

## Minutes of October 27, 2009 Gabriola Transportation Assn. Board Meeting

### Present:

Jim Ramsay – President & Secretary  
Randy Young – Vice-President  
Erik Andersen - Treasurer  
André Lemieux  
John Woods

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 7:40 pm.

1. Minutes: Minutes of the July 14, 2009 meeting were approved, as circulated.
2. Transit Study
  - (A) Jim reviewed draft report of the BC Transit study into feasibility of transit service on Gabriola, which recommends both a Taxi Saver and a Scheduled service featuring two routes using one bus, plus a backup vehicle. This report requires approval by the RDN Board, the timing of which is not known, but it is understood our RDN Director is supportive. An Alternative Voter Assent process (instead of a referendum) will be needed to cover the property tax impact.
  - (B) A decision on the Transit Committee's funding application under the federal MOST (Moving On Sustainable Transportation) plan is still outstanding.
  - (C) The sophisticated bio-diesel processor is still being developed, and will produce 100% clean diesel.
  - (D) Costs of \$1,140.82 for bio-diesel parts have been paid from the GTA Bus Account, and will be repaid from the MOST funding as and when received. Erik reported that the balance in the Bus Account is now \$5,602.55.
  - (E) It was recommended that Bowen Island's transit service be reviewed for comparison, and that efforts be made to coordinate the Gabriola service with the Nanaimo Transit System. Also, a Ford electric van is coming soon and might provide another propulsion option.
3. FAC Meeting on November 3
  - (A) André reported that the minimum crew issue, which has created problems recently, is being worked on.
  - (B) Ferry parking lot problems on Gabriola are becoming more acute, although BC Ferries does not accept any responsibility for resolving them.
4. Other Transportation:

Erik reported there is a rumour that EMCOM is bringing real gravel onto Gabriola for use on Canso Road.
5. Sustainable Gabriola
  - (A) Jim reported that a second public meeting on October 24 was very well attended and quite productive. Erik and Randy also participated in the meeting.
  - (B) As one of 13 subject areas reviewed in break-out groups, the Transportation discussion featured a number of bicycle enthusiasts plus someone advocating

greater handicap access. One of the most interesting proposals was to reduce the speed limit in the Village area and create cycle/walking paths to make the Village more pedestrian- and cycling-friendly. Randy noted that the tunnel walking trail issue is going forward to the RDN for approval.

6. Advocacy Role for GTA:

During the above-noted discussion on October 24, the cyclists indicated they don't have an organization to lobby for them. It was proposed they use GTA for such purposes, and they will be invited to the upcoming AGM.

7. Plans for AGM

It was agreed that the AGM should be held on Thursday, November 19, 2009 at 7:30 pm.

8. Other Business:

The OCP review will start soon and the Islands Trust seeking applications for the 15 person citizen review committee. It was suggested the OCP's of Bowen and Quadra Islands' be reviewed for comparison.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm

\* \* \* \* \*