

DRAFT and UNAPPROVED
Denman Island Residents Association
Executive Meeting
October 3, 2011

Held in the Old School

Executive in Attendance: Frank Frketich, Doug Wright, Jane Kerr, Anne Page, Denise MacKean, Bert Taylor (left @ 8:15 pm)
Guests: Dennis Forsyth, John Johnston

1. Call to Order: 7:30 PM

2. Motion: To approve the Agenda as posted for tonight's meeting. Amended to change the order to accommodate guests. M/S/C

Bert Taylor requested that before the Guests were to speak that a brief discussion be held with respect to the participation of people who are not DIRA Directors.

BC Ferries: Guest - Dennis Forsyth spoke and wanted to clarify:

- the ferry advisory committee is not a committee of DIRA, it is a committee of BC Ferries. This committee was started in 1997/98 so BC Ferries could have Ferry Advisory Committees in the areas that they service.
- Dennis's job on the FAC is not to be an activist, but to be a conduit between BC Ferries (FAC) and the community.
- The FAC was told approximately 2 years ago that there would be consultation with residents with regard to the cable ferry. BC Ferries has characterized the 2 meetings that have occurred as "information meetings". The latest FAC meeting was not recorded and what transpired between that meeting and the residents meeting later that evening, it was evident that something had changed. Again, no notes were being taken at the residents meeting on September 23, 2011.

Tony Law has written a letter to David Hahn to tell him what happened at the meeting and that resident's concerns are not being listened to. Dennis also went to the Commissioner and again stated his concerns that BC Ferries are not listening to the resident's concerns.

- A mile and a half cable is not going to be as reliable as what we have now and to home port it at Buckley Bay presents real medical concerns.
- As well losing between 12-20 jobs is going to be a real loss to this community. Denman Island currently has the lowest per capita income of all the Gulf islands. Hornby is the next lowest.
- There is a clause in the BC Coastal Ferries Act that requires BC Ferries to consider and give some priority to the economic sustainability to the islands it serves. At the very least BC

Ferries should be coming here and be serious about providing some consultation. They have a moral responsibility to each island that they represent.

- BC Ferries have consulted heavily with the herring roe fishery and have promised the fishery that the ferry will be shut down for 12 hours during the catch. There has been no regard to how this will affect the residents whose service is disrupted.

Dennis suggested that the Blair Lekstrom, Gordon Macatee, Don McRae, Gerry Coombs and Christy Clark be copied on this letter.

Dennis would like to make a motion at the general meeting on behalf of DIRA that they support the sending of this letter.

Motion: That the Executive support Dennis's letter to David Hahn and bring it forward to the general meeting. M/S/C

Further, Dennis will be asking that the Coastal Ferries Act be repealed and the government take back control of the Ferries act.

Dennis was thanked for his letter.

4. Insurance: Guest John Johnston spoke: John feels that most of DIRA's committees needs haven't changed but that the various groups are not aware that they have insurance liability issues. He questioned if the Executive is going to ask the Insurance carrier what each of DIRA committee's risk assessment is and then ask each committee if they going to pay for their share of that risk.

It was stated that both Bill Mee Park and the Parks Committee currently do not feel that they have any need for further insurance as they feel they are adequately covered through the CVRD policies being tax- based committees.

The Executive assured John that the insurance issue is currently being looked at and presented him with the following information: Axis hopes to have some further information for DIRA by the end of this week. At the point where DIRA has further information, the various Committee Chairs will be contacted for their comments.

5. Update of Election forum: Frank wrote letters to the CVRD, School Board, and the islands Trust. The answer is that no help will be available for funding the Election forum from any source. The hall has been booked for November 6. Executive agrees to pass the hat to defray costs.

Action item: Frank will request that Patti Willis chair this meeting.

6. Andrew Scruton Memorial: There will be cards available for individuals to sign and a place where people can drop off their donations. Anne will man this table. Folks will be asked if they would like to provide a brief remembrance of Andrew.

Action item: Jane to provide sympathy cards to Anne

Action item: Frank to contact Liz Johnston and ask her to say a few words.

6. Tourism Brochure proposal: Margie Gangs has approached DIRA and would like the Hornby Denman Tourism Society to become a committee under DIRA and to dissolve tourism society. Her proposal was briefly discussed. The Executive would like to see Margie's proposal in writing.

Action item: Frank to ask Margie to submit a proposal in writing.

6: CVRD – Funding: A source of continual funding is being sought by DIRA to pay for insurance costs. Frank will approach the CVRD to begin these discussions.

Action item: Jane to send Wendy Byrne's email address to Frank.

7. DIVFD: Frank provided an update on the meeting held with Dave Mitchell and Associates. Dave is a retired Fire Fighter who now is a consultant on how to organize various fire departments. Dave also has a lawyer as a business partner. Dave Mitchell's current contract is to review all the volunteer fire departments in the region and talk about what training is necessary for fire fighters, what kind of contracts they need etc..

Frank talked about the possibility of having a community board of 3-5 residents. Frank mentioned to Dave Mitchell that DIRA would like to have input into the preparation of the Fire Department's budget. It needs a community component. There is a possibility that the CVRD will try to reset up municipal insurance and not private insurance to try to lower liability insurance costs , and as such each Fire Chief needs to become a regional district employee. A report of their findings will be forthcoming.

8.Parks Proposal: Peter Karsten will present a motion at next week's general meeting and requested the Executive support. The Executive agreed to support the motion which reads as follows: That the membership of DIRA approves the plan to activate the half acre park owned by the CVRD, adjacent to Section 9 , Lot A as a neighbourhood park, to be called Maple Park as presented by the Parks Committee.

9. Denman Works!: With the resignation of the Doug Wright, who is the current DIRA representative, Simon Palmer asked if DIRA like to have another liaison on the Denman Works board. Denise MacKean agreed to be a liaison from the DIRA Executive. Frank to clarify whether Denman Works! wants a committee member or a liaison, Denise is willing to do either.

Action item: Frank to let Simon know that Denise will be his new DIRA contact, and to clarify Denise's role.

10. Other Business: Frank will plead at next week's meeting for more directors and/or an individual who will be willing to act as secretary at the general meeting's even if they're are not a DIRA Director.

Denise has agree to provide the next Grapevine report.

Motion to Adjourn: 9:58 PM M/S/C

