

**Minutes of the CLRSS Board of Directors and interested CLRSS members
Wednesday, February 15th, 2017**

6:00 p.m. at the Country Grocer Meeting Room, Lake Cowichan

In attendance: Board members: Lois Atchison, Jean Atkinson, Judy Brayden, Rose Davidson, Diana Gunderson, Parker Jefferson, Mike Patrick and CLRSS members: Tom and Paula Nannery, Genevieve Singleton, Ken Traynor, Joe Tatham, Klaus Kuhn and Ian Morrison.

Guests: Tom Rutherford, Executive Director CWB, Brain Carruthers, Chief Administrative Officer of the CVRD and Kate Miller, Manager of Environmental Services of the CVRD

Absent with regrets: Bri Argue, Sandy Cumming, Rosemary Danaher, Gord Davidson, Kerry Davis, Bee Greenway, Maureen Quested, Leroy Van Wieren.

Time	Item	Action (What, By Whom and When)
6:00	Adoption of the agenda: RMS Lois Atchison/Mike Patrick that the agenda be adopted as amended. CARRIED	
	Introductions of members with reminder about our meeting conduct guideline. Using the Fourfold Way we: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 <i>and</i> • expect people to speak without blame. 	
	Adoption of the minutes: (sent via email earlier in the month) RMS Judy Brayden/Rose Davidson that the minutes of the January 9th, 2017 CLRSS meeting be accepted as distributed. CARRIED	
	Business Arising from the Minutes: None	
	Correspondence: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Correspondence – letter of thanks to Dr. John Wilson, who recently donated \$100 to CLRSS. 2. Letter of Support for the Cowichan Lake and District Chamber of Commerce. 3. The Country Grocer Appreciation Day is Saturday April 22, 2017 from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm. We need to arrive between 10:00 am and 10:30 in preparation for 11:00 beginning. The Lake Cowichan Fire Department will once again be doing a BBQ. 	Lois Atchison and Judy Brayden will take the lead on organizing this.
6:15	Treasurer's Report – Rose Davidson (see revised and	

	<p>attached)</p> <p>RMS Rose Davidson/Judy Brayden that the treasurer's report be adopted as printed. CARRIED</p> <p>Rose will inquire about another extension to our line of credit. Rose will ask the ISCU manager if there is anything that he can do to make sure that the money has not gone astray.</p> <p>Tom Rutherford committed to continuing to apply pressure as he is able. Rose will email Leroy's contact to Tom. Diana Gunderson will approach our MP Alistair McGregor again.</p>	
	<p>Social Committee Report – In Rosemary Danaher's absence, member-at-large Lois Atchison will assume her duties. Thanks Lois.</p> <p>Retail Sales Committee Report – NIL report</p> <p>Fundraising Committee Report –NIL report</p>	
<p>6:30</p> <p>7:15</p>	<p>Strategic Plan Committee Reports - Nil reports may be recorded.</p> <p>1. Community Involvement:</p> <p>a.) Executive Committee – See minutes previously distributed.</p> <p>The purpose of the CLRSS was discussed: See CLRSS Charitable Status Committee report: Judy Brayden reported that there was concern that CLRSS would qualify under the guidelines of a charity. Leroy Van Wieren, John Quested, Tom Rutherford and perhaps Jill Thompson will meet to consider the similarities in their current investigations around this question.</p> <p>A new DRAFT purpose was discussed: a.) to educate and influence landowners and government about the environmentally sustainable use and protection of the Cowichan watershed with emphasis on the upper Cowichan watershed and all riparian zones. b.) to work with schools, citizens and other like-minded groups to fulfil this purpose.</p> <p>Background: HOW WE WILL OPERATIONALIZE OUR PURPOSE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Door to door survey and education campaign. ● Identify sites that may be willing and suitable for restoration. ● Annual River cleanup project ● Meet with local schools to influence programs and support projects (e.g. plant nursery) 	<p>Leroy Van Wieren will contact CLRSS member John Quested, who will consult with the CRA to ensure that should we at some point wish to apply for charitable status, this purpose would be deemed appropriate by the CRA.</p> <p>Mike Patrick agreed to revisit the purpose and report back to the Executive committee, who will continue this work.</p>

<p>7:45</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Educational booths at relevant events sharing related brochures ● Engaging in related working groups like CSRT, CWB, RWG ● Monitoring lake water quality as defined by the BC Lake Stewardship Program ● Installing signage as appropriate ● Meet with Forestry companies and various government agencies to ensure the science of Riparian health is a factor in determining balanced sustainable development. ● General awareness through various media (e.g. newspapers, billboards, Facebook, CLRSS website, etc.) <p>The new purpose will need to be completed and ratified at the CLRSS 2017 Annual General Meeting in May 2017.</p> <p>b.) CLRSS and the concept of political action - We agreed that there is a clear difference between the “small p” political actions of engaging members of local and regional governments in order to work together on the goals of our strategic plan and the “large P” political action of supporting a certain political party. Value differences will exist in any group but the goals of the CLRSS Strategic Plan are clear. It is incumbent upon members to understand and support those goals. They would leave the group if they could not so do. Two areas of political action noted in the existing strategic plan are water flows at a minimum of 7 cubic meters per second and sustainable development practices around the lake.</p> <p>c.) Forest Stewardship Plan (see attached) – Diana Gunderson outlined the plan. She, Mike Patrick and Dalton Smith had visited the site and had spoken to a Teal representative, who was receptive and open to their questions. They were shown a 50 page document that was not user-friendly. They referred to several environmental reports including the 2004 Ted Burn's report, in which many sensitive areas and species at risk had been identified within this forested areas. Genevieve Singleton reported that environmental expert, Dave Polster, plans to visit the site and to document the species once he is able to. She also</p>	<p>Diana Gunderson will draft this letter and circulate for comment.</p>
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<p>reported that the Cowichan Valley naturalists were in the process of writing a letter of concern.</p> <p>RMS Brayden/Lois Atchison that CLRSS write a letter opposing the logging of this piece of land for all the reasons outlined. CARRIED</p> <p>d.) Education Committee – Leroy Van Wieren - NIL report</p> <p>e.) Communication Director’s Report – Parker Jefferson - NIL report</p> <p>f.) Membership - Mike Patrick reported that we now have 114 members; the CLRSS volunteer hours to date are 2152.</p> <p>g.) Website – Mike Patrick - NIL report</p> <p>2. Land Stewardship:</p> <p>a.) CSSP - Diana Gunderson - NIL report</p> <p>3. Water Stewardship:</p> <p>a.) Water monitoring – Gord Davidson - NIL report</p> <p>b.) Stream signage – Gord Davidson - NIL report</p> <p>4. Regional Meetings:</p> <p>a.) Stewardship Roundtable – Co-chair Parker Jefferson reported on the plentiful Cowichan chinook salmon run this spring; all signs pointing in a positive direction for the run this year.</p> <p>b.) Cowichan Watershed Board - Tom Rutherford of the CWB outlined components of his vision for the future of the Cowichan Watershed Board. He agreed that it is very valuable for him to attend as able our Board meetings. We welcome his comments and updates. He outlined several major actions, priorities and tasks: the report commissioned about local governance of the watershed; clarification of governance aspirations with a financial plan that will support the work; the need to revitalize the 5 CWB working groups; the importance of staying true to the Board’s mandate and principles; transparency; increased engagement with up-slope partners and a process to undertake a strategic plan. He emphasised his belief in an incremental approach to any partnership and the need to clearly define how the stewardship mechanism works and how it can work more effectively.</p> <p>RMS Judy Brayden/Parker Jefferson that the above reports be adopted as presented. CARRIED</p> <p>RMS That the meeting be adjourned: Lois Atchison</p>	
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8:00	SPECIAL OPEN MEETING: Brain Carruthers, Chief Administrative Officer of the CVRD and Kate Miller, Manager of Environmental Services, clarified the process of community engagement that the CVRD is undertaking in developing a watershed management bylaw. In an effort to improve on the alternative approval process (AAP), the CVRD is engaging in a wider dialogue by using PlaceSpeak, an online poll and comment tool, in addition to the regular public meeting process. Members were encouraged to visit the site and to become engaged.	
8:45	RMS Lois Atchison that the meeting be adjourned at 8:45 p.m. CARRIED	
	Next CLRSS Board Meeting: Monday, March 6th, 2017 at Country Grocer Meeting Room. All members and visitors are welcome!	

TREASURER'S REPORT as at January 5, 2016

CASH in Bank	O/S Cheque	Available Cash
CLRSS General account	2,257.66	0
2,257.66\$		
Earmarked Funds General A/C		
for salmon fry	1,934.21-	
Cash remaining	323.45\$	
CSSP account	10,313.20-	0
.	.	10,313.20-\$
Remaining Balance on \$15,000 Credit line	4,686.80\$	
To be refunded by CSSP:		
to Diana Gunderson	4,000.00	
to Rose Davidson	3,500.00	
To General Account:		
money advanced	2,000.00	
line of credit bank fees	150.00	
portion of insurance	625.00	
loan repayment advanced by Gen.A/C	56.95	
		10,331.95\$
TOTAL LIABILITY CSSP	20,645.15-\$	
Bursary	2,066.23	
Bursary Total	2,066.23\$	

In January we received a \$100 donation from Dr. John Wilson, Lk Cowichan dentist. It is unbelievable, but we are still waiting for the \$20,000 grant from RFCCP. From June to today we have been charged \$311.86 in interest on the line of credit. Also, still waiting for the \$2,500 residual funds from Environment Canada. The Island Savings line of credit runs till March 31, 2017.