

Minutes of the Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Committee Meeting held on Friday, February 17, 2015 at 9:30 a.m. at Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations Office in Nanaimo at 2100 Labieux Rd.

**PRESENT:** Chair Ron Diederichs, Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations  
Ann Kjerulf, Cowichan Valley Regional District  
Brigid Reynolds, Municipality of North Cowichan  
Tracy Fleming, Cowichan Tribes

**OTHER:** Laura Robertson, Cowichan Valley Regional District, Recording Secretary

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**It was moved and seconded that the agenda be approved.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**M1** **It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Committee Meeting of February 6, 2015, be adopted.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **BUSINESS ARISING**

**BA1** Update from the Chair regarding his response email to Goetz Schuerholz on the matter of the Mariners Island Project. The project was discussed, deemed to not be a significant impact and in conformance with the CEEMP. No further review required and the proposal was received and filed.

**BA2** Update from the Chair regarding his response email to Barb Biss (FLRNO) regarding tenure replacement of stilt home leases - Cowichan Bay, File No.'s 0110065 & 0109790. It was noted to Ms. Biss that the CEEMC has no objection to the renewal of this tenure only, the correspondence has been received and filed.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

**C1** Received copy of Peter Fitzpatrick applicant's Letter to DFO regarding stilt house re-build, review by consultants. . Tracy Fleming sent an email January 15<sup>th</sup> regarding her opinion of this application. The Report does not talk about increase in shading, but it does talk about removing the old creosote pilings, which is viewed as a positive action. Some habitat compensation needs to be addressed before this application is approved. Tribes, Lands and Regional District all have to approve of this.

NB: For future consideration: Cowichan Bay stilt housing should have a more robust policy that the Minister of Environment could review.

**Action:** The Chair will check with FLRNO for some clarity on the last large home that was replaced a few years ago.

#### **Action:**

The Chair to draft a letter to the applicant with the concerns on the shading and proposed fill, and request further information with regard to the rationale for this work. Increase in shading and fill proposed but no mitigation or compensation for these increases is present in the report. There has not been an archaeological study done which the CEEMC feels may be necessary.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **NB1**

#### **Action:**

Cowichan Watershed, Roger Hunter and CVRD staff Keith Lawrence be invited to a meeting to discuss the relationship with the CEEMC.

### **NB2**

#### **Action:**

The Chair will call DFO regarding a representative for the CEEMC committee.

### **NB3**

#### **Action:**

The Chair will invite another FLNRO regarding a representative for the CEEMC committee on March 19<sup>th</sup>. 2015.

#### **Action:**

Laura to book a room at the CVRD for the next meeting.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **UB1**

Strategic plan for stilt home replacement and marina expansion in the future.

## **NEXT MEETING**

A field trip meeting at Hecate Park on March 19 at 9:00 a.m., including the Recording Secretary (Laura Robertson) and Planner II (Allison Garnett), to visit the Village and have a look at the stilt homes. Also review the Mariner's Island area and Causeway breach, before the March 19<sup>th</sup> afternoon meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled at 1:30 p.m., March 19<sup>th</sup> at the Cowichan Valley Regional District, Board Room 175 Ingram Street, Duncan, BC

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

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Chairperson

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Recording Secretary