

**SOUTHERN GULF ISLANDS ELECTORAL AREA**  
**COMMUNITY ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION**  
Notice of a Meeting to be held **Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 9:00am**  
**Mary Winspear Centre, 2243 Beacon Ave, Sidney, BC**

**CESC Commissioners:** Brian Crumblehulme (Mayne Island), Mike Hoebel (Galiano Island), Ben McConchie (Pender Island), Priscilla Zimmerman(Saturna Island), Director David Howe (Chair)

**Guests:** Kevin Lorette (General Manager, Planning & Protective Services), John Reilly (Manager, Housing Planning & Programs, Regional Housing), Mamie Hutt Temoana, Zorah Staar, Andrea Mills, Ben Mabblerly, Paul Brent, David Nickoli, Janis Gauthier, Lee Middleton, Ian Dow, Deborah Goldman, Andrew Smith.

**Recorder:** Melody Pender

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**Minutes**

Kevin Lorette gave a brief summary of his department. He has been with the CRD for 4 years. Within his department is the building inspections for the 3 electoral areas, local area planning for the Juan de Fuca local area, long range regional strategic planning including planning for the new Boards (every 4 years), transportation planning, emergency management and protective services, Hassmat, bylaw and animal control, have the jurisdiction for 911 including unifying the call centres, and regional housing and regional hospital district.

Brian Crumblehulme moved the **Agenda** be approved as is, Ben McConchie seconded

**CARRIED**

Michael Hoebel moved adoption of the **Minutes** of February 5th, 2018 Ben McConchie seconded

**CARRIED**

Director's Report: Dave is running again

Housing (see attached presentations)

- John Reilly
  - Regional Housing Affordability Strategy (link to be sent after meeting)
  - Regional Housing Trust Fund (SGI contributes)
- Janis Gautier
  - Housing needs assessment conclusion by Janis Gauthier – presentation attached
    - Serious shortages
    - Renters
    - Owners of housing ok, vacation rentals seem to be an issue taking away inventory
    - Lots of community engagement - Bordering on crisis
    - A lot of homes not lived in year round
  - When you go for funding for housing they will ask always for a needs assessment. Janis hopes this will help the islands with this requirement.

- John Reilly mentioned some next steps with regards to CRD supporting low income housing. Working with Islands Trust and local groups (nonprofit group) on projects for Island proposals. SGI's need to get organized and work on our proposals for submission. Be in touch with John for the specific criteria.
- What information do the commissioners take back to their respective islands? 1) there will be a meeting in September on the islands for housing specific groups with funders present to discuss what the possibilities are, 2) working with the SGI Director on the priorities of the SGI's.

#### SGI Transportation Commission

- Kristen stated that to create a commission the service needs to be established and unfortunately at this time the service is not. However, she feels it is important to create a working group to look into and provide the groundwork for an eventual commission.
  - A bylaw would need to be established
  - Referendum to raise the funds to manage it
  - Again, there is no existing transportation service however perhaps they can work on something that currently exists
  - It may be possible to create a sub group of CESC
    - Mike requests that it possibly be a separate group

SGI Transportation Commission motion (see attached)

#### **Motion**

Michael Hoebel motioned that the SGI Community Economic Sustainability Commission request that the CRD establish a new Southern Gulf Islands Transportation Commission, with a mandate to oversee and coordinate the transportation initiatives outlined above, and with representatives appointed to the Commission from each of Galiano, Mayne, Pender, and Saturna Islands.

Brian Crumblehulme seconded

**CARRIED**

- Discussion: Paul Brent mentioned TDI as a viable foot passenger pilot project with more partners coming on board. BC Ferries is having a problem now providing enough service for foot passengers. Ian Dow spoke about the unaffordability of transportation on each island and if it goes to referendum it will be declined as people don't want to raise taxes.
- Mamie mentioned she may have a solution in the SGI Impact Report.

SGI Impact Report – Mamie Hutt Temoana (previously circulated)

Impact report starts with what initiatives the CESC has done over the 6 years, summary of the listening tour, compare listening tour response to SGI 2020. 2<sup>nd</sup> part is a blueprint. There are options, remain a CESC Advisory (advice, governmental obligations/ brain) Commission and also have a Community Economic Sustainability Centre (arm/ action/

implementation), it could be an arm of the CRC or CRD funded. She recommends that multiple projects are organized under one administration. Kristen mentioned there are contributory services that have authority to run fairly independently. Mamie did some research into the Hornby Island model as an example.

**Motion**

Michael Hoebel motioned that the SGI CESC request that the CRD Staff investigate the governance model used in the Comox Regional District as it relates to the Hornby Island Community Economic Enhancement Corporation and report back to the SGI CESC  
Brian Crumblehulme seconded **CARRIED**

Gulf Islands Food Co-op Update – Zorah Staar gave an update on the Gulf Islands Food Co-op as per attached. From the feedback Zorah has received the Islands biggest restriction on food producing is the poor soil quality. One of the future co-op projects is increasing food growing capacity with an **initial Soil Building Project**, for food growers of all sizes/types.

SGI Music School – Ben McConchie (see attached)

- o Ben's SGI university example would be like the Banff Centre of Performing arts and Hollyhock

Salish Sea Registry – Andrea Mills/Melody Pender

**Motion**

Ben McConchie motioned that the SGI CESC allow the SGI CRC to assume responsibility of the Salish Sea Registry.  
Michael Hoebel seconded **CARRIED**

Island reports:

- o Fallow deer issue on Mayne Island was discussed
- o Saturna Islands economic condition was discussed.

Adjournment: Brian Crumblehulme called for adjournment at 2:40pm

Next Meeting: TBD

## **Background to the Motion**

### On-island transportation

The communities of the Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area lack a provincially funded transit service, and are piloting community-based bus services using volunteers and Community Works Fund capital grants provided by the Capital Regional District (CRD).

### Inter-island transportation

The SGI communities depend on BC Ferries car ferries for inter-island transportation, and have demonstrated a desire for inter-island foot passenger service options by their enthusiastic response to the CRD-supported Tour des Isles volunteer-run demonstration project over the past three years. The CRD is also supporting a test of inter-island transportation by commercial operators.

### Trails and bikeways

These island communities are strong supporters of walking trails and biking infrastructure. In each community the CRD Parks and Recreation Commission manages local trails, and the CRD Parks Department has also developed a SGIs Regional Trails Plan.

### Coordination and communications

In order to coordinate these CRD-supported transportation initiatives for planning and implementation purposes, it is proposed that a SGI Transportation Commission be formed. This Commission would be responsible for liaising with the SGI Harbours Commission, and with island-based Parks and Recreation Commissions regarding trails. The Commission would also be responsible for liaising with SGI-wide organizations such as the SGI Trails Society.

## **Motion**

I move that the SGI Community Economic Sustainability Commission request that the CRD establish a new Southern Gulf Islands Transportation Commission, with a mandate to oversee and coordinate the transportation initiatives outlined above, and with representatives appointed to the Commission from each of Galiano, Mayne, Pender, and Saturna Islands.