

Sustainable Gabriola Notes

February 25, 2018

Attending: Randy Young, Patsy Ludwick, Judith Roux (facilitator), Dyan Dunsmoor-Farley (notes), John Peirce, Kim Kasasian

1. Volunteer Website – Kim

Kim is connecting with all interested Gabriola organizations to create a website where information on organizations and their volunteer contact can be posted. This will provide information in one place for anyone interested in volunteering to locate organizations. The website link, once the website is established will go out via the Welcome Wagon as well as on other local sites.

2. Tool Library – Kim and Patsy

The project is proceeding well; presently working on issues related to exterior design (e.g., canopy). The cost exceeds current budget, so the team is looking for donated building supplies. If you have supplies you are willing to donate, please contact gabriola.tool.library@gmail.com

Also, the project is partially funded through the use of the Village Foods Community Card, so please load one up and support your tool library.

If anyone wants to donate directly to the tool library, they can do so at the Credit Union account number 100023466517

3. Gabriola Health and Wellness Collaborative – Dyan

In addition, to addressing palliative care needs on Gabriola, the Collaborative is going to focus on making Gabriola a great place for families. This is a three-part project: first a survey of Gabriola families to get a better understanding of their needs; second a face to face meeting with families (food and childcare to be provided) to review results and identify priority actions; and finally a Collaborative workshop to develop a strategy to address needs identified. This will take place over the next three months. It was suggested that the results also be shared with the Trustees to support their work in addressing accessible housing.

In the meantime, *all SG members are asked to encourage any families they know to complete the survey* at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GPTK28V> The survey is open until March 12th. For more information contact: ddfarley@shaw.ca

4. Ground Water Management – Randy

The Gabriola Groundwater Management Society is being reinvigorated. For those wishing to have their water tested for e. coli and coliform, pick up a testing bottle at Arbutus, follow the instructions and submit the sample to Jeremy Baker who will arrange for testing.

5. Whalebone Access – Randy

Residents in the Whalebone area are concerned that in the event of a need to evacuate, they only have one route out to North Road. Currently an old logging road exists between Pequod and Wild Cherry, but it is overgrown with alder and is on the lands set aside for Treaty negotiation. The discussion revolved around how best to interact with the key interests (e.g Snuneymuxw, and Federal government (as Crown in the treaty negotiations). Several options were generated.

6. Economic Development Advisory Group– John

The Gabriola Island Chamber of Commerce (GICC) was successful in acquiring funding from the RDN (\$65,000 per year for three years) to develop a Gabriola Ec. Dev Strategy. This function was originally carried out by the, now defunct, Nanaimo Economic Development Commission. The work will be guided by a 12 – 15-member advisory board made up of community members (including 2-4 GICC board members) to ensure broad representation of all interests. The plan is to hire an economic development officer in April to do the bulk of the work going forward.

7. Government of BC Rural Development Strategy.

The province has posted a website inviting input into the development of a Rural BC strategy. It is open until February 28. *Please consider posting to ensure island perspectives are included.*

<https://engage.gov.bc.ca/ruraldevelopment/>

Next meeting: March 25th, 3:00 pm The Commons, upstairs meeting room

Facilitator: Dyan **Notetaker:** Fay