

SUSTAINABLE GABRIOLA – NOTES OF MEETING BY ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCE

MAY 24, 2020

Facilitator: Deb Ferens

Notes: Nancy Hetherington Peirce

13 people present via Zoom (thanks to Fay for hosting)

1. Deb welcomed everyone to this Zoom format of meeting, and people introduced themselves.
2. Update on a project of the Chamber of Commerce – Julie Sperber, Executive Director
 - a. Project is a feasibility study regarding a possible “enterprise zone” on the island. Funding was received in 2019, and a facilitator has been hired to implement the study. One group meeting has been held and another will be held soon.
 - b. Goal is to identify possible properties, or types of properties, that would be suitable for small businesses such as glass-crushing that would benefit the island.
3. BC’s COVID-19 Survey – John Peirce
 - a. John encouraged everyone to complete the survey by May 31 and spread the word to others. If enough Gabriolans participate, then the data just for the island will be available.
 - b. John will send the link to Suzie, who will forward it to the SG email list.
4. Gabriola Island Community Investment Coop – Fay Weller
 - a. Fay described the emergency loans that the Coop is offering to islanders, as a short-term assistance. She asked people to spread the word about these loans.
5. Gabriola Emergency Response & Recovery Committee – Steve Earle
 - a. The Committee continues to meet, and to provide reports in the Sounder.
 - b. A sub-group has established to look at the “beyond COVID” timeframe and think about any current changes to island life that Gabriolans might like to maintain.
6. Gabriola Housing Society Update – Nancy Hetherington Peirce
 - a. Recently the BC government announced its second round of funding for building affordable housing in BC (first was in 2018). The funding provides a major contribution to both construction costs and operational costs. Application dates are Sept 2020 and Jan 2021.
 - b. GHS will be applying for this funding, and the competition will be significant.
7. Updated website – Suzie
 - a. Thanks for the feedback since the last meeting. Suzie and Greg will be meeting to discuss next steps and will report at the next SG meeting.
8. Next meeting – Sunday June 28, 3:00pm by Zoom
 - a. Facilitator: Nancy Hetherington Peirce
 - b. Notes: Dyan Dunsmoor-Farley