



TRUST FUND BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES March 29, 2010

Location: Victoria Office Boardroom, Islands Trust

In Attendance:

Board Members

Louise Bell
Michael Dunn
Robert Grant
Nerys Poole¹
Christine Torgrimson, Chair

Staff

Shawn Black, A/Manager
Jennifer Eliason, Manager²
Kate Emmings, Ecosystem
Protection Specialist
Christine Pritchard, Communications
& Fundraising Specialist²
Jeff Ralph, A/Property Management
Specialist
Natalie Tamosiunas, Secretary

Guest

Susan Gee, Consultant, Acumen Communications Inc.³

¹joined meeting electronically at 12:30

² left the meeting at 11:30

³left the meeting at 10:56

The meeting came to order at 10:00 a.m.

1.0 Agenda

The Board reviewed the agenda. The following amendments were made:

- Items 3.3 ITF Communications Strategy and 5.2 Communications and Fundraising Report to be discussed before item 2.0 In Camera Session
- Additional Item 5.8 Trust Council Report

Resolution #TFB 10/1136

It was MOVED and SECONDED that the March 29, 2010 Regular Meeting agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

3.3 ITF Communications Strategy

Susan Gee of Acumen Communications Inc. presented the Board with the *Islands Trust Fund Communications Strategy March 2010-March 2012* and highlighted key findings and recommendations of the draft strategy.

Board member Bell mentioned that many of the strategies in the *Islands Trust Fund Communications Strategy March 2010-March 2012* have been discussed by previous Boards, but were not put into action due to budgetary or legislative constraints. The Board agreed that the implementation of the Communication Strategy must be contingent on available funding. The Board directed staff to investigate costing for the strategy as well as possible external funding sources for this type of project.

The Board discussed the potential for a name change for the Islands Trust Fund, and directed staff to bring information on the historic consideration of this issue to the May

2010 Board Meeting. Board members directed staff to investigate the possibility of the Islands Trust Fund operating under a different name ("doing business as" name).

The Board also directed staff to conduct a broader sampling of stakeholders to determine communication issues. Once this information is received, the Board will prioritize the action plan and direct staff to implement the strategy as prioritized.

The Board suggested the following preliminary priorities:

- 20th anniversary celebrations (high)
- website development (high)
- postcard/rack cards (high)
- Branded SWAG "Stuff We All Get" (low)
- form conservancy coalition (high)
- speaker series (low)
- social media (low)

The Board directed staff to request that the remaining \$3,000 from the 2009/10 Long-term Funding program budget be transferred to the 2010/11 Long-term Funding program budget.

The Board discussed the formation of a conservancy coalition and suggested staff investigate the existence of the Georgia Basin Ecosystem Partnership.

Resolution # TFB 10/1139

It was MOVED and SECONDED That the Trust Fund Board receive the *Islands Trust Fund Communications Strategy March 2010-March 2012* from Acumen Communications Group Inc., endorse the recommendations of Acumen Communications Group Inc. and direct Islands Trust Fund staff to further refine those recommendations through further research, budget analysis and further Board discussion.

CARRIED

*Susan Gee left the meeting

5.2 Communications and Fundraising Report

The Communications and Fundraising Specialist updated the Board about the current projects including a NAPTEP rack card and direct mail campaign, a Sensitive Ecosystems Brochure and a recent art donation that will be sold at a retail level.

Chair Torgrimson suggested that 2010/11 fundraising targets are modest and urged staff to engage Board members to increase the Board's major donation income. Chair Torgrimson offered to work on information and donor recruitment for planned giving and individual donations.

*Jennifer Eliason and Christine Pritchard left the meeting.

2.0 In Camera Session (Confidential Items)

Resolution #TFB 10/1137

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** that this portion of the meeting is closed to the public pursuant to the following sections of the Community Charter: section 90, subsection(1) (j) information that is prohibited, or information that if it were presented in a document would be prohibited, from disclosure under section 21 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, and section 90, subsection (1) (k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality if they were held in public and (2) (b), the considerations of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the Trust Fund Board and a provincial government or the federal government or both, or between a provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party, and staff be invited to remain in the meeting.

CARRIED

The regular meeting reconvened at 11:15 am.

3.0 Items for Approval

3.1 Minutes of Previous Meeting

January 21 2010

The Board reviewed the draft minutes. The following corrections were made:

- Item 3.8 Given the current economic...a public opinion survey, at this time.
- Item 5.1 The Ecosystems...Steil's Woods NAPTEP covenant was accepted...
- Item 5.6 B The Ecosystems...December 2010 Trust Council meeting.

Resolution # TFB 10/1138

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** that the minutes of the January 21, 2010 meeting be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

3.2 Follow Up Action List

The Board reviewed the Follow Up Action List for information. Chair Torgrimson informed the Board that there was discussion about wording for the LPS/TFB Coordination Policy at the March 2010 Trust Council. The Policy will come back to the Board for further review.

3.4 Native Seed and Plant Collection Guidelines

The Board reviewed the draft guidelines and suggested the following revisions:

- Remove any reference to collection of entire plants.
- Add provisions that allow the TFB to add timing restrictions for collection based on a safe collection time for the species (recognize seasonality of the plant).
- State that applications must be submitted to the Board at least 3 months in advance so that there is enough time for the Board to review the request at a meeting.

- Include a clause that limits how much seed can be taken so as not to affect the viability of the plant
- The collection agency or individual must keep the location of the source plants confidential
- Develop a fee structure
- Add provisions for a fine system if the people collecting go outside of the guidelines
- Add provisions stating that the TFB reserves the right to have an observer present during the collections to ensure the guidelines are followed

Resolution # TFB 10/1140

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** that the Board request staff make revisions as directed at the March 29, 2010 Trust Fund Board meeting to the *Native Seed and Plant Collection Guidelines* and bring the revised document back to the Board at their next meeting.

CARRIED

3.5 Sidney Island Conservation Covenants and Deer Control Project

The Board expressed concern about the impacts on the covenant values if a capture pen is built within the covenant area. The Board directed staff to contact Sallas Forest Strata Corp to arrange a site visit to Sidney Island to look at the existing pen located centrally on the island, to look at alternative sites, and to review the proposed placement for the pen within the Burnt Snag covenant area. The Ecosystems Protection Specialist suggested providing educational information about covenants to the members of Sallas Forest Strata Corp.

Resolution # TFB 10/1141

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** That the Trust Fund Board respond to the Sallas Forest Strata Corp expressing support in principal of efforts to control the fallow deer population on Sidney Island and request that Sallas Forest Strata Corporation provide more detailed information on the availability of alternative sites and on the proposal, including fence specifications, proposed dates of operation, restoration plan for impacted area within the covenant, etc.

CARRIED

3.6 Gambier Associated Islands OCP Referral

Board member Dunn informed the Board that there are two biogeoclimatic zones in the Gambier Associated Islands. The Board discussed education to increase protected areas within the Gambier Associated Islands.

Resolution # TFB 10/1142

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** That the Trust Fund Board approves proposed Bylaw 109, the Gambier Associated Islands Official Community Plan, with the recommendation for an attachment of an information schedule with Sensitive Ecosystem Mapping available for this Local Trust Area.

CARRIED

3.7 Denman Island Bylaw 195 Referral

The Board discussed the importance of wetlands and the potential ecological impacts to many of the wetlands on Denman if the draft bylaw was implemented in its present

form. The Board supports agriculture on the islands and wishes to see it continue as an important part of the island communities.

Resolution # TFB 10/1143

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** That the Trust Fund Board does not recommend approval of proposed Denman Island Bylaw 195, for the following reasons:

- a) the definition of “seasonally flooded agricultural fields” is too broad and will remove DPA protection for many wetlands on Denman Island;
- b) too much weight is put on the opinion of the agrologist in determining if the wetland is a seasonally flooded agricultural field or not;
- c) there is no assessment of the ecological values of the wetland and no consideration of the benefits the wetland provides to the island and to agriculture;
- d) there is no assessment of the hydrological impacts of the actions taken by a landowner acting in the name of agriculture;
- e) the application of Bylaw 195 is not limited to lands within the Agricultural Land Reserve;
- f) there is no consideration of the impacts on neighbouring properties
- g) there is no consideration as to when the agricultural use last took place, and
- h) there is no understanding of how many wetlands will be impacted by this proposed bylaw.

CARRIED

3.8 Regional Conservation Plan DRAFT Vision Goals and Targets

The Board reviewed and discussed the draft goals and targets for the 2010-2015 Regional Conservation Plan, as well as the language of the document. The Ecosystems Protection Specialist advised the Board that a more detailed draft RCP document will be coming to the Board for review at the July TFB Meeting.

Resolution # TFB 10/1144

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** That the Trust Fund Board approve the draft goals and biodiversity priorities for use in working documents and consultation processes related to the development of the 2010-2015 Regional Conservation Plan subject to comments from the Trust Fund Board provided on March 29th 2010.

CARRIED

3.9 Lot 1 (Beaver Pond) Denman Island

Resolution # TFB 10/1145

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** That the Trust Fund Board approve the transfer of Lot 1 (Beaver Pond) on Denman Island to the Ministry of Environment as part of the North Denman Lands proposal, subject to the following conditions:

- a) That the Ministry of Environment agree to discuss the future of Lot 1 with the Trust Fund Board and the Denman Conservancy Association before any decision is made on long-term ownership or protection options for Lot 1; and

- b) That the Ministry of Environment support the transfer of Lot 1 to the Trust Fund Board if it is agreed that this is the best option for the long-term protection and management of Lot 1.

CARRIED

3.10 Salt Spring Island Conservancy Opportunity Fund Application

The Board discussed the merits and importance of the acquisition project being taken on by the Salt Spring Island Conservancy (SSIC). Chair Torgrimson informed the Board that there is a large population of endangered yellow montane violet (COSEWIC listed) on the property.

Resolution # TFB 10/1146

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** That the Trust Fund Board approve an Opportunity Fund grant of \$7,000 to the Salt Spring Island Conservancy for costs associated with the acquisition of a 13 hectare portion of Strata Lot 15, Section 38, 42 and 43, South Salt Spring Island, Cowichan District Strata Plan VIS5021 (PID 025-444-492).

CARRIED

4.0 Items for Discussion/Direction

4.1 Electronic Meetings – Report on Changes to TFB Meeting Procedure

The Board discussed use of electronic meetings and agreed that electronic participation in regular board meetings should only be used in extenuating circumstances such as illness or weather. The Board further agreed to allow members to participate electronically in other circumstances on a case by case basis at the Chair's discretion. Staff was asked to revise the recommendations and bring them back to the Board for consideration.

4.2 Corporate Memory of ITF Fundraising Activities

Board member Bell shared her experience of past fundraising, including the Special Places Campaign, taken on by previous Boards.

4.3 Bowen Island OCP Review

The Board discussed correspondence received from City Spaces on behalf of Bowen Island Municipality regarding the upcoming Bowen Island OCP review.

Resolution # TFB 10/1147

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** that the Trust Fund Board direct the Chair to make a formal request to BIM council to refer a draft OCP to the TFB before it goes to public hearing and offer to send the RCP to BIM for comment prior to TFB and TC approval.

CARRIED

4.4 Briefing Nature Conservancy of Canada Salish Sea Natural Area Conservation Plan Update

The Ecosystems Protection Specialist informed the Board that this plan is complete, and that the plan identifies medium and/or high priority conservation areas on all of the major islands in the Trust Area.

5.0 Updates for Information

5.1 Public Acquisitions, Covenants and Dispositions Update

The Ecosystems Protection Specialist updated the Board that the Kikuchi Covenant has been withdrawn from the NAPTEP program and that the landowner will be pursuing a regular conservation covenant with the Trust Fund Board.

5.3 Property Management Report

The Board reviewed the Property management report for information.

5.4 2009-2010 Budget Report

The Board reviewed the budget report. The A/Manager informed the Board that the 2009-2010 budget will have a surplus at the end of the fiscal year.

5.5 Letter from Comox Valley Regional District re: NAPTEP Expansion

The Board received a letter from the Comox Valley Regional District approving expansion of NAPTEP to Denman and Hornby Island Local Trust Areas.

5.6 Staff Transitions

A/Manager, Shawn Black, said a few words about his time with the Islands Trust Fund and thanked the Board and staff for making his time with ITF enjoyable and rewarding.

5.7 Letter to ILMB re: Land Use Orders for Crown Lands in CDF

The Board looked at the letter sent to ILMB in support of the Land Use Orders for Crown Land in the CDF.

5.8 Trust Council

Chair Torgrimson gave a brief report of the highlights from the March Trust Council meeting including discussions about affordable housing, food security and working landscapes. Chair Torgrimson shared some information from a presentation to Trust Council from the Denman and Hornby Islands Equine Association (DHIEA) and advised that the Board may receive a request for presentation from the DHIEA about allowing horses on Trust Fund Board owned properties.

Resolution #TFB 10/1148

It was MOVED and SECONDED that the Trust Fund Board meeting adjourn at 3:06 pm

CARRIED

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 27th 2010, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Island Trust Fund meeting room.

Recorder

Chair