

Commons Coordinating Council (CCC)

www.gabriolacommons.ca

Notes of Meeting of July 6, 2021

Co-facilitators: Don Smardon

Recorder: Deb Ferens for LRP Team

Present: Don Smardon, Bob Andrew, Judith Roux, Shelagh Huston, Brenda Fowler, Maya Ruggles, Mitch Miyagawa, Deb Ferens

Next CCC meeting: August 3, 2021 at 7 pm.

Recorder for next meeting: [PST August 3/21]

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Welcome & Agenda – Ask Jinny if there could be a notice in the Sounder for Sept meeting?

2. Acknowledgements - First Indigenous Governor General announced today – Mary Simon; (LOT) remembrance of those who were here, the impacts of settler, colonization are still with us; how do we reach out?

3. Following Up from previous meetings

A. Tree Cutting Policy (Bob & Judith) – see attached draft as presented by Judith - based on Covenant preamble; draft will be kept in Policy folder in Sync and possibly in Appendix in Field Guide.

B. Communication Team – call out for more team members.

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

A. How do we orient people to the Commons (Louise)

B. Council Review

5. 20-minute Discussion – Year End Financial Report - Maya

- Draft Year End Reports – attached as separate PDF

- Reallocation of funds for PST - attached

- Links to Asset Based Budgeting & Collective Enoughness:

<https://creatingthefuture.org/budgeting-for-collective-enoughness/Budgeting for Collective Enoughness>

[https://reliabilityweb.com/articles/entry/getting a grip on maintenance costs with asset-based budgeting/](https://reliabilityweb.com/articles/entry/getting_a_grip_on_maintenance_costs_with_asset-based_budgeting/)

5. Team Reports:

Board of Trustees – no report

- Next Meeting: July 20, 2021

Bookings –Maya

BC is now in Step 3 of BC CDC Restart Plan.

Commons Bookings restart determined by following considerations:

1. Bookings team's renewed capacity to manage, administer and reconcile bookings (s/t, m/t, l/t)
2. Transition and making space for transition to Stewardship Center/Elder Space
3. Farmhouse Cleaning
4. Call out for new Bookings Stewards
5. contact with Commons Teams & Regular long time users
6. review the bookings feature and info and bookings auto-reply on the website
7. bathroom construction to be undertake by PST, which further limits available space for use and possibly pushes re-start rentals further into the fall.

- Next meeting – none scheduled

Covenant Team - Deb

- Follow up to June Presentation: 3 teams (COV, LOT, LRP) meeting planned for July 14 to work on proposal to bring forward to Council (Sept?).

Event Planning – Mitch Miyagawa

- Focus on Fall Fair Sept 19;
- Picnic Tables – still in planning discussions including budgeting, building skills, social component.
- looking for more members to join the Team

Farm Team – Judith Roux

- blueberries are coming! Need berry baskets.

Finance - no report; see 20 minute discussion***Grant Writing Team – Judith Roux***

- working on a large grant “Community Revitalization” for Goat Barn; deadline is very tight-July 20.

Property Stewardship Team – Bob Andrew

- pump in pumphouse is imminent
- pond is still at a good level
- Hedge – discussion on the south part close to the cob wall.

Cultivate Liaison Group – Bob

- thanks to all for good work and efforts
- Liaison Group will meet to start the review process as per MOU. Some items for review: ramp; WIFI (not in MOU); grass donation around the reservoir (not in MOU) but thanks to Gordon Hall.

6. Affiliate Reports

People for a Healthy Community - Brenda Fowler

- holding monthly meetings with GCF Trustee liaisons
- turning attention to re-opening – noting that re-opening more challenging than closing for COVID
- Vaccination Clinic at the Community Hall – numbers are increasing; great community effort.

7. Additional Items Arising: NONE

8. Closing

Next Facilitator: Don Smardon

Next Note Taker: **PST**

APPENDIX:

Draft July 6, 2021 from Judith Roux

Tree-cutting Policy for the Commons

I think anything like a tree-cutting policy for the Commons needs to be part of a larger understanding, rather than a simple “do not cut down any tree with a diameter (or circumference) at breast height greater than xxxx.”

Let’s refer to the draft Covenant which recognizes the need to protect the rich biodiversity on the Commons, lying within the rare biogeoclimatic zone of the Coastal Douglas Fir-moist maritime and with several Sensitive Ecosystems recognized in the Islands Trust 2007 inventory of Gabriola: Mature Forest; Wetland, Woodland, Herbaceous. Protecting biodiversity means preserving the integrity of multiple ecosystems, protecting specialized habitat for dense communities of plants and animal species and ensuring a contiguous, non-fragmented landscape. It’s within this framework that we can discuss changes to the landscape (such as cutting down of a tree).