

## Minutes of March 26, 2013 Gabriola Transportation Assn. Board Meeting

### Present:

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

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

### 1. Minutes

Minutes of the November 12, 2012 meeting were approved, as circulated.

### 2. Transit

- Jim Ramsay and John Hodgkins reported that the Gabriola Community Bus Committee, now a subsidiary of Island Futures Society, is very busy preparing for start of the pilot-project bus service in May/June, once all the approvals are received and funding of \$30,000 for purchase of two used buses is received from the RDN's Community Works Fund. Jim and John are not currently active participants on GCBC, while Bob Andrew and Bob McKechnie are new members. The Board expressed satisfaction with the project's progress and offered to provide a letter of support, if desired by GCBC.
- Climate Dividend donations totalling \$5,459.09, which had been held in trust by GTA since 2008, have now been transferred to Island Futures Society and that special bank account has been closed.

### 3. Roads

- A semi-annual meeting with MoTI officials was held in Nanaimo on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. A written summary of the discussion was prepared in conjunction with MoTI and distributed to local newspapers. The proposal by an owner on Coast Road to pay for seal coating has been well received by MoTI and an approval process is being pursued; this may set a precedent for other seal coating (which is understood to cost 1/3 less than asphalt) projects in the future. It was also noted that Texada slime is no longer being used; that underbrush has been cleared and Medical Clinic signs installed by MoTI on Church Road; and that MoTI doesn't want to give up the gravel pit off Honeysuckle, but have offered a trail license to GaLTT.
- High brush pruning recently done on Gabriola was done "with a circular saw blade rather than a brushing blade" according to MoTI. As in the past, there have been complaints about the messy results.
- The proposed Village off-road pedestrian/cycling path is on hold pending approval by the Province to transfer responsibility for sidewalks from MoTI to the RDN.

5. Ferry

- John Hodgkins reported that the report of the Province's appointed consultants did not indicate anything very new. Themes were (a) ferries should be funded the same way as highways; (b) high fares are driving down traffic; and (c) the \$26 million savings target is not achievable. No further action is expected until after the May Provincial election.
- An FAC meeting in public will take place on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Expected items of discussion will include inadequacy of contingency plans for operational interruptions (per recent incident).

6. Other Transportation

Nil

7. AGM Planning

- It was agreed the AGM should be held in late May, hopefully at the Community Hall, provided they still allow non-profit groups to hold AGM's without a rental charge.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8: 30 p.m.

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