



Valdes Island Conservancy

Minutes of March 12, 2018

Date: March 12, 2018 (Conference Call)

Present: Diane Burton; Alexandra de Jong Westman; Marja de Jong Westman; Alan Doolittle; Doug Campbell; Janos Mate; Dan White; Warren Warttig.

Missing: Bill McElhanney

Regrets: Anne Casselman; Doug Cochran

1. Routine Business

- 1.1 Call to Order: 7:20 pm
- 1.2 Approval of the Agenda: moved by Dan White; seconded by Diane Burton; Carried.
- 1.3 Approval January 13th minutes: moved by Diane Burton; seconded by Dan White; carried

2. Officer's Reports

2.1 Executive Report (Actions and Correspondence)

- 2.1.1 Marja attended Nearshore Habitat Recovery and Gulf Islands Technical Working Group meetings in Cowichan. **ACTION ITEM:** communication with the Lyackson FN about log salvage responses; log jams; log dump sites and effects of log jams in the intertidal zone of Valdes Island.
- 2.1.2 Warren attended Rockfish Conservation meeting in Victoria. UVIC and the Galiano Conservancy are key to this initiative. **ACTION ITEM** Minutes from this meeting will be posted to Basecamp.
- 2.1.3 Marja and Warren had correspondence with Doug Fenton who organized a regional Anchorage Summit meeting for groups in Southern Gulf Islands.
- 2.1.4 Alexandra pursued communications with Islands Trust and Habitat Stewardship Program re: grant funding for VIC projects. An update of this work was posted to Basecamp. Successful funding applications are related to the VIC gaining registered charitable status.
- 2.1.5 Diane communicated with the Federal Government, provincial groups and local conservancies to access information brochures for our members. Brochures are now being received and will be provided to members either by way of mail out with the VIC newsletter or as hand-outs at the VIC AGM. Topics include best practices re: boat anchorage; foreshore activities; purple martin population restoration, etc.



- 2.1.6 Marja corresponded with Andrew Simon re: research into plants and pollinators on Valdes Island. Andrew as a guest of the BioBlitz 2017; documented the unique plant communities of the island’s meadows. He submitted a proposal to research further the actions between plants and pollinators. The VIC board voted to support the research. **ACTION ITEM:** Research sites on private land will have to be identified. Once identified, property owners will be contacted to determine their willingness to participate.
- 2.1.7 Fire Safety Day: Dan White reached out to the fire warden and other individuals assigned with fire management in the Gulf Islands. It was agreed that information about the April 13th Fire Safety Workshop be shared with both members and non-members of the VIC. **ACTION ITEM:** Warren
- 2.1.8 Warren attended the Anchorage Summit meeting on March 2 with other Gulf Island community groups. Warren presented at this meeting on behalf of the Valdes Island Conservancy and expressed the VIC’s opposition to anchorages. Press release to be crafted from the VIC and shared with other groups. Determined that May deadline needed to be met. **ACTION ITEM:** Warren and Anne (by April 30th)
- 2.1.9 Warren and Doug had verbal correspondence re: Treaty Commissioners letter. **ACTION ITEM:** Doug to follow up for written confirmation
- 2.1.10 Warren and Alan gathered information for the application for VIC charitable status.
- 2.1.11 Correspondence to Bill Pearce was finalized. No further correspondence required.

2.2 Treasurer’s Report: Period ending February 28, 2018

2.2.1 Approval was given for imbursement of travel costs to Eelgrass working group; and donation for Purple Martin Recovery brochures and purchase of Shoreline Protection and Stewardship brochures.

2.2.2 Chequing Account:

• Balance forward as of Feb. 1, 2018	\$891.58
• Revenue	0.00
• Expenses	
○ Ferry/Marja/ Nearshore Workshop	\$179.90
○ Momentum conferencing (Jan.2018)	13.93
○ Basecamp Feb 17-March 17	25.72
Balance Chequing as of Feb. 28.2018	672.03
GIC	\$5052.50
Total:	\$5724.53



3. Committee Reports:

3.1 Membership Committee – Chair Diane Burton

3.1.1 Membership form has been updated

3.1.1.1 Categories of membership to be articulated by committee and brought forward to board for discussion prior to the AGM. **ACTION ITEM:** Diane, Doug and Alan.

3.2 Revenue Committee – Co-Chairs Alexandra de Jong Westman/Bill McElhanney

3.2.1 Report posted to basecamp with updates re: registered charitable status.

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

3.3.1 Agreement to develop a natural history brochure of the community trail, “Island Highway”.
ACTION ITEM: this project will be a focus of this year’s Bioblitz.

3.3.2 Outstanding projects: bat signs at Blackberry Point; hunting signs re: where it is legal to hunt; communications with Island Timberlands re: invasive plant pull on logging roads during Bioblitz. **ACTION ITEM:** Action: Warren to contact Western Forest Products and for the board to consider these actions be delivered during the 2018 Bioblitz.

3.3.3 Abandoned property – update: Warren/Janos confirmed the VIC’s communication with the BC Gov’t was sent to Linda Aidnell.

3.4 Safety Committee – Chair Dan White

3.4.1 April 13th fire safety training day at Bateman’s

3.4.2 **ACTION ITEM:** workshop to be filmed and posted to VIC website to ensure that all members have access to information.

3.5 First Nations Committee – Chair Doug Campbell

3.5.1 Bill McElhanney distributed Lyackson position statement on Kinder Morgan via Basecamp.

3.6 Conservation and Education Committee – Chair Marja de Jong Westman

3.6.1 Newsletter articles have all been received. Files have been sent to Mark and Jane Bateman. Marja and the Batemans will work forward to developing the next newsletter. Thank you to all contributors.

3.6.2 Bioblitz organization – discussed

3.7 Legal Affairs Committee – Chair Alan Doolittle

3.7.1 Charitable status – Alan reported on the items outstanding. Information required was received during the meeting. **ACTION ITEM:** Application to be submitted.

4. Old Business

4.1.1 Anchorage letter and press release. See 2.1.8

4.1.2 Communications needed 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 Bioblitz . see 3.3.2

4.2 Islands Trust 5-year plan: Action item: no longer applicable.



- 4.3 Invitation to resource biologists to be members of the VIC. It was agreed to offer the resource biologists an honorary non-voting membership given their engagement and time commitment to Valdes Island **ACTION ITEM:** Diane and Marja
- 4.4 Search for new directors – **ACTION ITEM:** all
- 4.5 Membership drive:
 - 4.5.1 Create postcard-type brochure for e-blast distribution to all non-member islanders **ACTION ITEM:** deferred

5. New Business

- 5.1.1 FN committee will arrange a spring meeting with the Lyackson Chief and Council. **ACTION ITEM:** Doug Campbell
- 5.2 Review of meeting schedule

Next interim reporting date: April 9, 2018

Next conference all meeting: May 14, 2018

Motion to adjourn the meeting – Janos Mate; seconded by Dan White – Carried.

Mission Statement

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