

Minutes of the Community Forest Advisory Committee (CFAC) Meeting
Community Meeting Room, Sechelt, June 17, 2008

PRESENT: Terry Hind, Chair
Al Jenkins
Burns Matkin
Lanny Matkin
Jim Smith
Bill Ellis
Lynda Coote, Recording Secretary

GUESTS: Len Pakulak, SCPI President
Claudia Ferris, SCPI Director
Robert Corlett, SCPI Director
Kevin Davie, SCPI Operations Manager
Brian Smart, Professional Forester
John Bebbington, Concerned Citizens

1. Call to Order
Chairman Hind called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

2. Minutes

MOVED by Burns Matkin, SECONDED by Bill Ellis
THAT "The minutes of the June 3, 2008 Community Forest Advisory Committee Meeting be approved as circulated."

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Open House Summary

Brian Smart reported fifteen guests had attended the Open House with not many written comments. He requested that any further comments be forwarded to him by June 30, 2008 as the next step was to complete the draft summary for review by CFAC and the SCPI Board by the end of July 2008.

Brian responded to questions on the recent cut block for Westcoast Log Homes and Doeker.

Al Jenkins declared he did not have any idea this cut block was underway and questioned whether anyone was informed and was this a change in policy. Kevin Davie stated it was discussed at a previous meeting and the plan was on the website. He also confirmed that all the cut blocks have now been identified and that this cut block did happen faster than other cuts. It was a selected cut, completed with a cutting permit and done safely, leaving most of the trees still standing in the block.

Al Jenkins noted that while CFAC had seen the block on an initial walkabout, they needed to see the further plans and that when the process was speeded up, there is no chance to evaluate the cut block. Kevin agreed this was an oversight but two valuable customers needed the timber and they were accommodated.

ACTION

(a) **Request that in future, a sentence be included in the minutes to clearly indicate that a cutting process was planned.**

Other comments included:

- Initially gravel was being targeted for this site
- Cut was changed from a clear cut to a variable selection
- More conservative cut than anticipated
- This was a value-added cut for a specific use
- Positive step with a small glitch in the process
- Variable retention option was used.

Kevin clarified that as cut blocks were finalized, he would inform CFAC of that decision.

The next walkabout was scheduled for Sunday June 22, 2008, 9 am at the Daily Roast in Sechelt. Brian Smart offered the location of the walkabout as Tuwanek and the Gray Creek areas with its interesting topography and zonation. Kevin also raised the option of seeing the other blocks in West Sechelt, possibly in late July.

CFAC members liked the option of any pre-planning that could be accomplished. Kevin noted that the West Sechelt blocks would cover the remaining areas. He also confirmed that all engineering and approvals were finalized before any tendering was considered.

4. Operations Update

Kevin Davie stated they had completed the logging for the two customers in the cut block using small safety corridors and that there were two loads left to haul. He noted there was more wood left and further falling would be closer to the road for safety reasons and lower costs.

5. Logging Costs

Jimmy Smith announced he had not been able to meet with Kevin and the topic was tabled until the next CFAC meeting.

6. Concerned Citizens Land Use Motions

Terry Hind opened the discussion by referring to the three land use motions presented by the Concerned Citizens group and tabled from a previous meeting:

1. *That 2,343 ha be removed from the THLB of the CF to reflect the pending decision of the Province regarding Chapman & Gray Creek watersheds.*
2. *The lands identified in the report titled "Environmentally Important Sites and Streams on the Sunshine Coast" that are presently within the CF THLB, these lands be removed.*
3. *The number of ha to be removed will be determined by the CF RPF. The results of these revised net downs will need to be reflected in the CF operational plan currently under review and construction.*

Comments included:

- Misleading information on page 8 under sensitive sites
- Only four areas are within the Community Forest tenure and they are #1 Sechelt Heritage Forest (Sandy Hook), #44 Lower Gray Creek (Tuwanek), #45 Wormy Lake Wetlands and #52 Nature Endowment Lands – Hidden Grove
- Key word is "parks" as SCPI is not going into parks or the Chapman Creek watersheds
- Information needs to be accurate

- List is an example of sensitive areas that need protection from logging
- More valuable to the community than logging.

Brian Smart provided clarification on the list of sensitive sites and the sites included in the SCPI inventory. He noted there were other values other than logging to be considered but there were no guarantees. Biodiversity and conservation decisions regarding riparian corridors, sensitive ecosystems and open woodlands needed to be addressed.

Further comments included:

- Community values and the credibility of the CF can both be satisfied
- Sensitive ecosystem management and special management zones in Chapman Creek need to be explained
- Inventory is one of many tools used for planning towards a permanent license
- Take in all the information from the community
- Lower reaches of Gray Creek have been taken into account
- SCPI will not do anything until a plan is approved
- Everything the Community Forest does in the community will help gain a longer tenure
- Need to remain open-minded.

There was a brief discussion about the trees down in Kinnickinnick Park, their potential timber value, recovery of blow downs, allowing the park to grow naturally and the real value of leaving them. It was suggested this issue be directed to the District of Sechelt.

Motion #1

- Beyond what we can decide, needs to go to the province
- What is the basis for this information?
- Not the intent to reduce the annual cut
- Gross tenure has been reduced, what is the rationale for this?
- Come with solutions
- CFAC has stated there will be no cutting in the watersheds
- Terms of the net down, Chapman Creek already down
- Not yet in a process to set annual cut
- Five year trial period
- Net down process is for a long term tenure
- No logging in the watershed during the probationary period as we have no authority to remove timber in this area.

Motion #2

- Three of the four sites discussed
- Remedial work needs to be done
- This is the case today but what about the future as some of these sites may be included in the CF tenure in the future
- Hidden Grove recommendation made two years ago, although both sides are poles apart on what could be logged
- Can add more sites as needed

Motion #3

- Point not relevant
- Reflected in the Operational Plan
- Telling the professionals how to do their job
- Community and public input brings discussions and valued opinions
- No authority to act on this request
- Not applicable.

MOVED by Burns Matkin, SECONDED by Lanny Matkin
THAT "The Community Forest Advisory Committee have listened to the Concerned Citizens presentation and reflected on their requests;

AND THAT CFAC recognized it did not have the authority to remove hectares from the tenured area and that during the remaining probationary period, the Community Forest will not log in the Chapman Creek or Gray Creek watersheds;

AND THAT CFAC acknowledged three sensitive sites located within the Community Forest, i.e. Sechlet Heritage Forest, Wormy Lake Wetlands and Nature Endowment Lands – Hidden Grove with the exception of the Lower Gray Creek and that more sites can be added as needed;

AND THAT CFAC agreed the third request regarding revised net downs was not applicable or within their authority;

AND THAT the presenter of the original motions was in agreement with the CFAC positions."

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. New Business

7.1. Certified Arborist

Burns Matkin was congratulated on his recent certification as an arborist.

8. Next Meeting

The next regular CFAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 15, 2008 at 7 pm in the Sechelt Community Meeting Room.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8.45 pm.

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Terry Hind, Chairman

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Date

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CFAC Member

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Date