

SUSTAINABLE GABRIOLA – NOTES OF MEETING ON NOVEMBER 28, 2021

Present: Fay W, Ivan B, John P, Steve E, Tom C, Charlotte C, Pat J, Nancy HP, Bob McK, Suzi, Deb F

Facilitator: Fay Notes: Nancy

1. Fay opened the meeting with a land acknowledgement and people introduced themselves
2. “Gabriola Link” from the ferry terminal to beginning of the Village Way Trail – Steve and Ivan
 - a. The feasibility study on this link was presented to the November 25th Trustees meeting and accepted. It will be posted on the Gabriola LTC website.
 - b. A few people offered to meet and talk about what to do next with the study (since SG was one of the groups that endorsed the study): Ivan, Steve, John, Pat, and Fay.
3. Nanaimo Airport expansion – Bob
 - a. The relevant OCP changes were passed in recent months, to enable the expansion.
 - b. The Nanaimo Airport Commission has a Noise Mitigation Committee, and recently added two places for Gabriola residents. Bob McKechnie and Don Elkington offered and have been appointed as the Gabriola members. Bob and Don have attended one meeting where there were good discussions.
4. Electric Cars on Gabriola Initiative – Steve
 - a. Six people have responded to Steve’s request for owners of electric cars to offer rides and/or driving their cars to people interested in purchasing electric cars.
 - b. Information about opportunities for rides/drives will be put on the SE website soon, and then community-wide publicity will begin
5. Publication of Steve Earle’s new book: A Brief History of the Earth’s Climate
 - a. Steve explained the book “is a geological history of natural climate changes, in order to understand anthropogenic climate change”
6. ReLoveLocal – Fay
 - a. This GIRO textile initiative is now producing several items from donated textiles, including dog beds and an “everything cloth”. Items are for sale at GIRO.
7. Provincial Electoral Boundaries Commission (EBC) – Ivan
 - a. Every five years, an EBC must be established to review electoral boundaries. The most recent was established in October 2020 and must give its report by March 2022.
 - b. An ad hoc group on Gabriola has formed to lobby the EBC to change boundaries so that Gabriola Island will again be in the same riding as most of Nanaimo and the RDN: Susan Yates, Jan Pullinger, Steve Earle, and Howard Stiff.
8. GaLTT – Pat
 - a. The Board is increasing their conservation activities: public education, land acquisition, etc.
9. Crab Trap study – Steve
 - a. The Hakai Institute will be studying crab larvae in the Salish Sea in 2022, via placing crab traps in various locations. One trap will be placed in Descanso Bay (at the emergency dock) from April to October 2022.
10. Climate Crisis – Deb
 - a. The group had a brief discussion of people’s reactions to the recent COP 26 meeting in Scotland
 - b. Suggested next steps: look at the Canadian government’s “Just Transition” efforts, and/or focus on the Biodiversity COP 15 in China in April 2022.

NEXT MEETING – SUNDAY JANUARY 23, 2022, 3pm

Facilitator: Nancy

Notes: Deb