



Valdes Island Conservancy
Minutes of July 17, 2018

Date: July 17, 2018 (Conference Call)

Present: Diane Burton; Anne Casselman; Marja de Jong Westman; Alan Doolittle; Doug Campbell; Doug Cochran; Janos Mate; Warren Warttig (Chair).

Missing: Dan White

Regrets: Alexandra de Jong Westman; Bill McElhanney

1. Routine Business:

1.1. Call to Order: 7:15 pm

1.2. Approval of the Agenda with amendments: moved by Doug Cochran; seconded by Janos Mate; Carried.

1.2.1. Amendments – Additions to agenda

- 3.3 Lands/Trails – Kevin North Property
- 4.3 New Business
 - Information document to Treaty Commissioner
 - AGM report preparation
 - Communication with Island Timberlands re: request for information re: logging plans for fall 2018.

1.3. Approval May 2018 minutes: moved by Diane Burton; seconded by Doug Cochran; carried

2. Officer's Reports:

2.1. Executive Report (Actions and Correspondence) – posted to Basecamp; reviewed by Warren

2.2. Treasurer's Report – posted to Basecamp; reviewed by Diane

- Chequing account
 - Balance forward June 1, 2018: 1436.17
 - Balance remaining June 30, 2018: 1389.57
- Revenue:
 - Membership renewals - \$25.00
- Expenses:
 - Momentum Conferencing, May/18 \$44.52
 - Basecamp costs June-July 2018 \$27.09
- Investments



- GIC 2589.74
- TOTAL: 3979.31

2.3. **Legal Affairs Committee** – given by Alan Doolittle. Canadian Revenue Agency(CRA) acknowledged receipt of application (April) and that a response would take ~4 months. As a component of application the VIC constitution and bylaws will be reviewed. Changes may be requested. **ACTION ARISING: volunteer hours/efforts and expenses and donations in kind should be calculated on a yearly basis. Diane Burton volunteered to chart and track this on an ongoing basis.**

3. **Committee Reports:**

3.1. **Membership Committee – Chair Diane Burton**

- 2 new members have joined
- membership renewal notice to be sent out with cover email by July 25, 2018 AND then again with the AGM material. Consideration given to a message to members which might include the concept of the VIC continuing to evolve and working patiently and at times managing difficult situations to ensure we meet our mandate of being a voice for conservation, a voice for the community and a voice of reconciliation. Acknowledging and letting members know of the total number of volunteer hours board members have accrued may also be valuable.
ACTION: Warren and Diane

3.2. **Revenue Committee – Co-Chairs Alexandra de Jong Westman/Bill McElhanney** – no report given . **ACTION: request of an updated list of potential grants and application deadlines prior and for reporting to AGM.**

3.3. **Trails and Lands Committee – Chair Warren Warttig; Marja de Jong Westman**

- In March 2018 , VIC board agreed to developing a natural history brochure of the community trail. Work on this project began during the Bioblitz 2018 when the island cabin trail was walked from Porlier Pass to Starvation Bay. Locations of sensitive ecosystems & ecosystems at risk were identified as well as sites of general natural history interest. **ACTION: Anne, Marja , Warren and participants of the Blitz.**
- Janos Mate reviewed communications with the Provincial Lands Office in Nanaimo re: abandoned property (Kevin North's). Property is under review and we can expect communication in 2019.
- Board agreed that contact should be made with Island Timberlands to alert them to the sites of provincially listed species and ecosystems and water licenses on Valdes Island and to determine their proposed plans for upcoming logging. There is also support for trying to get Bill Waugh to Valdes Island to



enable him to become more familiar with the cabin community and residents uses of the logging roads. **ACTION: Warren**

3.4. Safety Committee – Chair Dan White –no report submitted

3.5. First Nations Committee – Chair Doug Campbell – correspondence to Chief Thomas and documents prepared for June 18th meeting were posted to Basecamp. Notice to members and members concerns regarding restrictions of access to community trails on the Crown lands of the Provincial Woodlot was discussed. Agreement that an August 2018 meeting with the Lyackson FN should be planned. **ACTION: Warren and Doug**

3.6. Conservation and Education Committee – Chair Marja de Jong Westman

- The 2-day annual Bioblitz was attended by four board members and 24 members and guests. Key activities included a natural history walk from Porlier Pass to Starvation Bay which included identification of important species and ecosystems and their locations. Insects were collected by biologist Robin Weber. Botanical support was provided by Janet Canning. A seaweed workshop was offered by Daniel Zayonc. Biologist, Ramona de Graaf from Sea Watch Society hosted a forage fish workshop in Starvation Bay which included methodology for locating and identifying surf smelts and sand lance. Special thanks goes to Warren, Doug Cochran and Anne and captains Bruce Livingston, Dan White, Tony Westman and Mark Bateman.

3.7 Legal Affairs Committee – Chair Alan Doolittle

- Membership categories. Doug Cochran presented suggestions for change to our membership criteria and categories. Janos Mate moved to have the Legal Affairs Committee prepare a document showing options for membership categories and voting criteria. Seconded by Doug Cochran. Carried. Any approved changes would require changes to the bylaws of the VIC and would thus go forward at the 2019 AGM.

4. Old Business

- Anchorage letter and press release. **ACTION: Warren and Anne**
- Communications with Island Timberlands re: access; mounting of informational bat signs at Blackberry Point; hunting signs and approval of conducting invasive plant pull on logging roads during annual Bioblitz. **ACTION: Warren**
- Communications with Island Timberlands - **ACTION: Warren**
- Search for new directors – formal letter of invitation to join the board to be sent to Heather Grant, Jason Camp and a member from the north island community. **ACTION: Warren**



4.1. **Membership drive:**

- Create postcard-type brochure for e-blast distribution to all non-member islanders
Action: deferred now twice

5. **New Business**

- **Proposed Slate of Directors 2018-2019**
 - Anne Casselman, Bill McElhanney, Janos Mate, Diane Burton are continuing their terms.
 - Standing again: Doug Campbell; Doug Cochran; Alan Doolittle, Warren Warttig.
 - Still to be confirmed: Alexandra de Jong Westman, Marja de Jong Westman and Dan White
- **AGM planning:**
 - Committee reports **to Warren by July 30th. ACTION: All**
 - Volunteer hours given to VIC this year (includes meetings; communications; reports; Bioblitzs etc) of board members. Provide a list of your hours and activities **to Warren by July 30th. ACTION: All**
 - Planning meeting – early August on island. Date TBA. **ACTION: Warren**
- **Communication with Treaty Commissioner and Lyackson First Nations:** Doug Campbell.
 - "Our lives and the Island": gathering of community voices
The provision of historical details is going to be pivotal to our submission to the Treaty Commissioner and further communications and relationship building with the Lyackson First Nation. I think we should walk forward to a project discussed in the past, and that was gathering islander's stories ...when they arrived, the building of their places, why Valdes has become their family meeting place. We have much to do to gather our stories and show the cabin community's use/ occupation of the island from the 1960s onward.

Meeting adjourned 10:45 pm

Mission Statement

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