

Commons Coordinating Council (CCC)

www.gabriolacommons.ca

Notes of Meeting of February 3, 2021 (Wetlands Day)

Co-facilitators: Jinny Hayes (Covenant Team); Bob Andrew (Design Group)

Recorder: Judith Roux, Farm Team

Also present: Muriel Wiens, David Lightly, Doug Scott, Bob Andrew, Don Smardon, Deb Ferens, Alison Fitzgerald, Brenda Fowler

Next CCC meeting: **Tuesday, March 2, 2021** at 7 pm on Zoom.

Recorder for next meeting: **Finance Team**

Next Team CCC co-facilitator (April 6) to come from **Farm Team, including Namaste, North, South Gardens.**

1. Welcome and Acknowledgement (Jinny)

Acknowledgement

Jinny thanked the Snuneymeux First Nation for the legacy and use of this beautiful land.

Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action re: Health (n=7)

- Current state results from past history and government actions (eg, residential schools)
- Need for Federal Government to establish measurable goals to close differences (eg, ensure Aboriginal peoples get vaccines first)
- Need to address jurisdictional disputes (eg, status of Metis, those living off reserves)
- Establish sustainable funding for healing centres; make sure these work for First Nations
- Acknowledge importance of Aboriginal healing practices
- Increase number & retention of Aboriginal Health professionals
- Ensure medical & nursing schools establish courses on Aboriginal issues in curriculum

2. Agenda review (Jinny)

- Draft reviewed.

Following Up from previous meetings

A. Team Facilitation rotation: Will go by alpha list for now as per rotation for Council Notes-taking

B. Discussion recognizing contributions (see 20-minute Discussion, below)

C. Outdoor Use and future Bookings (see Bookings, below)

Question: Are Council discussions representative at present, given reduced turnout at Zoom

meetings?

For Teams' discussion & follow-up at next Council meeting:

- A. Proposed Covenant for the Commons: Presentation by the Covenant Team: March 2 CCC
- B. Tree cutting policy
- C. Council review (forwarding suggestions made by various teams)
- D. How do we orient people to the Commons: Future 20-minute discussion
- E. Ideas on how to acknowledge all contributions to the Commons; how to move forward: Communication Team, Grant Writing Team, Design Group, Ad Hoc group?

3. 20-minute Discussion: Recognizing contributions to the Commons (deferred from Jan. Council)

Scope of subject: This includes contributions of money, time, labour, objects

- Need for someone to take the lead on this discussion, pull ideas together leading to action
- Would this be a team, eg, Communications, Grand Writing, Process, Design group or an Ad Hoc group (e.g. the reservoir task force)? Note really current Process Team. Teams please make suggestions.

Ideas

- Public art, eg, "Wall of wonder" recognition wall (listing people in alphabetical order?)
 - Needs to be something physical
 - Importance of sending cards (Linda St. Clair took this on for the Reservoir project); handwritten notes on special Commons photo cards
 - Names on tiles on Cobwall or bricks ("yellow brick road" eg, for pedestrian path entry from North Road near Arbutus)
 - "Thank you" artwork? with room for expansion to add names over time
- Please give this some thought and send ideas to Jinny.

4. Team Reports:

Commons Liaison for Cultivate Festival (Doug Scott)

Recent meeting held with Bobbie Blue. Tentative dates for Festival 2021 still are: July 1 to 4. See attached report which include a timeline and Site Plan of event venues.

Notes:

- Intention is to make this Festival an island event (musicians, theatre, attendees, etc.)
- The event will be smaller because of the need to follow COVID advisories.
- Impact of smaller event shows in estimated revenue from Cultivate to Commons
- No electrical work will need to be done for the Farmhouse, Timberframe.
- Cultivate and Commons workbee crew need to work together on landscaping around reservoir.

Q: What if COVID is still raging in July? Is there a point where Cultivate plans will be postponed to 2022? A: Unsure.

- Need for Commons COVID task force to join in planning. (Eg, It's estimated that the goal of 70% of the general population vaccinated will probably not be realized before **end** of summer.)

South Gardens Report (Doug Scott)

Registration for summer 2021 are happening online. 4 new gardeners are on wait list.

Farm Team (Judith)

- Meetings: Saturdays 10 to 12 during workbee. All welcome.
- Pruning completed. Planning for summer planting ongoing.
Betty Kehler is offering a Grafting Workshop in early March. Please contact her at plumridgefarm@gmail.com . Notice will be sent out with confirmed date next week.
Alison was encouraged to see new Fig orchard. Thank you for your comment!

Communications Team (Jinny)

Difficulty reported in accessing Gabriola Commons website. Jinny will explore with Colleen.
Still working on rack cards

Property Stewardship Team (Bob)

- The water issue is being dealt with. Boil water advisory still in place.
- The Poetry Yurt now has a functioning electrical connection, along with monitoring device which will track power usage.
- Concrete retaining wall on north face of Woodwork Shop has been poured in anticipation of finishing of groundwork/walkway between Goat Barn and Shop.

Design Group (David Lightly)

- Kim proposed project of outdoor chessboard just above septic tank lids: squares of 12"x12" alternating concrete pavers and tight, low grass squares. Cost estimated: \$300- 500. Bob will carve chess pieces. Told about chess set at Ladysmith Bakery.
- "Yellow submarine" (nickname for propane tank just south of pump house). Proposed to move it into the space between pump house and Reservoir (still close enough to Kitchen which needs the propane). Note: 10-foot separation to be respected between propane tank and any structure.
- The north face of the pump house has been planned as a "Ticket Office" for eventual events Problem was seen with the tree there. Discussion needed on any random trees on the broad fairground. To cut or not to cut? is really the question. More discussion needed. Trails and Green Spaces Team had proposed a ruling on this back in the early days of the Commons: if tree is wider than 18" at breast height it stays. A "tree by tree" discussion is still needed. Deb: Any environmental issues need to be discussed with sensitivity. Proceed by embracing the land. Bob agreed; the ecosystem as a whole is important.

PHC (Brenda)

- Thank you to Commons Trustee liaisons with PHC; had a first good meeting.
- COVID protocol has been tightened. Fewer people (including staff) come into the building.
- 2 Issues:
 1. Water not working. Need for a weekly report on water. Need for a Plan B
Bob explained malfunction of bypass filtration system (which has caused us grief in the past). Decision has been made to replace it and a better design is in process, so water boiling will be ongoing for some time (not sure how long; depends of professionals' availability)
 2. PHC needs to be kept informed.
 - Request to be included in COVID discussions. A: Commons Covid group will meet in February with a follow-up mtg with all MoU holders.

Trustees (Don)

- Cultivate/Commons MoU is being discussed. GAC wants to establish timeline but there are so many unknowns.
- Next meeting Feb. 16.

Finance Team (Deb)

- Next meeting Feb. 17 at 1 pm by Zoom
- Working with Cultivate.
- Tax receipts are being sent out to donors this month.

Covenant Team (Deb)

- Team is reviewing final copy of referral to ALC for permission to have a covenant on ALR land.
- Meeting: Feb. 3 at 1 pm.
- A 45-minute presentation of the Covenant will be given at next Council on March 3.

COVID-19 Ad Hoc Group (Deb)

- Meeting in February. TBA to confirm protocols and share new information, including 5 groups on the Commons: Gertie, Lions, PHC, Tool Library and Poetry Gabriola.
- Current COVID guidelines at the Commons: We are in Phase 3. No bookings are being made; no reservation fees taken.

Long Range Planning (Deb)

- Meeting to take place in February to enlarge on idea of Commons Stewardship Model as possible new structure for Council.

Bookings (Deb)

- Covid has impacted Bookings and income.

- Still need someone who would join a Bookings Group as soon as things open up. Conversation needed between Bookings and COVID Group.

Pottery Team Announcement (Bob)

- Shaun Woods has sent an update on the group which has been occupying the "pottery" space (north part of the Woodwork Shop). He thanked the Commons "for having given a community pottery a chance." All acknowledge that for a pottery to work the space needs to be much larger. The group will clear out all of the supplies and equipment they have brought in by March 1. Recommended that this be during a workbee so that caution can be taken with the water filtration system housed in this space.

5. Any Other Business?

Note re: Chamber of Commerce membership. Through modified discussion process, the decision was made to not to renew our membership for 2021 (at \$170/year). The response was very cordial, with an invitation to join in future discussion. **Action:** Jinny to talk with Julie Sperber.

6. Adjournment

Jinny called an end to the evening and Bob expressed appreciation for her skilled facilitation.

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20-minute Discussion Topic List Outstanding

- How do we orient people to the Commons?
- Covenant update; scheduled March 2021
- Council Review
- Tree cutting policy discussion

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Attachment

Monthly Cultivate Report to Commons Council
From Bobbie Blue
 Feb 1, 2021, 10:49 AM (1 day ago)
Cultivate Liaison Team Meeting Sunday Jan 31st - 4 PM
Bob, Doug, Shelagh, Bobbie

No electrical work is needed to the house for Cultivate

We are moving to a smaller festival due to Covid, so smaller footprint on the Commons and less people attending - plans pending and constantly changing

Workbees - there are key things to be done - mainly finishing the Reservoir Stage, making it safe, finishing

electrical and landscaping in the area - I will find out about safety codes involving stages

Cultivate folks can do the work needed (except for electrical) but need guidance from the Commons - Cultivate and the Commons need to decide what they want so that so that all work done benefits the community, as well as Cultivate and the Commons

The Cultivate volunteers need to include some skilled and experienced people as well as helpers, and we will have to manage workbees with social distancing and masks in mind

It is important to have a meeting with the Commons Design Team - Timing is crucial in order to get work started so perhaps the Liaison Team could meet with Laura-Jean Kelly and Cameron Murray from Topographics in real life real soon

We need to pay attention to making part of the property accessible to those with mobility issues

At the moment we are looking at using the Timberframe, Reservoir Stage, Goat Barn, all fenced off, plus the parking area as well as the lawn behind the house for some low impact activities and maybe parts of the house too, I do not know at this point.

THE END

Cultivate 2021 Timeline

Project timeline or work plan – clearly show each phase of activity and venue/location where activity will take place

November 2020

- Marketing - full page ad in FOLKLIFE magazine
- Research – music acts, theatre groups, food vendors, artists vendors
- Meetings – sound company, tech company, creative teams, suppliers, volunteer call
- Admin – contracts for musicians & theatre companies, ticket pricing
- Venues – working with community partners, assessing power/water/facilities

December 2020

- Marketing – Instagram, Facebook, begin monthly media releases
- Research – videos/websites/bio requests from musicians, theatre groups
- Meetings – team leaders (green team, artist vendors, food vendors)
- Action – bike rack production, book sanitation
- Admin – reviewing health regulations for food vendors, reviewing logistics of flow of people and parking at various venues
- Venues – continue to assess venues for best use/access/parking/facilities

January 2021

- Marketing – draft brochure, draft poster, Instagram, Facebook
- Research – start looking for billets for musicians/theatre companies
- Meetings – team leaders, venue leads
- Action – music & theatre finalized, promo materials in - NOT DONE
- Admin – music & theatre contracts finalized, deposits to tech companies - NOT DONE
- Venues – site plans, dividers required, equipment list, volunteer requirements

February 2021

- Marketing
 - MC's confirmed (music theatre etc)
 - Animation Discussion
 - Commons Work Bees, 2 landscaping
 - Materials Confirmed - rented purchased borrowed

- Sponsorship & Ads confirmed

March 2021

- *Artist contracts (music & theatre) sent out & returned
- * Theatre & Music schedule confirmed
- *Marketing continues
- *Volunteer Team Leaders Confirmed
- * Beer Garden, Billeting, Family, Hospitality, CD sales, festival photographer, security, shuttle, etc
- *Parking figured out, Site Map finalized
- *Sound and Tech Crew finalized

April 2021

- *Brochure completed and distributed
- *Tickets up on website & North Road Sports
- *Insurance confirmed
- *Fire department communication/requirements
- *Marketing continues
- *Food & Artisans Booths Confirmed
- *Posters completed and distributed

May 2021

- *EarlyBird tickets available
- *All music & theatre packages sent out with complete instructions
- *Friendly Committee regarding neighbour relations
- *Raffle

June 2021

- *Regular tickets available
- *All Tech packages returned and logistics confirmed
- *June 27 – 30, 2021 SET UP - Details TBD

July 2021

- *July 1, 2021- Theatre
- *July 2, 2021- Theatre
- *July 3, 2021- Music
- *July 4, 2021- Music
- *July 5 – 8, 2021 TEAR DOWN - Details TBD
- *July 9th - Commons GAC Final Inspection

END JULY

- *My final report on Cultivate should be submitted by the end of July to the Cultivate Committee for any tweaking or invoices still to come, etc.; to be ready for the GAC Board meeting in August.
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Cultivate 2021 Site Plan Attached separately as PDF

Bobbie Blue

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