

Minutes of the CLRSS Board Meeting Monday, May 6th, 2019

6:30 p.m. at Country Grocer Meeting Room.

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

In attendance: Board members: Jean Atkinson, Judy Brayden, Chantelle Carden, Rosemary Danaher, Diana Gunderson, Lyndon Keeping, Parker Jefferson, Mike Patrick, Ken Traynor and Leroy Van Wieren. CLRSS Members: Rodger Hunter, Rick Bryan, Peter Noble, Katharine Staiger, Karen and Jim Deck, Joe Saysell. Guests: Sally Leigh-Spencer, Ian Morrison, Tom Rutherford, and international student guests: Fiona Driehuyzen and Sarah Duncan.

Absent with regrets: Lois Atchison, Genevieve Singleton, Lyle Kuchmak, and Christine Brophy

Note: *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.*

NOTE Appendix 1 below: The informational items from the Executive meeting will be reported as an appendix - for information only.

Agenda:	Action: What? By Whom? By When?
RMS Rosemary Danaher/Leroy Van Wieren that the agenda be adopted as amended. CARRIED	
<p>Introductions of members with reminder about our meeting conduct guideline. Using the Fourfold Way we:</p> <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. 	
<p>Minutes of the previous meeting: RMS Judy Brayden/Diana Gunderson that the minutes of the April 1st, 2019 CLRSS Board meeting be accepted as amended. CARRIED</p>	
<p>New Discussion Format – Ken Traynor</p> <p>In order to shorten the length of our very full, regular Board meeting agendas, the Executive will be convening regular, monthly meetings (fourth Monday of each month) to which all CLRSS Board members will be invited. The agendas of these meetings will be posted in advance and will tend to contain the large discussion items facing our society. Executive recommendations will be brought to the next regular Board meeting, at which time fulsome discussion with the full Board will be welcome. Board members who are not able to attend can send email/phone comments to Ken Traynor or Judy Brayden and the content will be included as part of the discussion at the meeting. The thinking behind this is that discussion that begins with a well-considered recommendation, tends to be more focussed and therefore makes better use of the regular Board meeting time.</p> <p>NOTE Appendix 1 below: The informational items from the Executive meeting will be reported as an appendix - for information only.</p>	<p><i>Judy Brayden will bring this item back to the September CLRSS regular Board meeting agenda.</i></p>

<p>RMS Rosemary Danaher/Diana Gunderson that we adopt this format for a period of three months, after which time the Board will review the process and make a recommendation for the future. CARRIED</p>	
<p>Guest Presentation by: Sally Leigh Spencer, Vancouver Island wildlife biologist, discussed her observations on the impact of tubers on the river, citing different practices in several other jurisdictions in the US. She cited recreational tubing problems of garbage, food waste, sunscreen and insect repellent contamination of the water, drug paraphernalia, undue noise, trespassing on private land, fisheries violations, the depositing human waste, liability of tubers who are drinking on the river and/or without life jackets and the frequency of unleashed dogs in the lake and river.</p> <p>Some other jurisdictions have addressed these issues by applying a surcharge for clean-up and signage that is collected by tubing companies, effectively asking people to pay for the use of the river; many jurisdictions have more regulations; signage at key entry and exit points is posted; no waste is left behind; no dogs are allowed in tubes; no campfires are permitted; even a permit process exist on several US rivers.</p> <p>Board members reported that in 2011 CLRSS installed RESPECT signs; over time tubing companies have become more helpful collecting litter and monitoring their tube users.</p> <p>Members identified drinking alcohol on the river as a major problem; police are not able/staffed sufficiently to address any further monitoring;</p> <p>RMS Judy Brayden/Diana Gunderson that this item be referred to a subsequent meeting of the Executive Committee, at which time they could brainstorm possible solutions, enlisting the help of Sonia Furstenau and other representatives of local government, local naturalists, tube company owners, recreational reps, and other community members. CARRIED</p>	<p><i>Judy Brayden will bring this item to a future CLRSS Executive Committee meeting.</i></p>
<p>Business Arising from the Minutes and Old Business:</p> <p>1.) Riparian Area Regulation Violation in Bass Creek – The CLRSS Executive had asked President, Ken Traynor, to revisit the status of the progress with CVRD Board Chair and Area F Regional Director, Ian Morrison. He reported that initially a complaint was made; the CVRD Bylaw Enforcement Officer inspected the site and then other jurisdictions assumed the lead on this file. However, this is now a multi-jurisdictional file. There will be a requirement under the RAR for a development permit and subsequent bylaw conformation.</p> <p>2.) Draft CLRSS Protocol for Dealing with Citizen Complaints about Riparian Regulation Violations - Judy Brayden and Mike Patrick are preparing a draft protocol for dealing with complaints about Riparian Area Regulation infractions when they are brought forward to our society. They will report to the Executive and then to the CLRSS Board asap. Board members are encouraged to send input to Judy or to Mike. Director Morrison reported that at this time there are three bylaw enforcement staff at the CVRD: 1 dedicated exclusively to contaminated soil issue(s) and two to other bylaw infractions.</p> <p>3.) Item 4 from the Appendix 1 - Further to the Executive Committee motion to defer the decision about CLRSS sponsorship of the Quw'ut'sun River Celebration, September 28th, Leroy Van Wieren has spoken to parties concerned and reported that they may be entertaining other options; he will report this to the Executive Committee asap.</p>	

<p>4.) Mile 77 Park – Lyndon Keeping reported that the April 16th meeting/discussion seemed to highlight two, completely different perspectives on the issue; increased public access is one of the goals but how this is going to occur remains unclear.</p>	
<p>Cowichan Watershed Board report - Tom Rutherford, CWB Executive Director, reiterated CWB goals: continuing the water use planning process; securing resources to undertake engineering/designing/and to define natural boundaries; and importantly, identifying the licence holder. Long-term goals are important, however the short-term situation is of dire importance; this year could see the use of pumps to maintain the river's flow.</p> <p>RMS Ken Traynor/ Diana Gunderson that CLRSS write a letter in support of the CWB and its continued efforts to raise more funding to address the keep the water flowing initiative. CARRIED</p> <p>Judy Brayden asked Tom if he was aware of the “Watershed Day” on Sunday, August 18, 2019 being planned as part of the 75+ Beyond celebration in Lake Cowichan. He was not aware of this. He reiterated that there were no funds for community outreach (Water Woman) initiative this summer.</p>	<p><i>Ken Traynor will write this letter asap.</i></p> <p><i>Judy Brayden will email both 75+ Beyond Events Chairperson, Laurie Johnson, and CWB Executive Director, Tom Rutherford, so that clarification and communication can occur.</i></p>
<p>CLRSS Report from the Area Directors: CVRD Board Chair and Area F Regional Director, Ian Morrison, reported that a press release on collaborative action being undertaken regarding the current water restrictions in the Cowichan Valley has been issued; we are encouraged to communicate every way that we can about the issue of water shortage; the CVRD has purchased a Sprinkler Protection Unit (SPU) which are pumps, sprinklers and hoses for wildfire protection; wildfire preparations are underway; the region has a common goal of an effective wildfire plan.</p> <p>He reported that the South Shore Sewage System proposal is proceeding.</p> <p>An application for rezoning a portion of Little Beach is in process. There will be a fulsome public hearing process.</p>	
<p>Correspondence: CLRSS received confirmation from the Pacific Salmon Foundation (PSF) that we have been granted \$1500 for the Landowner Education Video project.</p> <p>We also received two letters from the Town of Lake Cowichan acknowledging our park initiative.</p>	
<p>Executive: See Appendix 1.</p> <p>Note: Raising the CLRSS fees and changing the membership year to a guaranteed 12-month model will be discussion items at the May 27th Executive Committee meeting; Board members who are not able to attend can send email communications to Ken</p>	

<p>Traynor or Judy Brayden and the comments will be included as part of the discussion at the meeting.</p> <p>Communication: Chantelle Carden reported that she is posting CLRSS activities as they are sent to her. (See Appendix 4 below)</p> <p>Education: Diana Gunderson reported that the committee members had reviewed two applications for the 2019 Gerald Thom Environmental Studies Bursary. They have made a recommendation to the school.</p> <p>Landowner Education: Ken Traynor briefly reported on his idea about engaging homeowners in the water levels conversation by marking the potential water levels on select individual properties around the Lake.</p>	
<p>Treasurer's Report and Draft 2019/20 CLRSS Budget (see Appendix 2 below) - Leroy Van Wieren</p> <p>RMS: Leroy Van Wieren/Diana Gunderson that the Treasurer's Report be adopted as presented. CARRIED</p> <p>RMS Leroy Van Wieren/Judy Brayden that the 2019/20 CLRSS budget be adopted as presented. CARRIED</p>	
<p>Fundraising Report - Appendix 3 was briefly reviewed.</p>	
<p>Retail Sales Report - Rosemary Danaher reported that she is placing a much-needed supply order.</p>	
<p>Social Report - Rosemary Danaher prepared a get-well card for long time member, Lois Atchison.</p>	
<p>Membership Report - Mike Patrick reported that the CLRSS membership is currently 55. The next membership event is May 17th, at Country Grocer.</p>	
<p>River Clean-Up – Judy Brayden and Diana Gunderson reported on the April 30th meeting.</p>	
<p>Strategic Plan Committee Reports - Due to length of meeting agenda, NIL reports may be recorded.</p> <p>A. Regional Meetings:</p> <p>i.) Stewardship Roundtable - Parker Jefferson NIL report</p> <p>B. Land Stewardship:</p> <p>i.) CSSP - Jean Atkinson shared her PowerPoint presentation from the LCS Health Fair; Criteria for evaluating the program's planting success is being undertaken. Christine Brophy is organizing an early June Riparian Tour.</p> <p>C. Water Stewardship:</p> <p>i.) Water monitoring - Ken Traynor reported that this program is underway.</p> <p>ii.) Stream signage - NIL report</p> <p>RMS Chantelle Carden/Diana Gunderson that the above reports be adopted as presented. CARRIED</p>	
<p>New Business:</p> <p>1. The June 23rd AGM was discussed briefly; guest speaker, Heather Pritchard will present her work on the Koksilah Forestry Research Project.</p>	

<p>2. Parker Jefferson made a brief presentation on behalf of One Cowichan RMS Judy Brayden/Diana Gunderson that CLRSS support in principal the One Cowichan campaign to have local governments declare an immediate ``Climate Emergency``.</p> <p>3. Signage – Joe Saysell suggested that signs should be prepared for the river reminding fishermen not to wade on salmon spawning beds.</p> <p>RMS Rosemary Danaher/ Lyndon Keeping that CLRSS support this idea in principal. CARRIED</p>	<p>2. Ken Traynor will respond as requested by One Cowichan.</p>
<p>Adjournment at Rosemary Danaher at 8:50 p.m.</p>	
<p>Important dates:</p> <p>May 17th 10:30 – 1:30 Membership Drive and Hotdog Sale Country Grocer May 21st CLRSS Presentation to the Parks Committee of the Town of Lake Cowichan. Time TBA. May 22nd 9:15 – noon planting at the Gerald Thom Memorial Native Plant Garden May 28th RCU Steering Committee Meeting at Country Grocer Meeting Room - 11:00 a.m. June 3rd Regular CLRSS Board Meeting – 6:30 Country Grocer meeting room June 8th Lake Days Parade Report - (9:00 am - 12:00 pm) – see Judy Brayden June 15th Garden Tour fundraiser - 11:00 – 3:00 – 5658 Riverbottom Road West June 23rd CLRSS Annual General Meeting – location and time TBD June 25th RCU Steering Committee Meeting at Country Grocer Meeting Room - 6:30 p.m. July 7th The CLRSS Summer Bar B Q at the home of Maureen and John Qusted (12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m.) July 8th Regular CLRSS Board Meeting – 6:30 Country Grocer meeting room – River’s Day Report August 6th RCU Steering Committee Meeting at Country Grocer Meeting Room - 6:30 p.m. August 12th Regular CLRSS Board Meeting – 6:30 Country Grocer meeting room August 17th 12:00-12:30 CLRSS to showcase the Gerald Thom Memorial Native Plant Garden in Saywell Park as part of the 75th Anniversary Celebration for the Town of Lake Cowichan – see Bee Greenway August 18th, Annual River Clean-up and annual bottle drive fundraiser – see Di Gunderson September 9th Regular CLRSS Board Meeting – 6:30 Country Grocer meeting room September 15th Wine Survivor Event, CLRSS fundraiser September 28th Quw’ut’sun River Celebration October 6th (Tentative date) CLRSS Visioning Process - all members and special guests invited</p>	

Appendix 1 - Items from the Executive Meeting of April 29th, 2019 – For Information Only.

- **Update on the spring and summer CLRSS event calendar** – see above.
- **Lake Days – Update** – Judy Brayden reported that we will have a truck pulling a boat, in which Oxford will ride. We will have 75+ Beyond balloons as well to show our support for that event. We will have a table at Saywell Park and as Mike will be away, Ken Traynor and hopefully, Rose Danaher, will take this on. **We need a boat to tow.**
- **River access Pine Street update** – Diana Gunderson reported that there is a community meeting scheduled for May 6th; she will report back as appropriate.
- **Christmas Party date** will be Sunday, December 15th, location tentatively the home of Leroy and Marian Van Wieren in Lake Cowichan.
- **Riparian Area Regulation violation in Bass Creek** – Mike reported that he had spoken to Alan Nagasaki at length. He outlined Alan's frustration and the onus appears to rest with the CVRD bylaw enforcement. We questioned: 1.) Did the CVRD simply ignore this?; Was the inspector only able to observe the initial complaint, even though other flagrant violations may have been apparent at the time of the initial visit? 2.) What should we do? Ideas: label the creek as fish-bearing or use this as an educational tool for the community, by writing an article for the local paper about this sort of violation? We agreed to ask Ken Traynor to check the status of the progress with Area F Director, Morrison and to briefly report at the next Board meeting.
- **Quw'ut'sun River Celebration, September 28th, 2019 decision on CLRSS sponsorship:** After discussion and information from Parker Jefferson, who was part of the planning group for the event two years ago, the consensus was that Ken Traynor and Leroy Van Wieren will need to get the budget information from Genevieve Singleton; further discussion will take place at the next CLRSS Executive meeting and a recommendation will be made at that time. **Motion to defer: Leroy/Ken that we defer this item until such time as we have the issue of finances clarified. CARRIED**

Appendix 2 – Treasurer’s Report – Leroy Van Wieren

April 2019 Treasurer's Report			
	CASH in Bank	Cheques/Transfers	Available Cash
CLRSS General Account	10,985.78	0	10,985.78
to be deposited	0.00		
Salmon fry rescue funds			1,577.40
Total Cash Available for CLRSS General Activities			\$9,408.38
Bursary Account Total			\$5,221.71
Comments: 2019/2020 Budget is DRAFT (unapproved)			

CLRSS 2019/20 Financial Report Budget to Actual - 30/04/2019							
Revenue				Expenditures			
CODE	Category	Budget	Actual	CODE	Category	Budget	Actual
Total	Revenue	8500	827.41	Total	Expenditures	8,500.00	0.00
4100	Memberships	1300	756.00	5270	Signs	300	0
4110	Donations	2000	30.50	5610	Accounting	100	0
4200	Sales	590	40.00	5615	Public Information	1500	0
4460	Fundraising	4600	0.00	5625	BCLSS	50	0
	Interest	10	0.91	5630	Society Fees	125	0
				5640	Printing Costs	400	0
				5650	Purchase for Sales	400	0
				5685	Insurance	300	0
				5690	Bank Charges	25	0
				5700	Office Expenses	300	0
				5730	Courses & Mtgs	0	0
				5735	CSSP-LE Activities	500	0
				5736	River CU	1000	0
				5737	Fundraising Expenses	100	0
				5740	Misc. other	300	0
				5900	Scholarship Fund	800	0.00
				6000	Fry Rescue	300	0
					GT Memorial Garden	500	0
					Website Update	1000	0
					Strategic Plan	500	0

Appendix 3 – CLRSS Fundraising Events

CLRSS Upcoming Events

June 15

Tickets \$5.00

Native Plants in a Traditional Garden - garden tour, tea and plein aire artists at work, while you share an informative garden experience

contact judybrayden@shaw.ca

June 23

AGM - Curling Lounge - 10:00 - noon

contact ken.traynor@gmail.com

July 7

Tickets \$25.00

Annual BBQ and Silent Auction - Honeymoon Bay BYOB, appetizers, BBQ chicken and the trimmings, dessert and tea/coffee - Ask about discount for bringing a new member- guest

contact Maureen 250 478-7595
or mquested@shaw.ca

Aug. 17

Tour the newly rejuvenated Gerald Thom Memorial Native Plant Garden - 12:00 - 12:30 in Saywell Park Part of the 75+ BEYOND celebrations

contact judybrayden@shaw.ca

Aug. 18

Annual River Clean-up & Bottle Drive - Central Park 8:30 - 9:30 Registration and continental breakfast - 12:30 onsite BBQ for volunteers, courtesy of Jake's at the Lake

contact dianamarie@shaw.ca

Sept. 15

Tickets \$20.00 and a bottle of wine of \$15.00 before tax

Wine Survivor - a fundraiser - location TBD - Immunity Challenges, skill testing questions, lucky draws. Winner takes home at least 10 bottles of wine!

contact Maureen 250 478-7595
or mquested@shaw.ca

for more info

**Cowichan Lake and
River Stewardship Society**

www.cowichan-lake-stewards.ca



Appendix 4: Communications Strategies – April, 2019

Facebook Post Ideas:

Facebook Post Idea	Writer
1. \$1,000 scholarship for CLRSS - Gerald Thom Memorial Bursary.	
2. Environmental Studies Program at LCS - Lake Studies	
3. What is a riparian zone? - distance from high water mark - why it is important - what plants to use - native plants	Dave Polster & Genevieve Singleton
4. Fun Facts: - 1 cm in lake is equal to 24 hours healthy river flow - same amount of evaporation on hot windy summer day	
5. Shaw Creek “did you know” features - largest supplier of cold water to lake all year - elk and other wildlife	
6. Vancouver Lamprey	Genevieve Singleton
7. Cowichan Lake is in top 3 of tested lakes in BC for water quality	
8. Poaching	
9. Water monitoring program- updates on temperature and clarity	
10. Native foreshore plants - and what plants not to use?	Genevieve Singleton & Dave Polster
11. \$2,000 from Sidney Anglers to CLRSS - why? - who are Sidney Anglers?	
12. Fry salvage - Probably updates from Parker as they happen	
13. CSSP Tours	Jean Atkinson
14. Watershed Board - watershed tours	
15. Heritage river - what does that mean? “Did you know?”	Genevieve Singleton
16. Fresh water mussels	Genevieve

17. Crayfish dying in pop and beer cans - "Did you know?"	
18. Reduced garbage in river -how local businesses are helping out	
19. Weir and water levels - ongoing posts	
20. Knotweed - Dave Polster doing tests with cutting to see if they die off - Timber West testing in Caycus	Genevieve can do updates
21. Signage maintenance	
22. Plant nursery program at LCS	
23. Weather station at LCS	
24. Oxford - who is he? What is he?	Judy Brayden & Rosemary Danaher
25. Promote membership sign-up	
26. River clean-up - Clean-up details -bottle drive	
27. Plug CLRSS swag and where it can be purchased	
28. Boater safety program and general information - RAP line, etc	
29. Plug monthly meetings	
30. Educate about survey and home visits	

Ideas that are good for articles for Valley Voice and for Gazette

Article Idea	Writer
1. Survey and home visits - How long going on for - . purpose of visits - how we can help home owners and their riparian zones	
2. Lake monitoring program - how long it has been going on for - what data is used for - why it is important - who data is shared with	
3. River Clean-Up -who -what -when -where -why	

<p>4. Environmental Studies program at LCS - Lake Studies - Who started - Why we feel it's important - What students think of it</p>	
<p>5. What is a riparian zone? - why is it important to keep in tact - laws/bylaws of riparian zone - what plants to use - who to call if see infractions</p>	
<p>6. Shaw Creek</p>	
<p>7. Vancouver Lamprey</p>	
<p>8. CSSP and Cowichan Watershed Board watershed tours -who -what -when -where -why</p>	
<p>9. Heritage river and what that means</p>	
<p>10. Negative impacts of poaching -what can residents do - RAP line -what are the laws/bylaws -importance of fish and diversity in river - when and where to fish</p>	<p>Chris Morley & Joe Saysell</p>
<p>11. Knotweed -what it is -why it is bad -what to do about it -tests being done</p>	
<p>12. Plant nursery program at LCS "Did you know?" - how CLRSS is involved - who runs it on a day to day - how it fits into curriculum - what do kids learn from it - students' perspective - what do they do with the harvest</p>	
<p>13. Weir and water levels - the facts and history</p>	
<p>Other topic ideas: Gerald Thom Native Plant Garden CLRSS Signage at Streams See a violation # to call Current lake levels and river flows Wildlife that relies on Lake/River (besides fish, otters, birds) Sunscreen info Species of fish in River and Lake</p>	<p>It is not a ditch! -- article about tributaries and how to treat them - information re Bass Creek as example, value of small streams for fish & impacts downstream of what happens upstream</p> <p>River safety, rescue, Paddlesports, Hazards, Tube Safety, have scads of pictures of kids and adults having fun being safe and being responsible (Rick Bryan)</p>

Forestry Issues - Dave Polster & Genevieve Singleton	
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