2.2 Treasurer's Report (as posted)

- Total dollars in accounts \$8457.76
- Discussion points: Director's insurance for VIC Board members
 - Applies from November 1st to Oct 31, 2017; NGO require such insurance; particularly valuable given future planned community engagement activities and annual Bioblitz

Motion to accept Officer's reports (President's/Treasurer's):

Moved by Doug Cochran; seconded by Dan White - carried.

3. Committee Reports (one minute round table update/committee)

3.1 Membership Committee - Diane Burton; 74 members; membership forms are being updated

3.2 Revenue Committee – James Lang; accepted position as the chair

3.3 Trails and Lands Committee – Julian; nothing new to report

3.4 Safety Committee – Dan; nothing new to report

3.5 First Nations Committee – Doug Campbell

- confirmed with band to have a meeting in March
- discussion ensued re: date
 - Sunday March 5th will be suggested as the preferred date **ACTION:** Doug
 - Road access on the north side of the island (to be discussed under old business)
 - West Vancouver Yacht Club – contact made with club; meeting planned in early spring to inform club as to VIC mandate and projects

3.6 Conservation and Education Committee – Marja de Jong Westman

- 5 new members have agreed to join the committee
- January 2017 – newsletter publication and distribution
- June 23, 24, 25, 2017 – Bioblitz Weekend
 - Friday, June 23rd - orientation
 - June 24th field work (low tide 12:30 0.5) & participant potluck
 - June 25th field morning (low tide 1:15 0.5)

Other activities in line with VIC mandate (possible August activities)

- Community trails work party
- Invasive plant pulls
- Great Canadian Shoreline clean up
- **ACTION: Marja and Julian and Dan** to discuss possible dates for such activities

3.7 Legal Affairs Committee - Reported via Doug Cochran for Allan Doolittle

- Charitable status application will be circulated and brought forward to board after committee articulates details – **ACTION: Legal Affairs Committee**
- Bylaw amendment process is underway – **ACTION: Legal Affairs Committee**

Motion to approve committee reports: Alexandra de Jong Westman moved; Julian Noel seconded – carried

4. Old Business

4.1 Appointment of James Lang as Chair of the Revenue Committee:

- motion to accept: Doug Cochran; Diane Burton seconded – carried

4.2 Appointment of Diane Burton as Chair of the Membership Committee:

- motion to accept: Alexandra de Jong Westman; Doug Cochran seconded - carried
- 4.3 Update on GIC - Diane Burton
- motion to leave GIC in place until matures in April 2017, then address what to do with it at that time- Doug Cochran seconded; carried
- 4.4 Name change of Revenue Committee to Fund Raising and Grant Committee
- **Action: James Lang** continue to consider and confirm approach at next meeting
- 4.5 Status of property access to north properties (Julian)
- Lengthy discussion on public road access
 - VIC to find common ground for a resolution **ACTION: FN committee and Lands and Trails Committee**
- 4.6 Coastal waterbird survey data to Warren for Lyackson FN (Marja)
- Information provided to Linda Aidnell as requested
- 4.7 Winter video(weather dependent) of bay between Kendrick and Valdes Islands for Lyackson FN (Warren)
- Warren confirmed he will carry this out if weather permits
- 4.8 New bylaw registration status (Allan Doolittle)
- reported by Doug Cochran for Alan - bylaw amendment process is underway
- 4.9 Charitable status update (Allan)
- reported by Doug Cochran for Alan - information gathering for application is underway
- 4.10 Legal Affairs committee TOR – Doug Campbell
- committee to review existing TOR on basecamp
 - present final TOR to board for approval– March 2017 meeting
 - **ACTION: Doug Campbell**
- 4.11 Revenue committee TOR – James Lang
- committee to review existing TOR on basecamp
 - present final TOR to board for approval – March 2017 meeting
 - **ACTION: James Lang**
- 4.12 Basecamp Tutorial (Alexandra) –
- Board members were advised to access basecamp
 - Go to Explore Basecamp;
 - All board members have been added to it
 - Website provides a “walk through”
5. New Business
- 5.1 Activity Calendar (see posted)
- AGM DATE:
- Saturday, September 2nd 11:00 AM– Diane Burton moved; Doug Campbell seconded; carried
- 5.2 Committee Work Plan Table (see example posted on basecamp) items were articulated and added to list to provide a guide to work.
- ACTION: committee chairs and members to review**
- 5.3 February meeting date reset due to family day – Monday, February 20th

Motion to adjourn meeting – Julian Noel; Doug Cochran seconded - approved

Next meeting date: Monday, January 9, 2017

Mission Statement

To conserve and protect the existing biological and cultural communities of Valdes Island and its environs.