

Commons Coordinating Council (CCC)
www.gabriolacommons.ca
Notes of Meeting of January 3, 2023

Facilitator: Robbie Huston for Learning Opportunities Team

Recorder: Patrick Colvin as Newcomer (no identified team)

Present:

Judith Roux	(Farm Team)
Kim Kasasian	(Farm Team)
Deborah Ferens	(Covenant Team)
Robbie Huston	(Learning Opportunities Team)
Patrick Colvin	(Newcomer)
Bob Andrew	(Property Stewardship Team)
Brenda Joy	(South Gardens Team)

Next CCC meeting: February 7th, 2023 at 7 pm in Farmhouse upstairs

Facilitator(s): Dave Lightly for Process Team;

Alternative Facilitator: Heather Menzies for Covenant Team

Recorder: Robbie Huston for Learning Opportunities Team

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Welcome & Agenda (Robbie)

2. Acknowledgements (Deborah)

Deborah delivered what she had prepared in relation to the *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*.

3. Team & Affiliate Reports

PST/Property Stewardship Team (Bob)

- Regarding the recent sub-zero temperatures
 - Long-term fix required at the back door, where it is PHC-controlled
 - Leak has been fixed in the Planning Room at the light fixture
 - Some remaining concern of corrosion on the electrical wires
- Upcoming January 10th PST meeting
- PST has requested that the February CCC meeting include a '20-minute discussion 'on Commons Storage.

Farm Team (Kim)

- Berm could become bleachers
 - South Garden has a pile of dirt that could potentially be used for this purpose. This dirt is actually topsoil that was intended to be used by the gardeners. Brenda of the South Gardens Team to follow-up about availability; perhaps ½ for

the Farm Team and ½ for the South Gardens. PST has requested to be informed as well.

Aside

- * Reminder for teams to book Commons Rooms for meetings through Janice, even though Commons Teams are given priority *
- There is an unofficial team called the Design Team

Farm Team (Judith)

- Last CCC meeting, Bob Martin presented in regards to Earth Day being recognized on April 10 at the Commons.
 - Deborah of the Covenant Team to attend the first Earth Day Meeting hosted by Erin Udal from the Gabriola Elementary School, with plans to connect Erin and Bob.
- Several meetings will be upcoming on the farms of the Commons, dates to be announced.

Learning Opportunities Team (Robbie)

- Initial meeting cancelled due to other team member unavailable (2 member team).
- New meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 8th upstairs at the Commons at 7 pm.

South Gardens Team (Brenda)

- 2023 Registration is now CLOSED.
 - changes may occur as the season develops.
- Open House date to be determined.
- Next week agenda item: coordinate with Garden Club Tours for South Garden to be on Tours List when desirable, or when the Gardens are in season.
- Maintenance is continuing for the gate/archway and raised beds.

4. Other items

Accessibility at the Commons (Judith)

- Project Task Force as it relates to an elevator in the Farmhouse.
- Currently, the Council's meeting room is not accessible by wheelchair. Furthermore, there is no wishlist for an elevator in the Commons 'Long Range Plan'.
 - Judith and George (Grant-writing) have begun looking into it.
- How to determine if the Commons supports this Task Force?
 - No known statement in the Mandate on accessibility.
 - The reservoir may act as a standing example of what has worked in the past.

- Bob: wheelchair accessibility has excluded at least one individual from participating in an activity in the upper level of the farm house; this may serve as verification that the lack of an elevator has had, and will continue to have, an impact on participation.

Annual General Meeting (Deborah)

- AGM postponed → rescheduled to February 12th in the Commons Council Room
 - Planning for the AGM is to take place on January 17th.

Commons Review (Deborah)

- Dates: January 14th and 28th from 10am to 3pm
- RSVP: Please respond **by January 6th** to ensure a large enough space will be booked.
 - The date has past by the time of writing these notes, Deborah presumably sent out an email regarding RSVP instructions.

Commons Kitchen (Patrick)

- Asked about using the kitchen to process farm ingredients into higher value products and trading the high-value product for kitchen-usage. Robbie of the Kitchen Team has stated that due to Kitchen operating budget, it is rented out for \$100/day. Kim mentioned it is also available for ~\$10/hr. Contact Kitchen Stewards for more information.
- The group briefly discussed 'Commons Jam 'as a fundraiser.

Homelessness on Commons Site

- Ongoing issue
- Signs have been posted on tents
- Individuals have been spoken with, and given instructions. The individuals have not complied with instructions.
- Tents to be removed next Worker Bee Saturday
- Risk of violence has been assessed and deemed low, thus choosing not to involve local authorities.

Meeting adjourned.