

Commons Coordinating Council (CCC) gabriolacommonscouncil@gmail.com

Notes for Meeting of Tuesday, May 7, 2013

Present: Stephanie Marrie, Maya Ruggles, Deb Ferens, Rebecca Furnell, Robbie Huston, Pat Maloney, Judith Roux, Mary Aitken, Muriel Wiens, Ginny Hhayes, George Szanto, Kit Szanto, Patsy Ludwig, Bob Andrew, Mary Wilson
Co-facilitators (2): Maya Ruggles, Stephanie Marrie
Recorder: Mary Wilson (Property Management Team)

Next CCC meeting: June 4, 2013
Recorder for next meeting: Farm team

20 Minutes on a current issue

Front yard – see additional notes.

Next Council meeting – we will spend the first 20 minutes of the meeting discussing the 20 minute process.

Actions/Questions to be taken/addressed:

- A. Long-range planning team: With input from others and notes from ongoing Council discussions, develop a plan for Commons north road frontage.
- B. All: please distribute the decision-making document to your teams and ask for feedback. This is a second draft; remember that a discussion of consensus decision-making isn't included in the document.
- C. All: Please consider the changes proposed to the FMT mandate.

Additional Agenda Items:

- A. A PHC staff member had an encounter with a PHC participant on the Commons grounds after hours; the individual was abusing drugs and/or alcohol. PHC sought guidance from Council on Commons policy, and whether it was appropriate to call the RCMP in such cases.. The Commons doesn't have a policy on drugs and alcohol; the general sense of the Council is that it's okay to call the RCMP when necessary.
- B. Council agreed it's a good idea for PHC gardeners to use a 10x10 tent in the garden to provide shade for hot days. The tent will be removed at close of day.

TEAM Reports:

Commons Coordinating Council

- Agreed that if 20 minute discussions continue, the issue of permanent memorial marking at the Commons should be a topic one day.
- List of other ongoing items for discussion is on the website in the highlighted green box
- Next Meeting: June 4, 2013
- Next minute-taker: farm team

Communications (rep: Patsy Ludwig)

- Communications will seek articles on the Namaste Garden Project and the Community

- Kitchen for submission to the newspapers.
- Next Meeting: No meeting scheduled

Covenant (rep: Judith Roux)

- Next meeting Thursday, May 9.
- Team plans to go to Galiano June 9th to meet with Galiano Conservancy

Event Planning (rep: Steff Marrie)

- Spring fair: 4H did the food; two tents full of seeds and starts; lots of music thanks to Joood Heather and the Morris Dancers. It was a wonderful family event.
- There was discussion of regularization of the way the spring fair is recorded in the books. General sense of Council was that the finances for all events should be recorded and tracked in the Commons' books.
- Next Meeting: Not scheduled

Farm Management

- Kitchen garden is progressing beautifully and looked great for the spring fair and the Island Studies conference
- Namaste Gardens is having a workbee every Wednesday and could use more help. Plots are still available. Workbees are 5:30 until 8:00 p.m. Available spaces have a winter cover crop at the moment.

Fundraising

- No report

Grant Writing

- No report

Infrastructure :

- No report

Learning Opportunities

- No report

Property Management (rep: Mary Wilson)

- No report
- Next Meeting: Monday, June 3, 1:00 p.m.

Share the Commons (rep: Kit Szanto)

- The Gabriola Commons sign made by Rick Cranston is now mounted at the tennis court path entry to the Commons. Thanks to Patrick Roux for leading the installation initiative.
- Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 8.

Trails and Green Spaces

- No report

Trustees for Gabriola Commons Foundation (rep:

- New trustees are needed to fill spots left by Yetta's death and Aidan's recent resignation. Maya will join once her responsibilities with Council are fulfilled. Please consider suggesting yourself or others who might serve on the Board, perhaps starting with the AGM in September.
- Rebecca has taken over as PHC contact with Aidan's departure.

- The Village Foods fundraiser is going well – get a card if you don't have one. Commons cards are designated for the Community Kitchen.
- It's 'leave a legacy' month – remember the Commons in your will.
- Another donation of approximately \$22000 is due to be received and will be for the mortgage.
- Rick has also offered to make a sign for the North Road entrance and is glad to make another for the front. Kit will invite Rick to the next council meeting.
- Yetta's bench will be dedicated May 25 at noon. There will be a soup lunch, since Yetta was a soup maker, and the bench will then be unveiled. The bench will either be in the large room, or possibly in the entryway downstairs, or possibly in the community kitchen; inside, anyway.
- Area in front of the yurt has been marked off to grow the grass tall enough to scythe on June 21st, just before dawn. Followed by a harvest feast and dance. Mary Wilson and Robbie Huston are working on the plans for this.
- Finances – Team amounts are now available since end of year was March 31.
- Next Meeting: May 16 fundraising; June 6 regular meeting

Volunteers

- No report

PROJECTS:

Community Kitchen (rep:

- Progress is happening and could be quicker with more people.
- Kitchen team should write an article about the project – answering the question 'why does the community need a kitchen?'

Green Bikes (rep:

- No report

Island Connections (rep:

- *No report*

Labyrinth (rep:

- • The labyrinth has been looking beautiful thanks to mowing with hand mowers
- May 24 ecumenical society is having a picnic, taize chanting and drumming at the labyrinth (full moon) beginning at 5 p.m.
- Children from the school have attended
- Friday evening Maureen Wilde is having a showing of a Hildegard of Bingen movie to raise money for a memorial bench for Krystal Anderson

Sustainability Centre

- No report

GROUPS

People for a Healthy Community (rep: Pat Mooney)

- See notes under "other agenda items."

Poetry Gabriola

- No report

Stories from memory's well (Muriel)

- The group has been slow at this point.
- Please come to the group on the fourth Thursday of each month.
- Muriel will discuss it with those attending the PHC seniors' lunch at some point.
- The structure of the group is to share stories – 15 minute limit, talking in a circle – life stories.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS DISCUSSED:

A. Update on past issues

- Changes to the website – Hans and Heide are undertaking this.
- Changes to FMT mandate – include info with the minutes and remind teams
- Contact Shelagh Huston to talk about conflict resolution group. (Robbie Huston will do this)
- Tree task force – Alison F – in pause for now – dropped from Council to-do list
- Events – we feel that all events that are Commons events should go through the books – events team will produce a proposal next time suggesting the ways money should go
- Contact names for Poetry Gabriola – Rebecca will send a list to Poetry Gabriola
- Archiving – need general discussion of how and what to archive. In general it is up to teams to archive their own minutes and other relevant documents.
- The Commons AGM will be held September 28 at 1:30 p.m.