

# Commons Coordinating Council (CCC) gabriolacommonscouncil@gmail.com

## Notes for Meeting of March 5, 2019

Present: Judith Roux, Deb Ferens, Stuart Wulff, Michelle Benjamin, Lisa Butler, Heather Menzies, Cam Dodds, Terry Stonehouse, Brenda Fowler, Patsy Ludwick, David Lightly, Bob Andrew, Louise Amuir, Maya Ruggles, Jinny Hayes, Charlie Cheffins, Lesley Hazeldine, Linda St Clair.

Co-facilitators: Judith Roux and Linda St. Clair  
Recorder: Covenant Team – Deb Ferens

Next CCC meeting: April 2, 2019 (Co-facilitators: Louise Amuir & Heather Menzies)  
Recorder for next meeting (volunteer): Stuart Wulff, South Gardens

APRIL 20 minute discussion: Website (Communication Team)

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### 1. Goat Barn

Much discussion and interest in moving forward with Phase I of the Goat Barn. Questions about process for making things happen. Importance of stewardship. How the project is reported to Council and how Teams weigh in on various stages. Importance of multi-purpose use of space and avoiding exclusive use. Suggestion to use the Hat Process at some point. ACTION: Judith & Heather will convene a meeting re: Phase 1 of the Goat Barn and will ensure that community users and designers are part of the early discussion, eg, Gabriola Players, GAC, Lulu, Stevie Bertolot, Colleen (coffee house), school, others to be determined.

### 2. TEAM Reports:

#### *Communications (rep: Jinny Hayes)*

- New Website; Logo project – no follow up from school yet re: kids' art.
- Next Meeting: Mar 25 at 9:30 am

#### *Signage (rep: Jinny Hayes)*

- Planning for next phase – wayfaring signs; Funds are required.
- Next Meeting: Fri Mar 9 at 9:30 am

#### *The Process Team (rep: Louise Amuir)*

- Discussion amongst Team on inclusion/welcoming to the Commons
- Meetings are on the last Wed of the month at 10 am.

#### *Finance (rep: Deb Ferens)*

- Will do a year-end report next Council meeting as fiscal year end nears Mar 31.
- Budget Planning for Teams for 2019-2020 fiscal year – Finance Team can help with budgets.
- Allocation of \$4000 re: Special Events Team – next Council meeting.

- Next Meeting: Mon Mar 18 at 12:30 am

### ***Event Planning*** (rep: Judith Roux)

- Spring Fair in planning (early May weekend)

### ***Farm Management*** (rep: Heather Menzies)

- Working on the orchard, middle field
- Kitchen Garden - sending out appeal to open up the kitchen garden to share work/ share produce, especially young families. Will be approaching the Garden Club to promote.

### ***Namaste*** (rep: Brenda Fowler)

- Mar 22 is the deadline for applications for plots

### ***South Garden*** (rep: Stuart Wulff)

- Sign up time for 11 vacant plots 2019 plots (3 sessions); expect most returning; space for new gardeners
- New systems and initiatives being implemented such as: revised agreements; garden stewards; proactive approach in hopes to avoid some of the vandalism and security issues of last year.

### ***Learning Opportunities*** (rep: Maya Ruggles)

- reworking the Mandate
- Next Meeting: Thurs Mar 7 at 2pm at the Hive.

### ***Property Management*** (rep: Bob Andrew)

- Did a walk about with PMT and GAC re: Cultivate.
- Farmhouse: renovations are happening – painting; upgrades to rooms; chairs for back room have been ordered.
- Hedge: Phase 1 to start Mar 11: cut down hedge to 8 feet; opening up of crosswalk corner; focus on flow patterns once hedge opened up.
- Cistern: 25000 gal – 3 applications for funding.
- Next Meeting: Thurs Mar 14 at 5 pm.

### ***Trustees for Gabriola Commons Foundation*** (rep: Bob Andrew)

- Last meeting focused on working on the PHC Lease which is up for renewal Apr 1, 2019. 3 Trustees met with PHC for lease discussion
- Next Meeting: Tues Mar 12 at 2:30 pm.

### ***Community Kitchen*** (rep: Maya Ruggles)

- Allie is stepping away from CK Stewards for a few months to concentrate on Trustee commitments
- Nancy Laird is planning drop in open kitchen on Wednesdays

### ***Bookings*** (rep: Maya Ruggles)

- Maya and Lynda Toews met to discuss the merging of Community Kitchen bookings with Bookings and putting the 2 bookings together on regular website calendar.

## GROUPS

### *Gabriola Tool Library* (rep: Patsy Ludwick)

- New MOU now updated and signed on one more year Feb 2019-Feb 2020.
- Planning a fundraiser – tool sale on Apr 22 Earth Day. Open invitation to other Teams to also be on site to celebrate Earth Day.

### *People for a Healthy Community* (rep: Brenda Fowler)

- sprucing up their space – painting hallway & kitchen. Dining room is next.
- proposed extension to food storing area (Teams asked to provide feedback)

### *AGI Co-op* (rep: Lisa Butler)

- attended Sharing the Commons meeting with proposal for Wed Evening Market 4-7 pm from May to Oct that may include having meals together; possible use of kitchen; music, liquor license, and more.
- More discussion to come on practicalities of process, arrangements, MOU, etc.

### *Gabriola Arts Council* (rep: Michelle Benjamin)

- Cultivate Festival plans are rolling along. Had a good walk about with PMT.
- will contact Allie (Trustee) to start new MOU.

## 3. Additional Items Arising

Stuart Wulff shared information about a course “Toward Co-operative Commonwealth: Transition in a Perilous Century. From Stuart:

Dear Gabriola Friends,

I’m emailing about an upcoming free online course on commons, co-operation and sustainability. I think this course could be of great interest to many of us concerned about building a better world and a better Gabriola that is just, in harmony with our planet and sustainable. In addition to being of benefit to individual participants, the course is designed to be a tool to help local and issue based networks to use in furthering their own work. Self-organized weekly discussion groups are one component of the course approach, though people can also just participate individually. My thought is that if a few of us on Gabriola were interested in taking the course, we could also organize a weekly discussion group to discuss the latest module each week and how what we learn from that might be useful to the Gabriola context. Interested?

Please pass on this email to others on Gabriola that you think might be interested.

The course is offered by Synergia, an international network that emerged out of the community development and sustainability research network that I coordinated from 2006-2015 (and still do some volunteer follow-up work). Synergia was formed to provide education in support of promoting convergence between the commons, co-operative, social economy and sustainability movements. So far it has offered an international residential retreat program hosted in Italy in 2017 and a MOOC (massive open online course) offered in 2017. This new MOOC course builds on the first one. The course is entitled Towards Co-operative Commonwealth: Transition in a Perilous Century. It will consist of 8 modules offered over two 4-week periods. The first period starts on March 25. With a

break between, the second 4-week period will start on May 20. The 8 modules that make up the course are as follows:

1. Framing the Journey: Capitalism, Planetary Limits & The Struggle to Restore & Share our Common Wealth
2. Stewarding Land & Resources for the Common Good
3. Ecological Resilience & a Just Food System
4. Precarious Livelihoods: Pathways to Solidarity
5. Democratizing Social Care: From Welfare State to Caring Society
6. Democratic Ownership: Pathways to a Resilient Energy Future
7. Democratic Financing Solutions for the Great Transition
8. Synthesis: Building the Politics for Systems Change

The course is entirely free, other than your time commitment. Or there is an option to pay \$269 for course accreditation in Athabasca University graduate programs. Those who complete the course without paying will receive a completion certificate.

For further information, go to: <https://synergiainstitute.org/2019/01/19/towards-co-operative-common-wealth-transition-in-a-perilous-century/>

To sign-up for the course, go to:

<https://www.canvas.net/browse/athabascauniversity/courses/transition-cooperative-commonwealth>