

# DIRA Minutes Regular General Meeting May 10, 2010

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**Denman Island Community Hall: 7:30 p.m.**

**Executive Present:** Nettie Cotter, Liz Johnston, Andrew Scruton, Moira Webster, Derek Hood, Max Campill, Doug Ward, Doug Wright

**Regrets:** none

**Guest:** Bruce Jolliffe, Area Representative

**Attendance** 39 members

**Call to Order:** 7:30 p.m.

**Motion to Approve Agenda:** May 10, 2010, *M/S/carried* with amendment to change the order of committee reports (tax-based committees to report first) allowing guests to be present during those presentations.

**Motion to Approve Minutes:** April 12, 2010, Regular General Meeting as read. *M/S/ carried*

David Freeman questioned the accuracy of the information in the minutes regarding the Graham Lake Swim Dock. He asked that his concern be noted in the minutes.

## Executive Report:

**New Executive, Liaisons, & Committee Checklist** – Liz introduced the new Executive Board and presented the new liaison positions as follows:

- |                                                          |                                                        |
|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Nettie - Old School Committee and Health Network      | 7. Derek - Bill Mee Park and Pesticide Free Committee  |
| 2. Moira - Website/Membership/Recreation Committees      | 8. Doug Ward - DIVFD and Wildlife Advisory             |
| 3. Max - Dock Committee                                  | 9. Doug Wright - DICEEC and Waste Management Committee |
| 4. Max and Andrew - Parks Committee and Trails Committee | 10. Liz – ex officio of all committees and Insurance   |
| 5. Andrew – Parks                                        | 11. Dennis Forsyth - Ferry Advisory Representative     |
| 6. Andrew - Executive Advisory                           | 12. Bill Engelson – Vancouver Island Library           |

Liz advised the membership that the Executive has been working on a yearly committee checklist. The executive liaisons to the committees will provide a checklist to the committee Chairs seeking current information as a requirement of the CVRD.

Derek Hood reported that the Executive had discussed the donations to the Grapevine and Flagstone and noted that there had been very few occasions to ask the Flagstone for their assistance and suggested that a donation be given to the Grapevine.

**Motion:** That DIRA donate \$150 to the Grapevine as our current most used publication. *M/S/*

**Discussion:** Comments supporting the inclusion of the Flagstone were heard and Dennis Forsyth noted that the Wildlife Advisory Committee uses the Flagstone on a regular basis. Patti Willis amended the motion.

**Amended Motion:** Move to apportion \$100 for each publication (Flagstone and Grapevine)/*M/S/carried*

- Community Recreation Grant – applications will be available on May 13<sup>th</sup> and will available at Abraxas Freepost under “R”. The amount of the grant this year is \$20,000. Contact person is Moira Webster, and the committee members are Hamish Kimmins, Judy Armstrong, and Edi Johnston.

## Liaison Reports:

- Bruce Jolliffe: Reported on grant-in-aid notifications – announcements will be made following the May 25<sup>th</sup> board meeting. He discussed the Cable Ferry article in the “Echo” noting that he would follow up on the process discussed in the article and apologized for the mix-up. He advised that he had put

# DIRA Minutes Regular General Meeting May 10, 2010

---

forward a motion regarding the pre-application stage to the province, of the Raven Coal activity and it passed unanimously. He advised that residents will be getting a mail out of the tax guide and noted some key highlights. He will take under advisement any ideas that people have. Some comments regarding the advertising of public information meetings by the CVRD was very poor recently, and a suggestion was made to ensure that the residents have adequate notice. The CVRD has promised to return to meet with Denman residents but no date has been announced.

1. **Vancouver Island Regional Library** – Bill Engelson – no report (refer to annual report). Information will come following the June meeting of the Building Assessment committee.
2. **Ferry Advisory** – Dennis Forsyth –Reported that he is about half way through his three year term. Ferry Advisory meeting will likely be in July and if the community wants items brought up at that meeting to contact Dennis to let him know.
3. **Islands Trust** – Louise Bell – (full report in library): Louise reported on work program items, rezoning applications, and Ministry of Environment appointment of a representative to sit on the working group of the Environmental Assessment for the Raven mining project.

## Committee Reports:

1. **Pesticide Free Committee** – Harlene Holm – Reported that the committee is working in partnership with the DIVFD to put in place a sign at the bottom of the ferry hill in the current fire ban spot where the space will be shared. She encouraged people to pull broom and advised that a broom pulling work bee is scheduled for Friday from 10-12.

**Motion:** That DIRA approve the allocation of \$350 of funds remaining from the “Living on Denman” brochure for the creation of a sign in partnership with the Denman Island Volunteer Fire Department [to replace the existing fire hazard sign at the base of the ferry hill]. The final version of the sign (which the committee anticipates would benefit from the sign maker’s advice) will include the slogan “Butterflies Live Here” with a subtext that encourages the reduction of pesticide use. *M/S/carried*

## Discussion:

Pesticide Free committee asks that the DIRA establish a policy regarding monies raised by community efforts or funding acquired by committees. Andrew Scruton noted that there is a precedent but no policy. Derek indicated that a policy is important as he has had to go back through flimsy records that were at least 5 years old (as in the case of the Pesticide Free Committee) and identify the funds under question.

2. **Parks Committee Peter Karsten** – gave an update of the committee activities including Stanehill Park, Morning Beach Park (Rope Trail), BC Parks Liaison, and Parks & Greenway Master Plan (PGMP), Denman Island. (report at [www.denmanresidents.com](http://www.denmanresidents.com)) The work of the committee is to gather information only and to report back to the community.
3. **Bill Mee Park Committee** – Glen Snook - reported on work parties and also that a signed agreement is now in place with DIRA/CVRD/boat launch. The Regional District is in the process of recasting slabs and they will be installed on July 12<sup>th</sup> at low tide. Boat launch decals are available for \$25/year.
4. **Waste Management Committee** – Bob French – The WMC has been advised that a glass crusher has been approved with no time lines. There are some administration issues at CVRD as Drew Hatfield resigned and Ian Smith needs time to get up to speed on the issues of solid waste. Discussion about

## DIRA Minutes Regular General Meeting May 10, 2010

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the safety issues regarding the glass crusher and Bob noted that during their research this is an area that they addressed and there were no safety issues raised. Bob assured the membership that they have surveyed as much as they could and there have been no indications of hazard for dust or noise. It was suggested that WCB could be consulted regarding any safety issues. Bob noted that they likely should address it with WCB.

5. **Denman Island Volunteer Fire Department** – no report
6. **Denman Island Community Economic Enhancement Committee** – Sheldon Rempel reported that a resource center employee will be hired this month. He advised that grant money (\$38,000) is allocated for 2010. Applications are available through Patricia Gagnon. He reported that the agriculture group has been meeting and the low impact tourism/business sectors have been amalgamated and a meeting is scheduled for May 17<sup>th</sup> 7:00 p.m. Questions from the floor were asked regarding DICEEC budget information and Sheldon referred the questions to Patricia Gagnon or Bruce Jolliffe. It was noted that getting budget information is very difficult. Bruce Jolliffe suggested meeting with Wendy Byrne at the CVRD to discuss budget issues.
7. **Trails Committee** – no report
8. **Wildlife Advisory Committee** – Pat Veness – reported that a clean up of the kennel at the fire hall has taken place. A meeting to discuss the rat problem is planned. A report will be coming out soon. Peter Karsten asked that if anyone finds or catches a rat to call him or Jenny Balke to collect the rat for study.
9. **Dock Committee** – John Johnston – stage 2 applications have been submitted. He thanked Sharon Clarke for her assistance with the main documents and noted that Nettie Cotter will format the budgets. The Committee has purchased an e-bike to be raffled off in a fundraising effort. Raffle tickets are \$20 each or 5 for \$100. 500 tickets (on-island). Ticket license begins on June 1<sup>st</sup>. All permits for the dock are in place and updates will be in the local paper.
10. **Old School Committee** – Louise Bell noted that the Market starts on the long weekend – fence has been replaced – additional area of parking on the grass.

### New Business:

1. **Raven Coal Mine** (Patti Willis) - Patti reported that meetings every 2 weeks have taken place at the United Church to strategize a response about the Raven Coal Mine Project. The Outreach Committee is a sub-group of that group and the goal is to raise awareness about the Raven Coal Mine Project in order to build a base of opposition to the project from the bottom up. Provincial Environmental Assessment will likely take place this summer and though many in the group will take part they have little faith in the process. For example, it does not include a terms of reference that deal with climate change. Also noted was little faith in the Provincial Government to properly regulate such a project and to predict human and environment health.

**Motion:** Whereas coal for electricity generation and steel-making is the largest source of atmospheric carbon and coal used anywhere in the world contributes to global climate change:

Whereas the development of the Raven Coal Mine is in contradiction to the provincial Climate Action Plan to reduce BC's carbon footprint;

Whereas on January 11, 2010, the Denman Island Residents Association (DIRA), citing concerns about potential human and environmental hazards, resolved to write to the Islands Trust Council and Denman Local Trustees asking that they do "do everything possible to ensure that the Raven Coal development is stopped";

# DIRA Minutes Regular General Meeting May 10, 2010

---

Whereas on March 24, 2010 the Islands Trust Council passed a unanimous resolution in opposition to the Raven Coal Mine Project;

Whereas DIRA believes there is an urgent duty to preserve and protect the planet to the best of its ability and wishes to make its position on the Raven Coal Mine Project known to the provincial government;

Be it Resolved that DIRA write Premier Gordon Campbell, Barry Penner (Minister of Environment), Blair Lekstrom (Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources) and John Yap (Minister of State for Climate Action), and all local MLA's, with a copy of this motion expressing DIRA's opposition to the Raven Coal Mine Project; and,

Be it further resolved that a copy of the letter be sent to all residents' associations between Courtenay and Port Alberni asking each to pass a similar resolution, to regional media for publication and to all local MLAs (Alberni-Pacific Rim, Parksville-Qualicum and Comox Valley). *M/S/carried* unanimously.

David Freeman asked if anyone has statistics and technical information with regard to the emissions of the coal trucks. Liz suggested that Derek could include the question in the DIRA article in the Grapevine.

2. **Islands Trust Agriculture Group** (request for a letter of support) – Doug Wright – (as a member of agriculture steering committee). He reported that 46% of Denman is in the ALR. The Islands Trust Farm Plan is a good first step with 8 residents on the steering committee. Basically the plan is to engage, adopt, and make a plan that works. Planning to ask for a grant to complete a land use inventory, collate existing information, examine regulatory framework, identify current opportunities, review trends and outputs, involve and identify the value and the contributions that farming can make.

**Motion:** That DIRA sign a letter of support for the Islands Trust Area Agriculture Plan. *M/S/carried* unanimously.

## Incoming Correspondence:

1. Trails Committee Ralph McCuaig Re: Insert In Grapevine May 1, 2010
2. Edina Johnston Re: ESS Generator May 1, 2010
3. Islands Trust Louise Bell RE: Cable Ferry for Denman & Article in the Echo April 29, 2010
4. ESS Chair Marylou Morden Re: ESS Generator. April 22, 2010
5. Request to put Raven Coal Mine on the Agenda for May 10, April 23, 2010
6. From Margie Gang Re: Graham Lake Water Quality April 19, 2010
7. From Harlene Holm Re: Budget Matters , April 11, 2010
8. From DIVFD Re: New ambulance Station & Extension of Lease, April 14, 2010
9. CVRD Confirmation of Recreation Grant Money for 2010 April 7, 2010
10. Confirmation of Gaming License for Dock Committee Raffle, April 10, 2010
11. ESS Chair M. Morden Questions Re: New Generator for Denman , April 12, 2010
12. From CVRD Parks 'Park volunteer safety Guidelines, April 15, 2010
13. Peter Karsten WAC concerns Re: Rats, April 15, 2010
14. Old School Committee RE: new plans for Parking area , April 18, 2010
15. Parks Annual report to DIRA to the AGM , April 12, 2010
16. Island Trust Siting & Use Permit for Lot 257 Dock Cmt, May 1, 2010
17. ESS Edi Johnston re: DIRA's role with ESS, May 6,, 2010
18. Ian Smith CVRD Re: Parks & Greenways Master plan, May 6, 2010
16. Landworks Consulting Re: DI Parks & Greenways Master plan, May 6, 2010

# DIRA Minutes Regular General Meeting May 10, 2010

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## Outgoing Correspondence:

1. DIRA Executive Grapevine written by D. Wright, April 17, 2010
2. Response and invitation to meeting DIVFD Chief Don Lockett, April 15, 2010
3. Thank you to HIRRA Executive from DIRA, April 29, 2010
4. Questions and invite to HIRRA for meeting with DIRA, April 22, 2010
5. Response to ESS Chair Marylou Morden Re: ESS Generator, April 24, 2010
6. Thank you from DIRA to Cindy Critchley and Perri Gorrara, April 24, 2010
7. Response to Margie Gang Re: Graham Lake Water Quality April 19, 2010
8. Response to Harlene Holm Re: DIRA Budget Matters April 11, 2010
9. Cover letter & New Contract for Bill Mee Park to CVRD, April 26, 2010
10. Old School Committee 'Provincial Public Highways Permit Application, ' April 15, 2010
11. Response to Edi Johnston Re: ESS Generator, May 1, 2010
12. Response to Louise Bell, Re: cable Ferry , April 28, 2010
13. Response to Patti Willis Re: Request to put Raven Coal on Agenda, April 23, 2010
14. Response to Harlene Holm re: Executive recommendation and Motion, May 5, 2010
15. Letter to Emergency Social Services Re: DIRA's role in a emergency, May 5, 2010
16. Ralph McCuaig response to Trails committee Re: Insert in the Grapevine, May 5, 2010
17. CVRD James Bast Manager of Fire Services request for a meeting, May 6, 2010

**Adjournment:** 9:36 p.m.