

SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT
TRAIL NETWORK TASK FORCE
GAMBIER ISLAND SOUTH WEST PENINSULA

July 22, 2017

MINUTES FROM THE TRAIL NETWORK TASK FORCE GAMBIER ISLAND SOUTH WEST PENINSULA MEETING HELD AT GAMBIER ISLAND COMMUNITY CENTRE, ANDY'S ROAD, NEW BRIGHTON, BC

PRESENT:	Members	Boris Gorgitza Carol Barlow Emily Pickett Kevin Grodesky Natasha Tousaw Todd Gordon
ALSO PRESENT:	Parks Planning Coordinator (Chair) West Howe Sound (Area F) Director Recorder Public	Sam Adams Ian Winn (part) Diane Corbett 1

CALL TO ORDER 9:39 a.m.

The Chair called the meeting to order and acknowledged the meeting was being conducted on the traditional territory of the Squamish First Nation and in the community hall of Gambier Island South West Peninsula.

AGENDA

The agenda was adopted as amended with the following additions:

- Director Winn address committee
- Public comments at end

DIRECTOR ADDRESS

Director Winn thanked Task Force members for their volunteerism, commitment and time. The Director remarked that he looked forward to seeing the Task Force recommendations and what the Task Force has to say around trails. Members can contact the Director by email or telephone, if there are any questions or concerns members would like him to address.

MINUTES

4.1 Trail Network Task Force Gambier Island South West Peninsula

The Trail Network Task Force Gambier Island South West Peninsula minutes of July 1, 2017

were adopted as amended:

- Page 1: List Kate-Louise Stamford as Area F Alternate Director only.

REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

5.1 Draft Principles for Discussion

Staff gave an introduction to draft principles for the planning and developing of a community connector trails network on the South West Peninsula of Gambier Island.

There was discussion on: the purpose of this group; members' mixed views on the output of the previous/ recent survey/ questionnaire; the focus on privacy; previous reports around trails on Gambier.

Members reviewed and discussed the draft principles and recommended the following:

- Include privacy in the matrix
- Look at meaning of "accessibility"
- Remove under Draft Principle 2: "Educate real estate agents...."
- Draft Principle 5: replace "Educate" with "Inform"

Other points noted included:

- Levels of privacy – it means different things to different people (e.g., hedge or buffer/ zone of exclusion); could be achieved in various ways and at varying costs; SCR D would be willing to install hedging
- Educate community members that road allowances exist (e.g., with a map)
- Alternate Director Stamford had been in contact with the Stormaway regarding posting a sign on the boat regarding the lack of amenities, water, etc. on Gambier.
- Stormaway staff indicated in a casual conversation that they would be willing to hand out a pamphlet.
- Gambier community websites need to be updated; hold potential as information source.
- Until around 2000, the Conservancy had well marked trails and there was a brochure of all the trails around the island. Current uncertainty on how the trails are maintained; thus difficult to publicize these.
- Suggestion to put up sign at the bottom of Mountain Road Trail: "This trail leads only to a neighbourhood/local loop – No access to the lake."
- Historically signage has tended to disappear. Install plaques in boulders. Make signage more culturally appropriate, as compared to being full of rules and regulations.
- Trail counters were discussed.

Actions:

- Staff will enter changes to the text and will draft text for the maintenance section.
- Staff will research authority to shut down trails in high fire season.

5.2 Task Force Meeting Schedule

By general consent, the next two meetings were scheduled as follows:

- Site visit field trip **Sunday, August 13**
- Community meeting **Saturday, September 2**

Community meeting:

- Preparatory work can be done online.
- Staff would appreciate if as many of the group can be here as possible.
- Could we have a power point loop showing locations on the screen?
- Could highlight the process and work done by the Task Force; history around trails; what heard when went to sites; conclusions; areas where work is needed
- The community meeting could be interactive or a walk around passive session.
- Could have one trail or one principle per table.
- Will there be specific trail proposals at this point? Could be.
- We are looking for where we do agree.

5.3 Trail Location Site Visit Planning

Discussion ensued on potential sites to look at and who needed to be informed that a site visit would take place.

Points mentioned:

- Inform people neighbouring the potential trail and advertise through local networks.
- Need to create a schedule and write a paragraph on what doing.
- Organize vehicles for transportation.
- Check off sheets individually regarding the matrix.
- How much time would be needed?
- Trails under consideration:
 - Community Connector
 - West Bay to Austin Trails
 - West Bay to Gambier Harbour
 - Cotton Bay; trail off Austin Road to go down to Cotton Bay?
 - Wombat Trail
- Beach accesses can be reviewed at a later date.
- A member of the public offered to show the Task Force where the Connector would start and go through a private property, having been given permission by landowner.

Action: Talk about carpooling and messaging by email.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Todd read aloud correspondence from a Gambier resident regarding trail development on the southwest peninsula of Gambier that advocated a number of reasons the SCRDC should not put resources into trail development on Gambier Island now but rather build trails on the Sunshine Coast mainland, where the writer thought resources would be better utilized.

6. NEXT MEETING Sunday, August 13

7. ADJOURNMENT 11:40 a.m.