

MINUTES March 06, 2023 at 6:30 - 1st DRAFT

Thanks to the Cowichan Watershed Board for facilitating the meeting by Zoom

ROTATING CHAIR: Dave De Pape

In Attendance:

Board Members: Don Prescott, Di Gunderson, Jean Atkinson, Maureen Quested, Jim Deck, Rosemary Danaher, Dave De Pape,

Members: Mike Patrick, Judy Brayden, Jacqueline Sherk

Guests: Karli Ann Fortin

Absent with regrets: Beverley Nimmo, Rick Bryan, Rodger Hunter, Ian Morrison, Karen Deck, Kristine Sandhu

We acknowledge that we are meeting on the traditional territories of the Ts'uubaa-asatx, Ditidaht and Quw'utsun First Nations. We hope that our work together here today will make a positive contribution to our shared future in this valley.

The Fourfold Way:

- Respect each other by having just one speaker at a time
- Expect people to speak from the heart with passion
- Expect people to show up to solve problems
- Expect people to speak without blame

ITEMS:

ACTION: What? By Whom? When?

1. AGENDA

MOTION: That the agenda be accepted as amended.

Moved by: Maureen Quested

2nd by: Don Prescott

2. PAST MINUTES

MOTION: That the minutes of February 06, 2023 be accepted as circulated.

Moved by: Maureen Quested

2nd by: Di Gunderson

3. Introduction of Guest – Karli Ann Fortin and new member – Jacqueline Sherk

Karli Ann is a realtor and saw how she could make a difference by espousing riparian rules for the betterment of the communities along the lake and river through her contact with new residents.

Jacqueline has a background in horticulture, and is an arborist and master gardener. She has a strong interest in invasives and sees many examples along the river where they need to be addressed.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT – Attached - Jim Deck

a. **MOTION:** That the Treasurer's Report be accepted as circulated.

Moved by: Jim Deck

2nd by: Jean Atkinson

b. **MOTION:** That a free membership coupon be included with the bulk purchase of 5 or more *Witnessing the Water* – *an authentic relationship* books

****Decision by Marketing Committee how best to address coupon idea.**

5. ACTING PRESIDENT'S REMARKS – Jim Deck –

Please renew your memberships on April 01, 2023

****All Memberships 2023: complete by end of April.**

6. GUESTS' REMARKS (if they wish)

a. Cowichan Watershed Board representative – Jill Thompson

Cowichan Watershed Board meetings will now be rotating every month; the location of each meeting is stated at the top of the agenda. Everyone is welcome to observe. There is also an opportunity for public input on each agenda if CLRSS has something to share or ask of the CWB members. Please email Jill (jill@cowichanwatershedboard.ca) to get on the notice list if you'd like to receive the agendas. The 3 locations are:

- Cowichan Tribes Siem Lelum Gym, 5574 River Rd., Duncan (within Cowichan Tribes reserve)
- CVRD Boardroom, 175 Ingram St., Duncan
- Zoom – link will be circulated by email.

Agenda packages, along with presentations are available here: <https://cowichanwatershedboard.ca/meetings/>

Weir replacement update – Tom Rutherford, CWB Strategic Priorities Director, who is working on the weir) sent this update:

- CVRD has submitted a licence conservation application on behalf of the “MOU partners” – CT, CVRD, PE
- The water authorization folks are currently carrying out a detailed technical review of both the weir design (stantec) and the upstream impacts report (KWL) and want to complete this review before taking any further action on licensing (expected to be complete next month).
- The partners are currently working on a joint works agreement that will define how roles and responsibilities are divided up. Still work to do on that.
- Also working on funding for the capital works.
 - After 2 years of negotiations, Infrastructure Canada is beginning to show some much needed flexibility around the \$24M grant that was announced in 2021. Hoping work on a Contribution Agreement will begin soon. As well, conversations with WLRS around provincial funding are also looking positive.
- Tom is happy to come to the CLRSS meeting with a more detailed update next month.

Jill asked CLRSS members for input on

- a. How is support for replacing weir locally these days
- b. Is there a need to more communications
- c. If there is a need, how/where/what would be most effective and helpful?
- d. Is CLRSS planning or doing ongoing education?

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

a. Results of consultation with Rodger Hunter re the request for meeting with Minister Cullen from Bernie Juurlink – Rick Bryan
Given the lengthy time already passed, the vague nature of Bernie's request and the lack of follow-up from Bernie and Rodger being too ill to discuss, Rick decided to drop the matter.

b. Signature Event – Dave De Pape

3 models :

- All eventlettes held at one hub.
- Some held at hub, some at other sites.
- No central site.

**Add Jacqueline to the committee.

**Dave will summarize the scoring & ranking of the eventlettes by April 10 for distribution to the committee.

**Carry forward to April meeting.

c. Dock & boom extension near Gordon Bay.

8. LEAD UPDATES

a. Gerald Thom Garden – Rosemary Danaher and Lois Atchison - **NIL**

Committee – Jean Atkinson is calling the committee suggested at the February meeting together to discuss pruning ideas, long term vision. Original Saywell Park Restoration documents attached.

**Jean to arrange 1st Pruning mtg

See Jean's comments in Appendix 1.

- b. Social – Rosemary – **NIL**
 - c. Retail – Rosemary – *looking into hoodie and cap prices*
 - d. Membership – Mike Patrick – 62 Mike reminded the board *Of the need for a letter to members reminding them of the year End and that it is time to renew membership.* ****Jim to write letter to members with need to renew & outlining our 2022 Activities, plans form 2023. ASAP**
 - e. Fundraising – Maureen *Requested Please get your returnable for cash cans etc. to the bottle depot before the end of the month (year end) A new order for Thrifty Smile cards will be processed in a week or so.*
Let me know if you want to order any Smile cards.
 - f. Decibel Coalition – Di Gunderson : Coalition leads are meeting with law enforcement across Canada & the U. S. to facilitate policing in advance of legislation
 - g. Paddle Sport – Rick Bryan
With unseasonably low flows in recent weeks, only the Cowichan is usable, with the Nanaimo, Chemainus, and Koksilah well under functional levels.
6PPDQ Sampling - Mike Patrick
Thank You card received from Thea Rogers of BCCF for 2022 volunteer work done on their behalf. Sampling to find out: does it affect our water & how much is in river? 3 samples are done for each trial: Day before a rain, day of rain, day after rain
 - h. Water Monitoring – Bee Greenway is stepping back as the lead and Cam McCauley will take over
 - i. Youth Engagement – LCS is holding Health Fair again this year. Di and Jean will attend. They will also meet with the school to discuss bursary criteria and bring suggests back to CLRSS.
 - j. CSSP – Elodie Roger – **NIL** *Elodie is back from France*
9. **NEW BUSINESS**
- a. Riparian
 - 1. Thackery property– Jean Atkinson – *In early Feb., Genevieve Singleton and Dave Polster brought two biologists to see my foreshore considered a “reference” property as a natural shoreline. One of the biologists has the contract to work with the present owner and do some restoration work on the property, formerly Thackery’s. The biologist has already been talking to the present owner, so it would appear that action has been taken as a result of the reporting by CLRSS and others of this riparian infraction.*
 - 2. Scott Griffiths email re weir and fish pass ****Jim to deal with this email.**
 - b. Chain of command for responses to communication
- letters, emails etc. *President and/or executive to decide on* ****Maureen will give this message to Ken Traynor**
who should respond.
 - c. CLRSS Wallet Cards – Di Gunderson ****Judy will have drafts ready for April**
 - d. Newsletter – Judy Brayden – *Judy read out the article by Jim and Karen Deck as a example of speaking without blame but rather looking at an issue in a positive way.*
 - e. Witnessing the Water – an authentic relationship – Judy Brayden
Judy listed donors to the book and those who endorsed it in principle. She mentioned we should try to commend the endorsers whenever possible.

With Thanks for Support in Principle for the Project:

City of Duncan

Cowichan Lake Arts and Culture Society

Cowichan Community Land Trust
Cowichan Estuary Nature Centre
Cowichan Valley Naturalists' Society
Cowichan Valley Regional District
Cowichan Watershed Board
Ellen Campbell, sole proprietor
Friends of the Cowichan
Kaatza Art Group
Mill Bay & District Conservation Society
Municipality of North Cowichan
Origins Environmental Services
Polster Environmental Services
Shawnigan Basin Society
Social Planning Cowichan/Quw'utsun' Cultural Connections Society
Somenos Marsh Wildlife Society
Rotary Club of Shawnigan Lake Eco Club

With Thanks for Support in Principle and for Financial Support for the Project:

All Facets of Design
Cim MacDonald Studios
Cowichan Lake and River Stewardship Society (CLRSS)
CVRD Local Area E (Cowichan-Koksilah)
CVRD Local Area F (Cowichan Lake South/Skutz Falls)
CVRD Local Area I (Youbou/Mead Creek)
Estate of Tony Green
Freisens Press
Ms. Trish McAdie and Mr. Ken Traynor
Ms. Maureen and Mr. John Quested
Ms. Beverly Suderman
Catalyst Crofton, A Paper Excellence Company
Town of Lake Cowichan

- f. Chamber of Commerce – Jim Deck
MOTION: that CLRSS pay \$95 (ninety-five dollars) for a one year membership in the L.C. Chamber of Commerce.
Moved by: Jim Deck
2nd: Dave De Pape

CARRIED **Against:** Diana Gunderson

- g. Invasive Species – Jim Deck

****Carry forward to April meeting**

10. STEWARDSHIP COMMUNITY REPORTS

- a. Cowichan Stewardship Roundtable – Judy Brayden
Judy reported there will be no Rivers' Day this year as members feel Genevieve is overworked.

11. MOTION TO ADJOURN – Rosemary Danaher

NEXT MEETING: Monday, April 03, 2023 ZOOM

