

Commons Council Minutes: July 03, 2012

Present: Linda St.C., Judith R., Susan Y., John P., Victor A., Mary A., Kit S., Beck F., Stef M., Heide B., Raymond T., Hans V.K., Bob A., Patrick R., Pat M., Steve E., George St., Doug M.

Proposed Agenda:

Team Reports

Proposals for allocation of funds for maintenance and projects from recent gift of 50K for that purpose

Creation of Goat co-op

Decision making process

Use of Commons (what groups, what purposes?)

Team and Group Reports

Property Management

The “shed” has been removed next to the entrance of the Commons by PHC to the Rollo Centre and area cleaned up

Working on cleaning up the interior of the barn and GIRO will supply truck to help remove materials not needed/wanted

Need to replace cleaning person see Raymond for applications

Grant Writing

Vancouver Foundation grant given for more internal work on kitchen for 10K

Plaque has been made recognizing gift made by the Nanaimo Foundation.

Placement of plaque TBD.

People for a Healthy Community

Raised a concern about missing BBQ and need to insure any removal of goods be discussed even if it appears unusable/unsafe.

Need access to their toolbox, which they placed in the Wood Working Shop.

Committed to remove the dirt pile

Received permission to remove some tree limbs

Rental agreement with comments has been forwarded to Victor (Trustees)

Events

Community Garage Sale will be held on August 4 from 10 am to 2 p m

No temporary use permit required (Stef has paper trail); volunteer help will be needed.

Share the Commons

They focused on the allocation for projects and developed the criteria for

discernment: safety, timing, visibility, synergy, aesthetics, completion, *and greenness.*

Trails and Green Spaces

Mary Wilson is co-coordinating the Camp Miriam campers who come to help and needs additional volunteers to assist (Victor, Bob, Judith and others).

Labyrinth

Maintaining the site is a concern as the flora has taken over the pathways and therefore it is difficult to see the outlines of the stones. Mary A. will bring together a groups to explore options in how to keep this open for meditative walks.

Trustees

Met with the Long Range Planning Task Force and gave them input; budget was approved; liability insurance increased and contract went to local agency through Credit Union; policy on having no overnight parking on Commons being developed; AGM will be in September but no date yet; nominations for Trustees will come from the floor; the MOU with PHC has been proposed and will be circulated as was the rental agreement to all teams for input before any ratification.

Allotments South

The fencing has been completed around the garden area!

Farm Management

Possibility of a goat co op was discussed
Issue of who gets access to clippings from scything
One allotment is now available
Janis Power has offered land for Commons Plot Allotment
More work bees needed for kitchen gardens
Next meeting July 9

Infrastructure

Biodiesel equipment is still in barn and needs to be moved. Who can use it or store it for the future??
Having site maps at entrances to Commons would be very useful
Mapping is being done for the Covenant team

Agenda Items

Goat Co op

A discussion about the pro's and cons of having goats again on the Commons. Concerns were raised about: need for them to be housed and fenced; they could Eat native species and yet keep down grass and weeds; one more thing for

People to “do” or take care of; would change appearance of the Commons; have to purchase food for them; overnight care/protection? Susan Y and Steve E will make a proposal first to the Farm Team and then Sharing the Commons.

Proposals for allocation of 50K for projects and maintenance on Commons

Used criteria of Safety, Timing, Visibility, Synergy, Aesthetics, Completion and Green.

Deck: estimated to finish: 10,000 and 5000 already raised	5,000
Community Kitchen (for outside walls, doors)	20,000
Site Map (will need four but one for now)	2,000
Goat Barn Roof (Temp. solution to leaking rood)	5-10,000
Sustainability Centre (finish roof with existing funds, re finish Timbers, create picnic space)	2,000
Board walk extension (80 feet)	200
East west Connector	1,000
Woodworking Shop First Aid Kit	100
Farm-Gate Stand/Info Centre	5,000
Entry Pathway (hedge to house)gravel and lighting	500
Barn Storage System	2500
Parking lot expansion	2000
Blinds for Upstairs room (to permit dark out)	5,000
Repair Cob Wall	1,000
Chipper	1,600
Upgrade Water System with new UV filters	1,200
New Parking area between Barn and Road	2,000

Discussion and Conclusions: need to concentrate on major projects and things long range; monies for some projects (kitchen) will not be enough to finish them; trails have high visibility and need to talk to community about these; determine plans and project manager for each project.

Since we did not have time to finish our recommendations we concluded that the following were critical to start now and we will discuss the rest at our next meeting.

1. Create one Site Map---project steward is Judith
2. Create and cover new decking—Patrick (PMT) will steward this project
3. Trails: TAGS will coordinate with appropriate groups etc.(Victor, Tom, Cameron, Steve E etc)
4. Sustainability Centre: Bob A. will talk with Cindy to explore next steps for finishing roof and what is needed. However a work team will need to be organized for this and not clear who will do this.
5. Purchase first aid kit for Wood working shop (whoever goes to ONO first)
6. Roof for barn needs an assessment ASP

Next meeting for Commons Council will be August 7th at the Commons.

Agenda will include: How decisions get made (review Rebecca's proposal)
Continue Discussion on allocation of funds for
projects and how we have done on those we
had consensus.

Minutes were the collective work of Doug, Judith and Linda. The latter is responsible for any errors (last one to kick the can).