

Minutes CLRSS Board of Directors and interested CLRSS members

Monday, December 4th, 2017

6:30 p.m. at the Country Grocer Meeting Room, Lake Cowichan

The secretary will edit as needed in the minute-taking process

In attendance: Board members: Jean Atkinson, Judy Brayden, Rosemary Danaher, Diana Gunderson, Parker Jefferson, Mike Patrick, Heather Pritchard, and Ken Traynor. CLRSS members: Lois Atchison, Ian Morrison, Lyle Kuchmak, Katherine Staiger, Lyndon Keeping

Absent with regrets: Leroy Van Wieren, Maureen Quested, Rodger Hunter, Genevieve Singleton, Tom Rutherford (CWB)

The CLRSS Board welcomes the opportunity to meet and to involve the membership in the society's decision-making process. Therefore, all members and community are welcome to attend and to participate in the meeting discussion. While all opinions may influence decision-making, only Board members may move/second or vote on motions.

Time	Item	Actions (What, By Whom and When)
6:30	Adoption of the agenda: RMS Rosemary Danaher/Parker Jefferson that the agenda be adopted as printed. 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: (attached with this agenda package) RMS Judy Brayden/Diana Gunderson that the minutes of November 6th, 2017 CLRSS meeting be accepted as amended. CARRIED	
	<i>The agenda order has been altered for this meeting in the hope that important Old and New Business items may be given priority. Feedback on the changes welcome.</i>	
	Business Arising from the Minutes and Old Business: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lakeview property update - Heather Pritchard reported on the letter sent to Aaron Hamilton LCFN (see Appendix 1 below). An update concluded that no logging has been conducted at this point. Ken Traynor reported that he had been informed that the cut was 6 hectares, with a 125 m set-back from the lake. A 20-30 m buffer is to be left around streams. 2. Several disappointing instances were reported regarding our relationship with the LCFN since the CSSP project began in 2014 (missed meetings, misinformation, commitments not met). CSSP Project Manager, Christine Brophy, continues to monitor the restored site. The CSSP team with a few volunteers have worked to control invasive species (a task that is intended to be taken on by the property owner), however the invasives are growing back. The CLRSS spent over \$6000 on a deer fence and there is a chance that the fence may 	No action was suggested at this time.

	<p>be removed in the near future. Rosemary Danaher suggested that we ask LCFN to share the plans for the new building with us; George DeLure suggested that we could ask “How can we help you?” Could we assist them in making a first class job of the use of the plan. The riparian area that we have planted remains our immediate concern.</p> <p>RMS JB/DG that we refer this to the EC. CARRIED</p> <p>3. Shaw Creek update - Ian Morrison reported that the date of the public hearing has not yet named. The public hearing has not happened because of the issues raised through the referral letters.</p> <p>4. Christmas Party – Members were reminded of the December 10th function at the home of Mike and Carrol Patrick; Judy will prepare one Christmas-themed activity.</p> <p>5. Issue of Insurance: Heather Pritchard spoke about the unresolved issue about liability should someone be injured on one of the boat trips (prizes from the recent fundraiser). Treasurer, Ken Traynor reported that he has spoken to an insurance agent and he will report back asap. It was suggested that we seek the support of an “umbrella Group”, who might be able to bargain a lower rate for our society.</p> <p>RMS Judy Brayden/Rosemary Danaher that we task treasurer Ken Traynor with getting two separate estimates on liability insurance and that the EC makes a recommendation to the Board. CARRIED</p>	<p><i>Ken Traynor will get two separate estimates on liability insurance and convene an EC meeting in order to make an executive recommendation for the January Board meeting.</i></p>
7:15	<p>Treasurer’s Report – Ken Traynor (see Appendix 2 below) Members were assured that the miscellaneous entry revenue and expenses can be expanded.</p> <p>RMS Ken Traynor/Mike Patrick that the treasurer’s report be adopted as printed. CARRIED</p>	
	<p>Correspondence Received – The request from Nicole Lorusso, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Department Head Queen Margaret’s School (see Appendix 3 below) was discussed. Heather Pritchard reported that the date set for the tour was in early January, 2018. Heather Pritchard will contact Tom Rutherford (CWB) and ascertain if a river tour could work. Other members were suggested as well.</p> <p>Christmas wishes from BCCF – Judy circulated a Christmas card from BCCF</p>	<p><i>Heather Pritchard will coordinate with Nicole and interested facilitators.</i></p>
	<p>6. Fundraising Report – Maureen Qusted NIL report</p>	
	<p>7. Retail Sales Report – Rosemary Danaher reported monthly sales of \$35 at a profit \$13.33</p>	
	<p>8. Thank you cards - Rosemary Danaher sent out 2 condolence cards to Jean Atkinson and Maureen Qusted.</p>	
	<p>11. Strategic Plan Committee Reports - Due to length of meeting agenda, Nil reports may be recorded.</p> <p>A. Regional Meetings:</p> <p>a.) Stewardship Roundtable – Parker Jefferson reported environmentalist, Chris Steeger, had given an interesting presentation on Cowichan Valley wildlife; there is a need to prepare a comprehensive inventory of species that live in critical habitats. Much more could be done to record critical</p>	

	<p>habitat and species at risk. This sparked the interest of the roundtable participants. Further the Chinook returns this year are close to 30,000. Parker felt that the returns have to do with the Stoltz bluff restoration; 1/3 of the fish are jack (jacks only go out in the ocean for one year).</p> <p>b.) Cowichan Watershed Board – The recent Catalyst public meeting was very interesting; Ken reported that the water use strategy will inform the weir decision; Catalyst has applied for a ten-year renewal of water licence to pump over the weir. The lamprey habitat cannot sustain low levels; The Koksilah work was reported on; the water use plan and the co-governance conversation were some of the topics. There needs to be a defensible, scientifically-sound basis for the “clear” path forward.</p> <p>B. Community Involvement:</p> <p>a) Education and Communications Committee – NIL report</p> <p>b.) Membership - Mike Patrick- Membership update regarding goal of 100 members. 88 at this point. Mike will be contacting the kayak and canoe club members and hoped that new members would come from this group.</p> <p>c.) Website – Mike Patrick NIL report</p> <p>C. Land Stewardship:</p> <p>a.) CSSP - Jean Atkinson and Diana Gunderson reported that Craig Wightman had received \$3000 from Sidney Anglers for CSSP; Christine Brophy and Alex Werk are finishing live staking at Gordon Bay; Jean has a final list of 22 property owners who would like advice; the CSSP team will meet to discuss how to deal with this final group. Further to that, the team met and decided to call those people who are in each of their geographic areas. Also, two teams will approach lakefront owners who live on the road passed Old Youbou. These homeowners might be the source of our final 21 surveys.</p> <p>D. Water Stewardship:</p> <p>a.) Water monitoring – Lyle Kuchmak and George DeLure reported that this program was complete for the year.</p> <p>b.) Stream signage – Lyle Kuchmak reported that Beaver Creek sign is in need of repair. Judy Brayden suggested that in light of the CLRSS budget surplus, we could include more stream signs. The Pacific Salmon Foundation might provide some funding. George will email Judy with a possible timeline for the signage proposal.</p> <p>RMS Parker Jefferson/Diana Gunderson that the above reports be adopted as presented. CARRIED</p>	<p><i>George DeLure will email a timeline to Judy Brayden at which time a proposal will be coming forward requesting funding for more signs to be included in this program.</i></p>
	<p>New Business:</p> <p>A. Cowichan Water Use Plan Public Advisory Group Meeting – Update from involved individuals (see Appendix 4 below). Parker Jefferson, Leroy VanWieren, Heather Pritchard are on this group. They are tasked with putting together performance measures that help the community understand the impact on all species by increased water storage in the lake; Parker Jefferson is Leroy Van Wieren’s alternate on the WUPAG. They reported on the structured decision-making process undertaken (4 full day meetings). Heather reported that there are 56 terrestrial species at risk within the riparian area of the Cowichan Lake and River.</p> <p>B. Callout for lakeshore owners – Leroy Van Wieren (see Appendix 5 below).</p>	

	Named to date: Diana Gunderson, Leroy Van Wieren, Jean Atkinson and George DeLure may apply as well. C. Little Beach Garbage receptacles – the meeting was reminded that Little Beach is privately owned property and while the owner allows public use, it cannot have a public toilet or garbage receptacles erected there.	
8:50	RMS Rosemary Danaher that the meeting be adjourned at 8:15	
	Important dates: January 8th – 6:30 Country Grocer Meeting Room, Lake Cowichan. NOTE: We are unable to use the Country Grocer Meeting Room for our February 2018 Board meeting. We will have to make alternative arrangements.	

APPENDIX 1 Letter from CLRSS to Aaron Hamilton, LCFN



CLRSS is dedicated to the protection and health of the Cowichan Watershed

PO Box #907
Lake Cowichan, B.C.
V0R 2G0

November 30, 2017

Lake Cowichan First Nation
313 B Deer Road
PO Box 159
Lake Cowichan, B.C.

Dear Aaron Hamilton,

SUBJECT: Lakeview Park Logging

In our March 24, 2017 letter on the topic of logging at Lakeview, we expressed our concerns about logging this ecologically sensitive forest/wetland area. We shared what we believe will be the negative impact of any logging on the upland and riparian areas. We understand that the harvesting prescription includes extended riparian buffers and a small harvest which could, in part, address some of our concerns. However, Cowichan Lake and River Stewardship Society (CLRSS) members are disappointed to hear that logging has begun without further discussion or any advance communication on harvesting plans and timing.

We appreciate that the land given to you for harvesting and development was not very attractive from an economic perspective and that few, if any, alternatives were given. Ideally, a more economically harvestable area away from the shoreline would have been better. We understand that you gathered advice from qualified professionals to ensure the setbacks and offsets are maximized. We trust that you have a monitoring program in place that will ensure adherence to the harvesting prescription.

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The CLRSS would like to re-establish a consultative relationship with Lake Cowichan First Nation as we steward the land, water, creatures and people that share the natural environment. As we move forward, we would like the opportunity to have more face-to-face conversations about how we may support each other in our respective goals.

Best Regards,

Leroy Van Wieren
 President
 Cowichan Lake and River Stewardship Society
 250-709-7308

APPENDIX 2: Treasurer`s Report from CLRSS Treasurer, Ken Traynor

Treasurer's Report as at Nov 28, 2017					
			CASH	Cheques/ Transfers	Available Cash
			in Bank		
CLRSS General Account			7,745.38		
to be deposited					
			7,745.38		
Earmarked funds General Account					
for salmon fry rescue			1,934.21		
					\$5,811.17
CSSP Account					\$2,679.51
Total Cash Available for CLRSS Activities from both Accounts					\$8,490.68
Bursary Account Total					\$3,850.67
CLRSS 2017/18 Financial Report Budget to Actual					
			Report Date	11/28/2017	
Current	Cash Position	\$10,424.89			
		Budget		Actual	
CODE	Category	Revenue	Expenses	Revenue	Expenses
4100	Memberships	1000		1238	
4110	Donations	2500		3192.3	

4200	Sales	1000		535	
4460	Misc. Revenue	2000		6734.77	
sub-total		6500	4965	11700.07	5,996.57
5270	Signs		500		0
5300	Supplies		200		24.54
5610	Accounting		100		100
5630	Society Fees		35		30
5640	Printing Costs		700		357.81
5650	Purchase for Sales		800		422.98
5685	Insurance		600		816.93
5690	Bank Charges		30		11
5700	Office Expenses		550		155.57
5730	Courses & Mtgs		300		141.02
5735	CSSP Activities		1000		192.37
5740	Misc. other		100		2060.85
	Scholarship Fund				1,683.50

APPENDIX 3: Letter from Nicole Lorusso, of Queen Margaret's School, Duncan, BC

Hello,

My Geography 12 students are currently working on a series of watershed research projects. I was wondering if there is anyone who might be able to take us on a tour of the watershed and describe some of its biophysical features and perhaps also sociocultural relationships (from Cowichan Lake to Cowichan River). We would be able to take a school bus and work our way through the watershed. If there is anyone who might be able to do this, please let me know. If not, perhaps there is someone who might be able to come to our class and provide an overview of the watershed and field some questions from my students.

Thank you for your time and any help you may be able to provide.

APPENDIX 4:

November 22, 2017

**Cowichan Water Use Plan
Public Advisory Group
Meeting #1**

The water use plan (WUP) is being sponsored by CVRD, Catalyst, Cowichan Tribes and Cowichan Watershed Board.
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The new public advisory group (PAG) is a group of 20 selected individuals from a range of backgrounds and perspectives.

The Water Use Plan follows a structured 13 step process as defined in the Water Sustainability Act.

The Water Use Plan is a Technical Document that defines operating parameters to be used on a day to day basis. It is not a Water Management Plan.

This first meeting was to familiarize PAG members with water use planning, to provide an overview of the systems, to discuss the Terms of Reference and to discuss preliminary alternatives to be modeled.

The group is being facilitated by a consultant and will be using a Structured Decision Making process to bring the group to a consensus and ultimately provide recommendations to the Sponsoring members.

Leroy is a member and Parker is the backup member. Parker is also on a subcommittee dealing with aquatic and riparian ecosystems that will feed information into the PAG.

Meeting # 2 – Jan. 31, 2019

Meeting #3 – March 8, 2018

Meeting #4 – May 8, 2018

APPENDIX 5:

Hi all,

As part of the Cowichan Watershed Board/CVRD/Catalyst/Cowichan Tribes efforts to progress the discussion on Water use (weir use) they have created a Public Advisory Group (PAG) for the Water Use Plan. I am a member of the PAG. There are a couple of sub committees, one of which is a subcommittee for Lakefront owner issues and they could use participants. If interested, please contact me or Jennifer Steele directly at jsteele@compassrm.com. Or perhaps you could think of others who may be interested. The work of the subcommittee will be fed back into the PAG for consideration.

Thanks,

Leroy Van Wieren

President

Cowichan Lake and River Stewardship Society