

Minutes of the Community Forest Advisory Committee (CFAC) Meeting  
Community Meeting Room, Sechelt, May 20, 2008

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PRESENT:	Terry Hind, Chair Elise Rudland Al Jenkins Lanny Matkin Barry Smith Jim Smith	GUESTS:	Brian Smart, Professional Forester Len Pakulak, SCPI President Claudia Ferris, SCPI Director Kevin Davie, SCPI Operations Manager Garry Nohr, SCR D Director, Halfmoon Bay Lynda Coote, Recording Secretary Public x 6
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1. Call to Order

Chairman Hind called the meeting to order at 7 pm and welcomed a new CFAC Board Member, Jim Smith.

2. Minutes

MOVED by Elise Rudland, SECONDED by Al Jenkins  
THAT "The minutes of the April 15, 2008 Community Forest Advisory Committee Meeting be approved as circulated."

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOVED by Elise Rudland, SECONDED by Al Jenkins  
THAT "The minutes of the May 6, 2008 Community Forest Advisory Committee Meeting be approved as circulated."

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Garry Nohr explained that he only reported to the SCR D on the CFAC meetings that he has attended and Terry Hind referred to their policy on the minutes.

3. Rhododendron Grove

Brian Smart reported he had recently walked the rhododendron grove with Ron Knight and he had established a small primitive trail which has been roped off to indicate the appropriate walking areas. He was still working on signage for the site.

Elise Rudland stated that with the wider road and parking, the trail was much easier to find and she expressed her concerns about the possibility of vandalism. Elise noted that two hundred plants had already been propagated and the Botanical Garden Society may establish another site for these indigenous rhododendrons, which are genetically different from other local areas. She also recommended the use of the green PVC signs used by the SCR D.

Kevin Davie noted that the Community Forest had no authority or jurisdiction to restrict the access to forestry lands and at the moment there were was no signage visible from the road.

4. Operations Plan

Brian Smart led the review of the final pages from the Operational Plan, beginning with the Trails Section. After discussions with the CFAC members, specific areas were highlighted for further revision before the Operational Plan was presented to the public.

4.1. Trails

- Create an inventory of the established trails
- Rank the value of each trail
- Ensure well used trails have a suitable buffer along them, i.e. Forest Heritage trail and the beaver dam
- Medium valued trails would have suitable view corridors, i.e. Hidden Grove circular extension under the Power Line
- Trails around cut-blocks can give an advantage to the trail
- Site specific visits will identify the features of each site
- Wider buffers may be more appropriate
- Remember what are you going to leave rather than take
- Recreational value may be higher than timber value
- This information needs to be referenced in the Operational Plan
- Use of the Heritage Forest for educational purposes
- Timber rail over soft sections (for and after road) has cultural and historical values so it needs to be protected
- Vision needs to be longer term, planning for the future
- What will happen to the recreational sites after harvesting?
- Possible circle trail around Chapman Creek
- Data and maps are in the database with written documentation on the trails
- What do the mountain bikers want and need?
- Any considerations for handicapped access?
- Use and location of trails will change over time
- Shared liability when the Ministry approve recreational projects
- When no trees are cut or bridges built and there is just a path, there are no liability issues for the Community Forest.

**ACTION: Add references to a trail inventory and their values**

4.2. Recreation

- This section has many activities
- Reference a recreation valued inventory
- Lakes area offers a potential recreational corridor
- Requires specific management zone for view corridors, access, supervision of activities, parking and garbage responsibilities
- Involve adjoining tenures in the Lakes area
- Recent destruction at Wormy Lake an indication of what happens when area used for camping as opposed to day trips
- Biodiversity or recreation?
- Recreation is not part of the SCRD five year plan
- No authority to restrict access or use of areas
- Improved access can damage biodiversity
- Serious concerns about the potential for fire
- Create day use areas not parks
- Discuss management with overlapping jurisdictions and the broader community.

**ACTION: Add references to a recreational inventory**

- 4.3. Commercial Vegetation Harvest
- No mention of mushrooms
  - Management of resources essential, including the ability to stop harvesting
  - Develop areas to harvest Salal as a bonus for the community
  - Plants replaced when roads deactivated
  - Need to plan beyond harvesting and recreation
  - Area based tenure makes you focus on the land and wherever possible regenerate what you may lose
  - Need to complete Operational Plan so it is ready for the community.
- 4.4. Personal Harvest of Food and Craft Supplies
- Can amend this description later if the situation changes.
- 4.5. Aesthetics
- Visual Quality Objective (VQO) need be augmented in high use recreation areas
  - Maintain the landscape so it still looks natural and welcoming
  - Meets the needs but we are trying to do better.
- 4.6. Silviculture Systems Utilized
- Even age management as a method to regenerate the forest
  - Chart area indicates areas for extended rotation management
  - Age class distribution is an impediment
  - Need to complete a field trip.
- 4.7. Blow Down Management
- Salvaging of blow downs does not fit in this section
  - Two areas of management for blow downs
  - Plan in place which approaches each area block by block
  - Waiting for salvage permit
  - Every block has now been planted
  - Checking on the effect of plant skidding in one area
  - Everything has to be scaled before distribution, including firewood.
- 4.8. Timber Inventory
- Detail age and plant systems by updating polygon images
  - Stage 1 completed
  - Cost for Stage 2 unknown
  - Information we have is good for a lot of the sites
  - More maturing needed in growth stands.
- Barry Smith left the meeting at 8.30 pm.
- 4.9. Access Management
- Reference to the new *Resource Road Act*
  - Licensee has responsibility
  - Expand on who owns the roads and their responsibilities
  - More cross ditching than tank traps
  - Road past Trout Lake cut to Big Tree wetter now

- Roads are returned back to their initial state, cannot grade or crush
- Kevin needs to find “damaged culverts”
- Learning a lot about roads at Wormy Lake
- Narrow bridges for ATVs rather than regular vehicles
- Roads under so many standards
- What about erosion control and road access into the watershed areas
- Road standards need to protect our drinking water
- SCPI will build and accept roads without tank traps
- Ongoing road maintenance is the responsibility of the Licensee
- Road Use Agreements in place
- Consider fire blocks.

**ACTIONS: Explain ownership and responsibility of roads  
Add ongoing monitoring and maintenance responsibilities  
Add reference to fire risk management and fire access.**

4.10. Right of Ways

- Try not to make wide right-of-ways.

4.11. Clear Cutting

- Use even age management
- Regenerate Douglas Fir, Cedar and White Pine
- Biodiversity by retaining patterns like natural forest.

**ACTION: Revise statement to read “Primarily in some areas...”**

4.12. Slash Burning

- Some chipping done.

4.13. Riparian Management Zone Widths

**ACTION: Move Riparian Management Zone Widths to Silviculture Section**

4.14. Firewood Availability

- Available at Trout and Wormy Lake
- Community need to apply for on-line permit for firewood
- SCPI stacking firewood on road side for easier access.

**ACTION: Add reference to salvage opportunities**

4.15. Open House for Operational Plan

- Saturday, June 14, 2008 from 1 pm – 5 pm in the Sechelt Community Room
- Sit down discussion groups with maps, plan and proposed blocks
- Be prepared to address ecosystem based forestry and SCPI plans
- Prepare notices and advertising
- Request community input for trails inventory
- Have information about walkabouts, cut blocks and unproductive areas

- Community will want some reassurances about Hidden Grove and the protection of the old growth areas
- What are the plans for Hidden Grove?
- Kevin Davie reported that Hidden Grove will not be included in plans for the probationary period
- Community wants to know where the Community Forest is not going to cut
- Recognition of Hidden Grove would demonstrate to the community the value and integrity of the Community Forest
- Hidden Grove may be 60-70 hectares of which approximately 2 hectares could be considered old growth forest
- Highlight high value areas
- CFAC need to investigate what is actually there
- Need to be prepared to answer community questions at the Open House.

5. New Business

5.1. Value Added

Kevin Davie reported on the commitment to supply timber to the local community, including West Coast Log Homes.

5.2. Walk in the Woods

The next walkabout in the woods is scheduled for Sunday, May 25, 2008, 9 am, Daily Roast, Sechelt.

5.3. South Gate Temple, Korea

Brian Smart reported on a recent value added opportunity where the Community Forest could assist the South Korean community in the rebuilding of their South Gate Temple, which was destroyed by fire in February 2008.

Comments from the CFAC members included:

- What is the cost to the community?
- We need to be more careful about cutting down trees
- Cut out the frivolous gestures
- In the context of global warming, trees belong where they stand
- Donation of the Douglas Firs a positive action.

5.4. Delegation from the Concerned Citizens

John Bebbington presented two documents to the CFAC members for consideration. The first one included a two part motion for discussion at this meeting on the governance model for the Community Forest and another three part motion on the principles of land use, which could be tabled until the next meeting.

Members spoke to the first proposed motion on governance:

- Transparency still an issue
- Decisions made in private at SCPI Board level
- Trust that the CFAC member present at the SCPI Board meetings would put forward the issues
- Two SCPI Directors are now attending CFAC meetings

- System is now working, especially with joint meetings
- Support for more open communications
- Cannot support the second part of the motion for a Concerned Citizen to sit on the SCPI Board
- CFAC have in-camera meetings so should the SCPI Board
- CFAC members could attend for specific issues
- Allow the SCPI Board to operate as a business.

Claudia Ferris agreed that communications could be improved and to that end she reported that SCPI had formed a Governance and Policy Committee to address these issues. She noted the joint meetings were productive and that there was always room on the Board for volunteers.

There was a brief discussion about whether the joint meetings should be open to the public as it was a matter of getting business accomplished in a timely manner.

Further comments included:

- What are the current policies and strategies?
- CFAC cannot be a part of those discussions and that is what the community wants
- Current governance structure has affected who wants to volunteer
- Combined meetings are useful
- Prefer two SCPI Directors at CFAC meetings than one CFAC member at SCPI Board
- How can we get through the secret door and see what is going on?
- Offer to serve on the SCPI Board and commit to the ground rules, there are no secrets
- Application process resulted in a CFAC appointment instead of the SCPI Board
- These Boards have come a long way in two years
- CFAC is the voice of the community and has to keep growing
- This Community Forest is doing much better than most of the others
- Legal obligations to adhere to the responsibilities of being a SCPI Director
- CFAC was established to gather information and the Concerned Citizens should be part of the solution
- CFAC need to improve access to community
- Don't see the community in the Community Forest
- CFAC not connected to the SCPI Board.

Claudia Ferris thanked everyone for their comments.

MOVED by Al Jenkins, SECONDED by Elise Rudland  
THAT "A member of the Community Forest Advisory Committee (CFAC) be present at the Community Forest Board meetings".

FOR: 2 CFAC members  
AGAINST: 2 CFAC members  
MOTION FAILED

AMENDMENT MOVED by Al Jenkins, SECONDED by Elise Rudland  
THAT "The Sechelt Community Projects Inc. (SCPI) Board considers accepting a  
member of the Community Forest Advisory Committee to their Regular Board  
Meetings".

AMENDMENT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Next Meeting

The next regular CFAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 17, 2008 at 7 pm in the  
Sechelt Community Meeting Room.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10 pm.

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Terry Hind, Chairman

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Date

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CFAC Member

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Date