

GABRIOLA LAND AND TRAILS TRUST

Board of Directors meeting Tuesday January 8, 2013, at WI Hall

Present: David Boehm, Tom Cameron, Rufus Churcher, Jenni Gehlbach, Carol Hemrich, Norm Harburn, Anne Landry, Melanie Mamoser, John Peirce, Bob Weenk, Randy Young.

Regrets: Kerry Marcus, Steve Struthers.

Guests: Prospective board candidates Madeleine Ani and Kate Maddigan.

1. Meeting called to order at 7.30 pm by Peirce.
2. **AGENDA: Two items added under new business:**
Item 7.2: GaLTT's interest in IT's DPA steep slopes meeting.
Item 7.3: (added later in the meeting during discussion of 7.2) Letter of support for CPAW re NMCA
Amended agenda adopted by consensus.
3. **MINUTES** from November and December 2012 due to lack of quorum at December meeting:
MOTION: Proposed by Jenni Gehlbach, seconded by Norm Harburn to accept the minutes for the November 13 and December 11, 2012 board meetings as presented. Carried.
4. **CORRESPONDENCE:**
–Peirce filed a letter to RDN Committee of the Whole regarding GaLTT's support of NALT's continued funding by RDN (see Item 7.1).
5. **REPORTS:**

5.1: President's report

–Since he has been away, Peirce presented no written report. He thanked the Board for smoothly continuing our work in his absence. He has not yet had a chance to meet again with Sandy Tassel of American Friends, but the Robinson Woods covenant negotiations are moving ahead (see Item 5.4).

5.2: Treasurer's report—Cameron reported bank balances on January 7, 2013 as:

–Chequing “Community Partner Package 00001: (0.01%) \$6475.22

–Savings “Business High Interest Savings 00002: (1.2%) \$108,552.01

–We have had a good flow of donations this year, including a \$50,000 donation of appreciated shares.

–He circulated for discussion his and Drozd's draft annual report to be presented at the AGM on Feb. 4.

–He and Drozd are working on using automation and online operations as much as possible for GaLTT financial affairs.

–Cameron urged board members to check the information (in French and English!) about GaLTT on our CanadaHelps profile page. We have already received substantial donations through them. He discussed how net donations funneled to GaLTT through CanadaHelps will be presented in our accounting, using a footnote to explain the 3% service charge deducted by CanadaHelps from the receipted donation. He explained the advantages of receiving such donations (preserved anonymity & simplified process for the donor; reduced administrative work for GaLTT)

–Since cashing our GIC, Cameron has been considering GaLTT investing a substantial amount of our reserves to provide a “sustainability fund” separate from the acquisitions and land protection funds. The sustainability fund would provide a protected flow of cash to eventually cover our operating costs. He believes this to be important, particularly if GaLTT purchases land in the future, incurring liabilities. He has been in touch with Vancouver Community Foundation about the possibilities for investment through them, yielding a return of approximately 4% currently. They are a well-respected organization.

MOTION: proposed by Tom Cameron, seconded by Jenni Gehlbach that GaLTT create and build a Sustainability Fund for the long-term operation of the society. Further it is moved that at this time GaLTT invest \$60,000 (taken from our business high-interest savings account) with the Vancouver Community Foundation in support of this objective.

DISCUSSION: Concerns about the desirability of permanently committing such a large amount of our capital and whether it will be possible or desirable to ensure that our investment would be in ethical funds. Cameron urged all board members to visit the Vancouver Community Foundation website to find out about options for withdrawal and for investment in ethical funds, both of which may reduce the rate of return.

MOTION: proposed by David Boehm, seconded by Bob Weenk to table Cameron's Motion, bringing it back for further discussion by the new board at the next regular board meeting on February 12, following the AGM and board elections on February 4, Carried.

Cameron's motion tabled.

–Cameron noted that he will be away from February 3 to March 16 and he will hand the cheque book to Gehlbach in his absence.

5.3: TRAIL WORK

–Young reported successful recent work parties clearing St Catherine's Ave trail to Gabriola Passage, and broom removal in Petroglyph Park (now completely clear). He plans to improve the trails and signage in Wise Acre Woods on January 20, and wishes to publicize a joint broom-bash with the Lions Club in Drumbeg Park on February 3.

ACTION: Gehlbach to publicize the February 3 broom-bash.

–Young will be away February 17 and March 3 and hopes that another board member may be able to organize the work parties on those dates. One prospective board member (Peter Barchyn) has expressed particular interest in helping with trail work organization.

–John Gambrill has been working on the trails in Elder Cedar

–Young got a sheet of roofing from the Commons, which can be used to surface boardwalks.

–The old South Road beach access stairs have been dismantled and the treated lumber stored at Peirce's place for future boardwalk surfacing.

5.4: ACQUISITIONS & TRAILS REPORT: Harburn reported:

–Four copies of Doug Hopwood's Baseline Report on the current state of the Robinson Woods land (44pp plus maps) will be sent to us soon.

ACTION: Harburn to notify Cameron as soon as the Baseline Report is received, so that final payment can be made to Hopwood.

ACTION: Harburn to provide copies of the Baseline Report for Sally Robinson, Sandy Tassel (AF), and John Peirce for signing. Peirce to approach Robinson for a further donation at this point.

–Harburn and Gehlbach edited the stewardship Plan for Robinson Woods—this outlines GaLTT's future work maintaining the covenanted area, including trail maintenance and invasive plant management. This plan has been forwarded to Sandy Tassel and to Sally Robinson but we have had no response yet.

ACTION: Peirce will remind Tassel and Robinson.

ACTION: Harburn will email copies of the Stewardship Plan to Anne Landry and John Peirce.

5.5 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORTS:

5.5a Craft Fair Table: Hemrich reported that the Craft Fair table on December 15 was moderately successful, bringing in approximately \$145. She suggested we reconsider participation in these events, and whether sales of items possibly in competition with local crafts people is suitable or worthwhile. **DISCUSSION** of our preference for selling items such as vests with our logo in a limited range of colours, and gift-donation cards.

5.5b Streamkeepers: Mamoser reported not much activity recently.

–RDN's Water Smart program has funded (\$1100.) a workshop to train our stream keepers. It is to be held on February 2 and 3; venue not decided yet. David Clough will give the training and will do a walkabout on Gabriola beforehand.

–There will be a Fisheries and Oceans fundraising workshop on May 17-19 on Bowen Island (attendance fee \$35)

–Their next meeting is January 24. Cameron has already paid the WI Hall rental for then.

MOTION: proposed by Melanie Mamoser, seconded by David Boehm that GaLTT pay the rent for Streamkeepers' meetings at WI Hall for the rest of 2013. Carried.

5.5c Big Trees: No recent activity. Boehm has not met with Coats yet.

5.6 COMMUNICATIONS REPORT:

–**Website:** Gehlbach has updated the GaLTT home page with notices about our AGM, Randy's work parties, and the rebuilding of the South Road beach access stairs.

–She worked with Cameron to put information about CanadaHelps on the donations web page. She has also put direct links to GaLTT's CanadaHelps profile page on GaLTT's donations and home pages.

–**Email:** She emailed members inviting them to stand for election to the Board, with good results.

–She emailed members about a NALT fundraising bottle-drive in December.

–She emailed ex-members who dropped out in 2012 with info about GaLTT's recent activities and asking them to consider rejoining us in 2013.

5.7 POSAC REPORT:

Young reported that after seeing the RDN Parks Dept. advertisement in the paper he has sent in his application to serve on POSAC again. If appointed, he will not stand as Secretary this year.

6. OLD BUSINESS:

6.1 Board candidates. Peirce reported an embarrassment of riches with potential board candidates. Churcher has graciously offered to stand down one year before the end of his term. Candidates who will stand for election at the AGM are Madeleine Ani, Peter Barchyn, Rob Brockley, and Catherine Adam Legg. In addition, Heather Kay and Kate Maddigan have offered to be available for volunteer work and possible future board positions.

AGM arrangements:

ACTION 1: All board members to contribute to the gift basket door prize. Tell Hemrich if you wish to have dinner at the Haven with our speaker before the meeting.

ACTION 2: Hemrich to contact Louise Amuir at the Haven regarding refreshments, equipment, and numbers for dinner before the meeting.

ACTION 3: Hemrich to organize a gift basket for the door prize and a gift for the speaker.

ACTION 4: Harburn to confirm with the speaker about coming to the AGM, his travel arrangements and expenses, and consult with Peirce about billeting arrangements for him.

ACTION 5: Harburn and Weenk to arrive early enough to put out the chairs and organize a membership registration table (including a cash box) at the door before 6pm.

ACTION5: Young to ensure the technical requirements are adequately met (mic, projector, etc.)

ACTION 6: Peirce and Cameron/Drozd to prepare President's Report and Treasurer's Report by the end of January, so that Gehlbach can print copies for the AGM.

ACTION 7: Candidates for re-election, ensure your bio appears as you wish.

ACTION 8: Peirce to send new candidates' email addresses to Gehlbach.

ACTION 9: Gehlbach to get bios from the new board candidates.

ACTION 10: Gehlbach to prepare and have printed AGM packages including this year's Agenda, last year's minutes, the President's and Treasurer's annual reports, the proposed resolution for a new bylaw clause 9.3, board candidate bios and board member election slate.

ACTION 11: Gehlbach to remind our members by email about the AGM and speaker, and put another notice in the local papers about the AGM and speaker the week before.

6.2 Honeysuckle Lane:

–Young last heard from Highways Department in October re possible acquisition of this 160-acre (64.75-hectare) site. He will keep the conservation going. We need the gravel manager to state that he does not need the gravel. The offer we received to buy the mineral rights was not a good deal. Cameron suggested setting up a meeting with IT, GaLTT, RDN, and the Provincial Parks Dept. to discuss options for acquiring the site as a park.

ACTION: Gehlbach to put this on February's agenda.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

7.1 NALT requested our support about funding from RDN (previously reduced from \$30K to \$20K, and now at risk for further reduction or elimination). Peirce sent letter of support (see Correspondence).

7.2 DPA January 17 there will be IT meetings re DPA and steep slope requirements. Harburn noted that GaLTT will not be adversely affected by these because they exempt trails up to 1 metre wide. Streamkeepers will be dealing with RAR issues.

7.3 NMCA Landry brought up the issue of the establishment of the Southern Strait of Georgia National Marine Conservation Area. The Islands Trust Fund has contacted GaLTT for potential endorsement of a letter of support addressed to the federal and provincial ministers of environment.

ACTION 1: Landry to bring more information about this to Peirce.

ACTION 2: Gehlbach to put this on February's agenda.

8. No *in camera* discussion was needed.

9. MOTION to adjourn: proposed by David Boehm at 9.35pm. Carried.

Minutes recorded by Jenni Gehlbach

GABRIOLA LAND AND TRAILS TRUST

Board of Directors meeting Tuesday February 12, 2013, at WI Hall

Present: Madeleine Ani, Peter Barchyn, Rob Brockley, Jenni Gehlbach, Norm Harburn, Carol Hemrich, Anne Landry, Melanie Mamoser, John Peirce, Bob Weenk, Randy Young.

Regrets: David Boehm, Tom Cameron, Dyan Dunsmoor-Farley, Catherine A. Legg.

1. Meeting called to order at 7.30 pm by Peirce.
2. **AGENDA: One items added to Reports:**
Item 5.5c: Possible purchase/sale of GaLTT vests at market—Hemrich
Amended agenda adopted by consensus.
3. **MINUTES** from January 8, 2013 plus printed record of the subsequent email motion to accept the Financial Statement for 2012 as required for presentation to the AGM:
MOTION: Proposed by Bob Weenk, seconded by Norm Harburn to accept the minutes for the January 8th board meeting as presented and also the printed record of Tom Cameron’s email motion (seconded by John Peirce) on January 25 to approve the Financial Statements for 2012 for presentation at the AGM (Carried). Carried.
4. **CORRESPONDENCE:**
–No new correspondence was filed.
5. **REPORTS:**

5.1: President’s report

–Peirce met with MOTI with the Ratepayers Association and found the new Director to be a good listener. They discussed with manager Tilley GaLTT’s recent restoration work near Wharf Road and he promised to get us the contact name in Burnaby regarding the Honeysuckle Drive gravel pit property.

–Peirce and Sally Robinson met with Chris Bowers, Editor of The Shingle newspaper, resulting in a substantial article this week about the American Friends covenant. There was one small error which Peirce will correct before they submit it for possible publication in Island Tides.

5.2: Treasurer’s report—Gehlbach presented the Financial Statement for January 2013 and the list of new and renewing members January 9 to February 8 (both previously circulated to the board).

Bank balances on January 31, 2013 were:

–Chequing “Community Partner Package 00001: (0.01%) \$3027.21

–Savings “Business High Interest Savings 00002: (1.2%) \$108,662.64

MOTION: proposed by Jenni Gehlbach, seconded by Bob Weenk, to accept the listed membership applicants as members of GaLTT. Carried

5.3: TRAIL WORK

–Young’s report (attached) was circulated to all board members. He summarized the main points.

–**re broom removal:** Young and Heather Kay have researched the process for hiring students to help with broom removal. We are probably too late for this year because applications must be completed by the end of February. The process is complex, involving transportation, supervision, insurance, and roadside hazards. A practical step may be to also hire a chipping contractor and use the chips on trails.

ACTION: Barchyn and Young to pursue the possibility of hiring students for broom removal for next Spring (2014).

MOTION: proposed by Randy Young, seconded by Jenni Gehlbach to buy five Junior Extractigators to facilitate immature broom removal. Estimated total cost with tax is \$784.00. Carried.

5.4: ACQUISITIONS & TRAILS REPORT: Harburn reported:

–GaLTT must apply to US IRS to obtain 501(c) charitable status equivalency. Canadian Land Trusts that receive easements must have this status. It will also give us credibility with other possible donors and allow American Foundations to fund us. This status means we must report annually to the IRS at audit time, as we do to Canadian authorities. The covenants subcommittee will need funding for this process.

ACTION 1: Covenant subcommittee to continue with the process of obtaining 501(c) charitable status with the IRS.

ACTION 2: Peirce to send a copy of the required AGM motion adding Clause 9.3 to our by-laws (regarding disposal of ecological gifts) to the Canadian Ecological Gifts Program.

ACTION 3: Covenant subcommittee to develop a flowchart of the process used to establish a covenant and pinpointing the financial obligations that occur during the process.

ACTION 4: Covenant subcommittee to develop a one-page checklist for management plan activities.

–**A possible new trail licence** across the Szantos’ property on Lockinvar Lane is being discussed. It is a short section of the trail system that goes from Lockinvar to the clinic across private land. Peirce has scheduled a meeting with Bob Rooks to discuss other sections of this trail and related matters.

5.5 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORTS:

5.5a Streamkeepers: Mamoser reported running a successful course on February 2nd, training 12 volunteers in stream-keeping methodology. RDN will pay the costs. The group worked with owners’ permission on Castell Creek, which flows into Sandwell salt marsh and on Goodhue Creek between the Commons and the alpaca farm.

–Discussion of RAR: Streamkeepers do not involve themselves in contentious RAR political issues. They work cooperatively with landowners and are affiliated with DFO and follow their protocols.

–At their last meeting they decided to maintain the status of a GaLTT committee rather than a stand-alone organization. Later, when they are more established, they may wish to separate.

–Their next meeting is February 28.

ACTION: Mamoser to send information to Gehlbach to update the Streamkeepers’ webpage.

ACTION: Mamoser to send an invoice to Gehlbach/Cameron to be reimbursed after RDN sends payment to GaLTT for the Streamkeepers workshop expenses.

5.5b Big Trees: No report.

ACTION: Peirce, Brockley and Boehm to meet soon about developing the Big Tree Registry.

5.5c Market: Hemrich presented some costs for purchasing vests with GaLTT logos to be sold at the market. She had found some that would cost us \$25.50. **DISCUSSION** of the viability of selling them as a fund-raiser and/or as a “walking advertisement”, including costs, profits, quality, desired range of colours and sizes.

ACTION: Hemrich and Weenk to explore other options for design, suppliers, and costs.

5.6 COMMUNICATIONS REPORT:

–**Website:** Gehlbach has updated the GaLTT home page with report of our AGM (speaker, new ByLaw clause, and election) and Randy’s upcoming work parties. Updated Board, Donations, and Constitution pages. New downloadable PDF of redesigned membership form as used at the AGM.

–**Email:** emailed members to remind them of the AGM and speaker.

–**Newspapers:** wrote articles about AGM and speaker for the two papers (not published in Sounder) and referred Chris Bowers to Peirce re interview with Sally Robinson.

5.7 POSAC REPORT:

No report. Next meeting will be Tuesday April 2nd at WI.

6. OLD BUSINESS:

6.1 AGM. Attendance (about 30) was a little disappointing, but the speaker was well received. All went smoothly and the minutes have been sent to board members. For such a small group Weenk pointed out that Rollo Centre would be much cheaper and a better size for our future AGMs.

6.2 Investment in Vancouver Community Foundation: Cameron's motion was kept on the table. Further discussion will be delayed until Cameron returns and we have more information about VCF and possible investment alternatives.

6.3 Honeysuckle Lane:

–discussion tabled until we hear back from MOTI about the viability of obtaining this old gravel pit area as a park

ACTION: Gehlbach to put Items 6.2 and 6.3 on future agendas as needed.

6.4 NMCA: Landry reported on her research into ITF's request for GaLTT's support of a letter to ministers Peter Kent and Terry Lake requesting that they act expeditiously in defining and establishing the Southern Strait of Georgia National Marine Conservation Area. Many other conservation groups, both provincial and federal, are supporting this initiative. (Attached are Landry's findings and some detail on the letter's proposals.)

MOTION: proposed by Ann Landry, seconded by Rob Brockley that GaLTT support the proposed Southern Strait of Georgia National Marine Conservation Area by endorsing the letter to federal and provincial governments encouraging them to move forward on the creation of the NMCA. Carried.

ACTION: Gehlbach to send Landry a copy of the GaLTT logo.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

7.1 Election of Officers for 2013.

–Peirce, Cameron, and Gehlbach are willing to continue as President, Treasurer, and Secretary respectively.

–Newly elected board member Dyan Dunsmoor-Farley (who was an early board member and ex-president) has offered to act as our "Sage" on the Executive Committee since long-standing board members Marcus and Masson have both resigned this year.

–Since Masson has left the board, a new VP is needed. Norm Harburn offered to stand.

MOTION 1: proposed by Norm Harburn, seconded by Bob Weenk that John Peirce be appointed President; Tom Cameron, Treasurer; Jenni Gehlbach, Secretary; and Dyan Dunsmoor-Farley, "Executive Committee Sage". Carried.

MOTION 2: proposed by Jenni Gehlbach, seconded by Madeleine Ani that Norm Harburn be appointed Vice President. Carried.

7.2 Committee appointments of new board members:

–Dyan Dunsmoor-Farley will act as "Sage" on the Executive Committee

–Madeleine Ani will sit on the Acquisitions and Trail Route committee, working in particular on covenants and licences.

–Catherine Legg will spearhead our Community Engagement initiatives.

–Peter Barchyn will work with the Trails Committee on trail development and managing invasives.

–Rob Brockley will work with David Boehm to formalize and develop the Big Tree Registry.

–Other interests may develop as we go along.

DISCUSSION: of the need for a Donations and Fund-raising person/subcommittee, to share some of the Treasurer's workload. This could possibly be tied in with enhanced community engagement.

7.3 Trail map update: Cameron has asked the board to detail the changes needed in the next edition of our trail map, which will be printed on better quality paper. This includes correcting misspellings,

omissions, and errors in the marked trails and roads, and adding our newly licensed trails. He has listed the needed changes noted to date. Gehlbach will gather the information and will contact map-maker Cameron Murray about making the changes so that the new map can be printed in time for the market.

ACTION 1: Gehlbach to email to board members the list of needed changes already noted.

ACTION 2: All board members to look carefully at areas of the map they are familiar with and note any other needed changes. Send their lists to Gehlbach ASAP.

ACTION 3: Peirce to approach ITF again about including the Elder Cedar trails on our maps.

7.4 Bus initiative: Cameron requested that the Board consider supporting the bus initiative on Gabriola, in particular noting the desirability of connectivity to trailheads. **DISCUSSION:** Individuals expressed support for the bus initiative, but most felt it was not within GaLTT's mandate to support this. No motion.

8. No *in camera* discussion was needed.

9. **MOTION to adjourn: proposed by Madeleine Ani at 9.45pm. Carried.**

Minutes recorded by Jenni Gehlbach

GABRIOLA LAND AND TRAILS TRUST

Board of Directors meeting Tuesday March 12, 2013, at WI Hall

Present: Madeleine Ani, David Boehm, Jenni Gehlbach, Catherine Legg, Melanie Mamoser, John Peirce, Bob Weenk, Randy Young.

Regrets: Peter Barchyn, Rob Brockley, Tom Cameron, Dyan Dunsmoor-Farley, Norm Harburn, Carol Hemrich, Anne Landry.

1. Meeting called to order at 7.30 pm by Peirce.
2. **AGENDA: One items added to New business:**
Item 7.2: The ferry terminal area and signs—Boehm
Amended agenda adopted by consensus.
3. **MINUTES** from February 12, 2013:
MOTION: Proposed by Jenni Gehlbach, seconded by Melanie Mamoser to accept the minutes for the February 12th board meeting as presented. Carried.
4. **CORRESPONDENCE:**
We received a letter from American Friends enclosing a donation cheque for \$8800, but it wasn't signed. They will send a replacement. (This was from money donated to AF by Sally Robinson, which they have opted to pass on to GaLTT).
5. **REPORTS:**

5.1: President's report

–Peirce reported a phone call from Jonathon Tilley of MOTI saying the gravel-pit assessors believe there is still gravel at the Honeysuckle Rd. pit. He suggested we pursue getting a trail licence instead of trying to acquire the land. They only do such licensing with government agencies such as RDN or IT.

–Sally Robinson is currently in Illinois and is upset because her covenanted property there is being torn down by the new owner. She will be signing the AF covenant on her Gabriola property soon.

5.2: Treasurer's report—Gehlbach has not yet received the February financial statement from Drozd.

Bank balances at CCCU on February 28, 2013 were:

–Chequing; Community Partner Package: (0.01%) \$3588.45
–Savings: Business High Interest Savings: (1.2%) \$108,762.67

–Only one new member application was received last month.

MOTION: proposed by Bob Weenk, seconded by David Boehm, to accept Islands Trust as a corporate group member of GaLTT. Carried

5.3: TRAIL WORK

–Young's reported that John Gambrill was happy with the work party he led clipping trails in Elder Cedar. Also the Rollo McLay sportsfield broombash went well; it was led by Howard Houle and reported in the local papers. The brush pile will be mulched by a volunteer. Weenk reported that the new smaller extractors were easier to use, though less powerful.

–While in Maui Young discovered a group doing work similar to ours. He tabled a brochure about "Project Malama Honokowai" being pursued by Maui Cultural Lands, Inc. in association with Kaanapali Land Management Corp. They seek to "restore the Honokowai Valley to a state of balance".

MOTION: Proposed by Randy Young, seconded by Jenni Gehlbach that GaLTT apply for a corporate membership in the Maui group "Maui Cultural Lands" (MCL) and encourage them to reciprocate.

ACTION: Gehlbach to contact MCL about mutual organizational support.

–Young said the Ratepayers will be organizing Spring clean-up on the week of the 18th and the 4H group will be working at the same time.

ACTION: Young to email his list about Spring Clean-up.

–Provincial Parks people with Wayne Calder will be leading a broom bash in Drumbeg.

–Peirce had a call from Lois Duncan who was upset because of metal garbage on trails, including a large muffler in 707.

DISCUSSION about possibility of clearing the road allowance for a trail to the end of Dorby to avoid having to trespass on Mark Pounds' land. Also about whether the police should be called when salal cutters are encountered in Elder Cedar.

5.4: ACQUISITIONS & TRAILS REPORT: Ani reported that she met with Harburn and Landry to discuss the current status of our projects. Nothing new to report. The most active files currently are for negotiating trail licences with Tom Cameron and with George and Kit Szanto.

5.5 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORTS:

5.5a Community engagement: Legg had previously circulated her ideas for improving GaLTT's community engagement (see attached). The meeting thought all the ideas good, and worth pursuing.

ACTION: Legg to first pursue the idea of enhancing our relationship with Welcome Wagon, e.g., by attending their meetings and by giving out "tickets" entitling the holder to a guided forest walk with a GaLTT member.

ACTION: Legg to gather a small group to help with the other suggested initiatives and with publicity through local newspapers, website, facebook, and handouts at the market table.

Weenk reported that he has sourced vests that could be shown at the market table and custom ordered as needed. It has fleece lining and a nylon shell with a GaLTT logo, to be sold at cost for \$55 as a publicity item rather than fund-raising.

ACTION: Weenk to buy a dark green sample to show the Board.

5.5b Streamkeepers: Mamoser reported that at the February meeting, streamkeepers discussed their mandate and will solidify it at the next meeting before bringing it to GaLTT's board.

–They are putting together a group to practice their techniques, and have decided to use the small stream with easy access in Drumbeg, which will also give public exposure.

–They have applied to IFO to be assessed for eligibility to receive funding. No response yet.

–At the meeting about the Cohen Commission on sockeye salmon, Sustainability Gabriola collected \$53.30 in donations to the streamkeepers group.

MOTION: proposed by Melanie Mamoser, seconded by Bob Weenk that GaLTT joins Pacific Streamkeepers Federation (PSkF) (annual group membership \$15). Carried.

ACTION: Gehlbach to write the cheque and send the application form to PSkF.

5.5c Big Trees: Boehm has not met with Brockley yet. No activity to report. Peirce reported we'd been approached about a TV interview about the Registry.

ACTION: Boehm to meet with Brockley and investigate the TV opportunity.

5.6 COMMUNICATIONS REPORT:

–**Website:** Gehlbach has updated the GaLTT home page and streamkeepers page with trail work and workshop news/photos.

–**Newspapers:** Chris Bowers' Shingle article about GaLTT, AF, and Sally Robinson's covenant was also published in Island Tides.

–**Facebook:** Gehlbach discussed with Hemrich starting a GaLTT Facebook page. This is in its preliminary stages.

5.7 POSAC REPORT:

The committee is Megan Dickinson, Nancy Crozier, Jacinthe Eastick, Randy Young, Jim Phillipoff. Their upcoming meetings are on April 2, July 2, and November 5, at 7pm in WI Hall.

6. OLD BUSINESS:

6.1 Trail map update: We have had many suggestions for changes to the map from Cameron, Brockley and member John Gambrill. Gambrill also suggested improvements to the walk description text contents and layout (which we had hoped to avoid). In particular we need to bring the 707 map and trail descriptions in line with the RDN trail names and signage.

DISCUSSION: of whether the artistic aspects of the map had overridden accuracy in the first edition. (e.g., roads extending slightly out to sea) and whether existing RDN maps and GPS and Google-based maps had been used (they had, but each map is slightly different).

ACTION: Gehlbach will meet on Friday at 3pm at Silva Bay with Cameron Murray, Judy Preston and Barb Hague to discuss the needed changes and to try to ensure precision.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

7.1 March 23 Shoreline Workshop Community Hall 1-3pm. Sheila Malcolmson sent out notices. Probable topics: eelgrass mapping and seeding, forage fish; kelp restoration. Streamkeepers will attend.

7.2 Ferry terminal area:

Boehm expressed dismay at the litter of signs on the roadside on the hill up from the ferry.

DISCUSSION: This is a MOTI responsibility, and Rudischer has declined IT help. It is not in GaLTT's mandate to deal with this.

ACTION: Boehm to contact Gloria Hadfield (Chamber of Commerce) about the signage issue.

Boehm would also like to see trails down to the shore cleared and the entrance into Millstone Park with its poor trails and large ugly signage made less daunting. The objective is for people with time in the ferry line-up to have somewhere pleasant to go.

ACTION: Boehm to investigate whether the possible trails he identified are across private land and might be cleared and licensed, and what the status of the Millstone Park access is.

8. No *in camera* discussion was needed.

9. MOTION to adjourn: proposed by Madeleine Ani at 9pm. Carried.

Minutes recorded by Jenni Gehlbach

GABRIOLA LAND AND TRAILS TRUST

Board of Directors meeting Tuesday April 9, 2013, at WI Hall

Present: Madeleine Ani, David Boehm, Rob Brockley, Tom Cameron, Dyan Dunsmoor-Farley, Jenni Gehlbach, Norm Harburn, Carol Hemrich, Anne Landry, Melanie Mamoser, John Peirce, Randy Young.

Regrets: Peter Barchyn, Catherine Legg, Bob Weenk.

1. Meeting called to order at 7.30 pm by Peirce.
2. **AGENDA: One items added to new business:**
Item 7.1: Guide for Islands Conference walk—Peirce
Amended agenda adopted by consensus.
3. **MINUTES** from March 12, 2013:
MOTION: Proposed by Jenni Gehlbach, seconded by Anne Landry to accept the minutes for the March 12th board meeting as presented. Carried.
4. **CORRESPONDENCE:**
–Email correspondence regarding the Sally Robinson covenant legal paperwork transitions across the border for proper legal execution.
–Also from Sabine Jessen of Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society regarding Minister Kent’s response to their letter re Southern Strait of Georgia NMCA (which we supported).
5. **REPORTS:**
 - 5.1: President’s report**
–Peirce introduced Dunsmoor-Farley to our newer board members.
–He has been away, so still has action items not yet done.
 - 5.2: Treasurer’s report**—Drozd had circulated the Financial Statement for first three months of 2013.
MOTION: Proposed by David Boehm, seconded by Rob Brockley to accept the Financial Statement as presented. Carried.
–After transferring \$10K from chequing to savings, our bank balances at CCCU on April 7, 2013 were:
Chequing: Community Partner Package: (0.01%) \$2445 (rounded)
Savings: Business High Interest Savings: (1.2%) \$118,874
–No new member applications were received last month. Renewals only.
–There was further discussion of the possibility/desirability of transferring a substantial sum from the Business Savings account to the Vancouver Foundation to generate sustainable income for future operating expenses.
ACTION: Cameron will also investigate Victoria Foundation and will bring a recommendation and motion regarding the investment to the next board meeting in May.
 - 5.3: TRAIL WORK**
–Young received a cheque from The Commons for \$200 toward the cost of extending their boardwalk.
–Also received a cheque for \$50 from a GaLTT member who has restricted mobility and was very grateful for the improved extension of the Sally Robinson boardwalk. This member has borrowed an Extractigator and has also offered to be the “official” trail work party photographer.
ACTION: Cameron to write and thank the Commons and the member for their donations and ask Drozd to issue tax receipts.
–Re Drumbeg broom bash. Wayne Calder said NO to all broom pulling because of soil disturbance and seeds’ exposure to light. He wants it lopped. His boss Catherine Wilson (Qualicum area supervisor) will come over and look. The Nanaimo broom bashers’ main message to the Garden Club last week was to always lop broom when it’s in full bloom, before the seeds form. Don’t burn—it is toxic. Young has prepared an instruction chart for dealing with broom at various stages of growth.

–The chipper operator who helped at Rollo Park’s broom-bash wants to be involved in Drumbeg and invasives removal elsewhere.

–The trail work party will try to improve access to the Mallet Creek area down to the mudflats of Peacock Bay, and clean up the public access area. They will work with Streamkeepers.

5.4: ACQUISITIONS & TRAILS REPORT: Harburn reported that their committee is bringing the long-range plan for Descanso to Drumbeg trails up to date, including all the MOTI-land trails and licensed trails added in the last year or so.

ACTION: Peirce to locate the legal paperwork for the Sally Robinson trail and pass it to the Secretary to be placed in the GaLTT files.

5.5 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORTS:

5.5a Community engagement: Brockley reported for Legg.

–The Welcome Wagon initiative is under way. Legg has designed cards to be distributed offering a personal guided walk to a newcomer; she presented cost options for printing colour/bw.

ACTION: Legg to proceed with printing the Welcome Wagon cards at her discretion.

–Their committee met recently to plan a series of guided trail walks to be held on

–May 10 (707-Acre Park from 4 entrances, guides to be appointed);

–June 2 (Descanso forest walk led by Cameron & Brockley);

–June 16 (Fathers’ Day walk through Elder Cedar to the waterfall led by Legg and Weenk).

–In addition, after a member asked what we were doing for Earth Day (April 22), Peirce offered to guide a walk along False Narrows from Brickyard to Spring Beach, helped by member Nick Doe. Posters are printed and at the ferry, and will go up mailbox noticeboards on Friday.

ACTION: Gehlbach to publicize the Earth Day walk via newspapers and by email.

–Weenk has offered to lead walks introducing people to 707 again in July and August.

–They hope also to initiate orienteering and geocaching projects, and work with mountain bike groups.

–Oceans Day: GaLTT will not participate this summer, but Streamkeepers will.

5.5b Events tables and Facebook: Hemrich reported no progress yet on Facebook. Will continue to work with Legg and Gehlbach.

–The Commons Spring Fair is on May 5 from 11am to 3pm. She will organize the GaLTT table.

–Market starts May 18, and will be open from 10am to 1pm. She will need volunteers. Board members are expected to volunteer at least once, preferably twice, in the season.

ACTION: Hemrich to circulate the list and all board members to sign up.

5.5c Streamkeepers: Mamoser reported that at the March 21 meeting, they picked Castell Creek for habitat assessment.

–They deferred definition of their goals to their next meeting, which will be April 18.

–They are working with Ms Peacock’s class and hope to focus on the stream in the Commons.

–They will be talking with a group regarding RAR so that they are informed while remaining non-political. GaLTT board would like to be included in this.

–In March, they practised their stream-keeping skills in Drumbeg from the bridge to the parking lot, doing an invertebrate survey. Good exposure to the public.

–On the May 18 long weekend there will be a Fisheries and Oceans salmon enhancement workshop on Bowen Island. Mamoser and Jethro Baker wish to attend and requested GaLTT to cover their expenses.

MOTION: proposed by Melanie Mamoser, seconded by Madeleine Ani that GaLTT approves expenditures not exceeding \$500 to enable Baker and Mamoser to attend the Salmon Enhancement workshop on Bowen Island on the May 18 long weekend. Carried.

5.5d Big Tree registry: Boehm reported that Annette and a photographer from Shaw Cable interviewed him about our Big Tree Registry. He took them to view a Douglas fir with circumference 22’ 6” and to Elder Cedar to view the large cedar there. They filmed for ½ hour and it will be condensed to a 3-minute program to be shown on April 12 on Go Island! He also told them about our trail map and they may wish

to do another program about the map.

ACTION: Boehm to continue developing a printed register that can be displayed at the market.

5.6 COMMUNICATIONS REPORT:

–**Trail map:** Gehlbach met with Cameron Murray to discuss the list of requested updates to our trail map (including bringing the map in line with RDN’s 707-trail names and markers) and asked that artistic considerations not override accuracy. He committed to having the changes done in time for market publication. She has also discussed needed layout changes with Judy Preston to facilitate reading on a windy day and re-wording the 707 Park walks section.

–**Brochure:** She has had preliminary discussions with Tom Cameron about updating the GaLTT brochure and would like to hire a graphic artist to achieve a more professional look.

ACTION: Gehlbach and Cameron to pursue this.

–**Website:** She has put a countdown logo and information about the Earth Day (April 22) walk on the home page and has put Young’s new information from RDN and Nanaimo broom bashers about managing broom on the invasives web page.

–**Newspapers:** Both local papers have been sent articles about the Earth Day walk to be published on Monday April 15th.

–**Print:** She and Legg put together a poster about the walk to be distributed by April 12 at mailbox notice boards and on the ferry.

–**Email:** She has prepared email notices to be sent to all GaLTT members and to the GabEvents list later this week. She also emailed all delinquent members urging them to renew their memberships for 2013.

5.7 POSAC REPORT:

Young had previously circulated his POSAC report (attached). There will be a public meeting about plans for Huxley Park on July 13 at Women’s Institute Hall. Young will get people from the market to go there.

6. OLD BUSINESS:

6.1 Maui Cultural Lands: Gehlbach requested a supporting membership but they replied that they had no mechanism for such membership. Invited us to volunteer when we were on Maui.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

7.1 Walk for Islands Conference May 12. The walk will be between 2pm and 4pm. Suggested route: Brockley Trail and Cox Community Park, possible circling back through Cameron’s property.

ACTION: Brockley is unavailable, so Peirce will find a guide for this walk.¹

8. No *in camera* discussion was needed.

9. MOTION to adjourn: proposed by David Boehm at 9.30 pm. Carried.

Minutes recorded by Jenni Gehlbach

¹ After the board meeting Cameron sent the full walk description for the conference, as follows: “Guided by Gabriola Land and Trails Trust this walk will explore iconic sandstone shores and Douglas fir forests. You will visit Malaspina Galleries, Cox Community Park, and Descanso Bay Regional Park. The hike illustrates the use of shore accesses, road allowances, licensed trails, parks and roadways "to secure, develop and sustain a network of parkland and trails on Gabriola".

GABRIOLA LAND AND TRAILS TRUST

Board of Directors meeting Tuesday May 14, 2013, at WI Hall

Present: Madeleine Ani, Rob Brockley, Tom Cameron, Jenni Gehlbach, Norm Harburn, Anne Landry, Catherine Legg, John Peirce, Bob Weenk, Randy Young.

Regrets: Peter Barchyn, David Boehm, Dyan Dunsmoor-Farley, Carol Hemrich, Melanie Mamoser.

1. Meeting called to order at 7.30 pm by Peirce.
2. **AGENDA: Four items added:**
 - Item 5.5a:** Possibility of monthly meetings—Legg
 - Item 6.1:** Vest samples—Weenk
 - Item 6.2:** RDN topographical maps—Weenk
 - Item 7.4:** Executive Committee—PeirceAmended agenda adopted by consensus.
3. **MINUTES** from April 9, 2013:
MOTION: Proposed by Norm Harburn, seconded by Catherine Adam Legg to accept the minutes for the April 9th board meeting as presented. Carried.
4. **CORRESPONDENCE:**
 - Email correspondence with attached certificate regarding insurance coverage for Cameron’s new trail licence.
 - Email correspondence re CLTA membership number and passwords.
 - Correspondence from Peirce to Ecological Gifts Program, notifying them of approval at our AGM of their required change to our By-laws.
5. **REPORTS:**
 - 5.1: President’s report**
 - He was in Vancouver for lunch and the signing of the Sally Robinson covenant on April 23. The covenant is still in the registration procedure.
 - Presentation “ GaLTT’s First Decade” in the discussion panel on Island Conservancies at the Island Studies Conference. A copy is in our files.
 - There was great interest in our trail licences. He has sent our trail licence template to Bowen, Denman, and Salt Spring conservancies.
 - 5.2: Treasurer’s report**—Drozd had circulated the Statement of Operations and Changes in Equity for the four months ending April 30, 2013 and also the list of new and renewing members during April.
MOTION: Proposed by Tom Cameron, seconded by Jenni Gehlbach to accept the listed individuals and families as active members of GaLTT. Carried.
 - Cameron circulated information about The Victoria Foundation. Their terms appear to be more favourable than the Vancouver Foundation, and he recommends that GaLTT invest with them.**DISCUSSION:** We need income to cover future covenant maintenance and operations, and we also need to build a land endowment fund.
ACTION: Cameron and Executive Committee to decide what types of investments are needed and bring a motion regarding the investment to the next board meeting in June.
 - GaLTT’s information on Gabriola Chamber of Commerce’s website is badly out of date and our annual membership fee (\$120) is due.
ACTION: Legg to investigate what is needed and renew our membership in GICC.
 - 5.3: TRAIL WORK**
 - Young reported that
 - Wise Acre Woods has a new boardwalk.
 - Broom was removed from Elder Cedar.

–A small trail has been cleared beside Mallett Creek in the road allowance from Taylor Bay Road down to the mudflats.

5.4: ACQUISITIONS & TRAILS REPORT: Harburn reported successful signing of the trail licence agreement with Tom and Charlotte Cameron, connecting McConvey with James Way through their property, and via a road allowance to Malaspina.

MOTION: Proposed by Norm Harburn, seconded by Anne Landry to approve the trail licence agreement between the Camerons and GaLTT. Carried.

MOTION: Proposed by Jenni Gehlbach, seconded by Norm Harburn to approve all the other (7) trail licence agreements signed by GaLTT to date. Carried.

5.5 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORTS:

5.5a Legg reported:

–**Welcome Wagon:** The new **guided walk-entitlement cards** are with Elly Hallam. Welcome Wagon is slow right now, but we already have four contacts interested in guided walks.

–**Guided walks:** Earth Day beach walk on April 22 was very successful with around 40 to 60 people at various points. The Move for Health walk on May 10 was less successful—only 12 participated. Legg is considering possible causes: it was a busy week on Gabriola; 707 is considered less intrinsically “interesting” than the False Narrows route; the Earthday walk had an article in the paper, whereas the 707 walk had paid advertisements; the posters near mailboxes were smaller for the 707 walks. Both had email notifications to members.

–Legg distributed announcements of other walks through the summer—to be on the market table. Also asked board members to distribute guided walk cards to interested people.

–She suggested a guided walk at the Commons. Gehlbach noted that musician Leah Hokansen guided early morning soundscape walks there a couple of years ago.

ACTION: Legg to contact Victor Anthony to investigate the possibility of guided walks at the Commons.

–**Monthly meetings:** Legg would like to have a series of monthly meetings with featured presenters throughout the fall and winter, possibly culminating in a special speaker for next year’s AGM—GaLTT’s 10-year anniversary. Cameron suggested Richard Wright, a SSI author would be a popular choice. Also Legg suggested Cameron Murray could present his talk about map-making that he gave at the Islands Conference. **DISCUSSION: Payments for GaLTT-related projects** (e.g., room rentals and job-specific software purchases) will be reimbursed. Board members are not expected to bear that expense.

5.5b: Market and events table:

–The guided walks handout was of interest at our events table at the Spring Fair at the Commons (May 5), and we sold several maps. Newsletters and trail maps were also distributed at the Islands Conference table.

–Market opens May 18.

ACTION: Weenk volunteered to help at the first market.

Gehlbach volunteered to work on June 1.

5.5c Big Tree registry: No report. Cameron noted that Salt Spring Island has their big tree registry on their website, so people can directly add to it.

ACTION: Boehm to continue developing a printed register that can be displayed at the market.

5.6 STREAMKEEPERS

Mamoser sent a written report (attached) that:

–They were thrilled to discover chum smolts near the mouth of Mallett Creek and Coho fry in a pool about 10 metres above the mouth of Mallett, and in Wagg Brook (see MM’s report for detail).

–They are in discussions with Deb Ferens in Descanso Bay campground about restoration activities in Winthuysen Creek, which is culverted extensively.

- She and Jethro Baker will attend the Salmon Enhancement Community Workshop on Bowen Island this weekend.
 - SK have agreed on a final draft of their mission and objectives and will submit it for approval at the next GaLTT board meeting.
 - She has confirmed with RAR representatives that trails are included in the works requiring a qualified environmental professional’s sign-off if they are within 30 metres of a stream. She hopes they will come talk to GaLTT/streamkeepers about these regulations.
- ACTION: Peirce** to write to the planner at Islands Trust regarding the RAR sign-off procedure for trails near streams, and who the appropriate professionals might be.

5.7 COMMUNICATIONS REPORT:

- Trail map:** Gehlbach and Cameron met with Cameron Murray to further discuss the list of requested updates to our trail map. He is unlikely to have the changes done in time for the first market. Judy Preston is prepared to change the text layout as required. Cameron reported that he and Gallery Press have chosen a suitably tough paper for the new edition, which will increase our costs to \$3 per map. We can sell them for \$5 each retail.
 - Website:** The website has been updated with False Narrows walk report; Randy’s work-party announcements; a photo of Cameron’s trail licence-signing (courtesy of Derek Kilbourn, Gabriola Sounder); and a link to the new newsletter.
 - Newspapers:** Gabriola Sounder published good reports of the Earth Day walk and Cameron’s trail licence signing. Ads were placed in both papers about the 707 walks. Legg has provided copy for newspaper reports of the 707 walks.
 - Print:** Posters were distributed at all mailbox notice boards.
 - Newsletter:** the Spring 2013 newsletter has been published in time for the Islands Conference and the market. Chris Bowers gave permission for us to reprint her article about the Robinson covenant as the lead story. Downloadable pdf version is on the website.
 - Email:** All GaLTT members and the GabEvents list were sent notices about the guided walks. Members were also reminded to renew their memberships, and urged to opt for 5-year or monthly arrangements. Response has been good.
 - Brochure:** No further action on this to date.
- ACTION: Gehlbach and Cameron** to pursue redesign of the brochure.

5.8 POSAC

Young reported

- There will be a meeting at & about Huxley Park at 4.30 on May 16
- There will be a meeting on May 26 at #12 landing on Mudge Island about boat landings.
- Sam Betts is joining the POSAC committee.

6. OLD BUSINESS:

6.1 GaLTT vests: Weenk showed several colour samples of reversible windproof shells lined with fleece that can have our logo embroidered on the outer shell. The board selected the pale sage green sample and asked whether it could be lined with black rather than navy fleece. Some members ordered one right away.

MOTION: proposed by Bob Weenk, seconded by Madeleine Ani that GaLTT purchase samples of the sage green vests with logos, in each size. Carried.

ACTION 1: Gehlbach to send Weenk the GaLTT logo.

ACTION 2: Weenk to order one vest with embroidered logo in each size in the chosen colour as samples. We will take custom orders at the Market Table for delivery within two weeks. He will also order several for board members as requested at the meeting.

6.2 Topographical maps: Weenk reported that he had requested a topographical map of Gabriola from RDN for orienteering purposes but has had no success so far.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

7.1 LTABC. David Boehm has volunteered to become GaLTT's LTABC representative.

7.2 Ocean Day June 9:

ACTION: Mamoser to organize a Streamkeeper display table for this event.

7.3 July 9 board meeting. Cameron suggested we meet for a BBQ potluck at his property on McConvey, and walk the newly licensed trail after a short business meeting starting at 6pm.

ACTION: Committee heads are requested to send their reports to all board members ahead of the meeting.

7.4 Executive Committee. Peirce commented that it is healthy for an organization's Executive Committee to change fairly regularly, and that he would prefer to step down from the presidency in 2014.

8. In camera session:

MOTION: proposed by Jenni Gehlbach, seconded by Bob Weenk to move *in camera*. Carried.

In camera discussion of the current status of GaLTT's trail projects involving private and MOTI land.

Motion to move *ex camera* again proposed by Norm Harburn and seconded by Anne Landry. Carried.

MOTION: proposed by Norm Harburn, seconded Anne Landry, to approve the confidential draft trail network plan dated May 2013 and discussed *in camera* as our working plan for the coming year. Carried.

9. MOTION to adjourn: proposed by Jenni Gehlbach at 9.35 pm. Carried.

Minutes recorded by Jenni Gehlbach

GABRIOLA LAND AND TRAILS TRUST

Board of Directors meeting Tuesday June 11, 2013, at WI Hall

Present: Madeleine Ani, Rob Brockley, David Boehm, Tom Cameron, Dyan Dunsmoor-Farley, Jenni Gehlbach, Norm Harburn, Carol Hemrich, Anne Landry, John Peirce, Bob Weenk, Randy Young.

Regrets: Peter Barchyn, Catherine Legg, Melanie Mamoser.

1. Meeting called to order at 7.30 pm by Peirce.
2. **AGENDA: Two items added:**
Item 6.1: Victoria Foundation—Cameron
In camera discussion: Possible land purchase opportunities—Boehm & Peirce
Amended agenda adopted by consensus.
3. **MINUTES** from May 14, 2013:
MOTION: Proposed by Jenni Gehlbach, seconded by Norm Harburn to accept the minutes for the May 14th board meeting as presented. Carried.
4. **CORRESPONDENCE:**
–Correspondence from Peirce to Dr Rooks laying out GaLTT’s interests regarding access and conservation, and inviting him and his business partner Mr Henning to attend a Board meeting to discuss his and Potlach Properties’ interests. Filed.
5. **REPORTS:**
5.1: President’s report
–Peirce attended the Islands Conference at The Haven and participated in a discussion among several Gulf Islands Conservancies. All three other conservancies and Bowen asked for a copy of our Trail Licence template.
ACTION: Peirce to find out more about Denman Island’s stewardship program for both public and private land.
–Peirce worked with the Executive Committee to draft the letter to Dr Rooks (see Item 7.1).
–Peirce, Cameron and Young met with the Lions to discuss bike trails (see item 7.3).
5.2: Treasurer’s report—Drozd had previously circulated our May monthly financial statement. Cameron reported that our bank balances on June 10 were (rounded):
Business High Interest: \$119,111
Chequing account: \$4315
He and Gehlbach authorized transfer on June 11 of \$4000 from chequing to savings a/c.
ACTION: Cameron will hand the chequebook to Gehlbach while he is away next week.
–Cameron circulated the list of recent new and renewing members.
MOTION: Proposed by Tom Cameron, seconded by Jenni Gehlbach to accept the listed individuals and families as active members of GaLTT. Carried.
–Cameron has been in touch with **Victoria Foundation** (See Item 6.1).
5.3: TRAIL WORK
Young submitted a detailed written report to board members (see attached). He noted that plans for upgrading the swampy corduroy path on McDonald West using fill would not be swiftly acted upon because it must first be submitted to POSAC, for possible adoption as an RDN project; and would then need to be submitted by RDN to MOTI because it is on a road allowance. **DISCUSSION:** of effects on neighbours of the trail changes, increased foot and horse traffic, and possible use of heavier machinery.

MOTION: proposed by Norm Harburn, seconded by Bob Weenk, that Young's plan and budget estimate for the McDonald West walkway upgrade be approved in concept. At the same time discussions to be continued with neighbours about the project. Carried.

ACTION: Young to approach Jacinthe Eastick, who is on POSAC and lives in that neighbourhood, about consulting with the neighbours about the suggested trail upgrade.

OTHER DISCUSSIONS of Young's report:

1. We supply doggy bags, but the decision to remove disposal bins was by BC Parks.
2. For discussion of possible cooperation with the Lions about bike trails see Item 7.3

5.4 ACQUISITIONS & TRAILS REPORT: Harburn's committee has updated the report of project status

ACTION: Harburn to circulate project status report (marked "confidential") to board by email.

5.5 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORTS:

5.5a Community outreach. Brockley reported for Legg (written report, attached).

–**Chamber of Commerce.** Legg recommended we become full members.

MOTION: proposed by Jenni Gehlbach, seconded by Bob Weenk that GaLTT become a full member of the Chamber of Commerce. Carried. (Peirce recused himself from this discussion & vote)

–**Facebook:** a trial Facebook page is in place but not publicly accessible yet while we decide what should be included on it.

ACTION: Legg to work with Gehlbach to transfer information from the website.

–**Guided walks:** Brockley & Cameron led walks June 2 through Descanso and Cox parks and their own licensed trails. Legg presented her plans for publicizing future walks and suggested offering weekly guided walks in Descanso Bay Regional Park (led by Brockley). Deb Ferens is enthusiastic but we need permission from RDN.

MOTION proposed by Rob Brockley, seconded by Dyan Dunsmoor-Farley to support the plan to offer weekly guided walks in Descanso Bay Regional Park led by Brockley. Carried.

DISCUSSION: We could/should ask for donations to GaLTT from walk participants.

DISCUSSION (favourable) of Nick Doe's proposal to offer a pebble geology talk for children and their families at Whalebone Beach on August 11th.

5.5b: Market and events table:

–Hemrich reported that we must use our own table now. Our table will remain inside Agi Hall. The museum has taken some of our hiking books for their gift table and will take a share of the small profit.

–Weenk delivered the new GaLTT-logo vests ordered by board members, and the samples for the market. He had vest samples in sizes from extra small to extra large for display. He also showed a forest green golf-style shirt with the logo.

MOTION: proposed by David Boehm, seconded by Dyan Dunsmoor-Farley that the vests and shirts with logos be offered for sale at the market table by special order, payment in advance. The vests are to sell for \$80 and the shirts for \$40.

ACTION: Dunsmoor-Farley and Gehlbach to consider ways to offer these items for sale on the website using payment options such as Paypal.

5.5c Big Tree registry: Boehm reported he has several new trees to accurately measure and locate and will get the data to us soon. He also reported he has located and destroyed several patches of hogweed.

5.6 STREAMKEEPERS

Discussion of streamkeepers' Mission Statement deferred until Mamoser present.

5.7 COMMUNICATIONS REPORT: Gehlbach reported

–Member emails about guided walks, NALT, and membership renewals.

–Website: Updates to GaLTT's home page (walk and trailwork reports) and Streamkeepers page (new mission statement).

–Trailmap: Cameron Murray has completed the map changes, with a greatly improved, accurate shoreline and all new trails marked. Several small errors have been corrected. We are waiting for Judy Preston to revise the text and layout before we can go to print.

5.8 POSAC

Young reported that POSAC is currently dealing mostly with Mudge Island water access.

6. OLD BUSINESS:

Item 6.1: Victoria Foundation: Cameron recommended that GaLTT deposit \$20,000 in the Victoria Foundation’s non-refundable investment fund, with the 10-year objective of investing a total of \$100,000, to generate enough income to cover our basic operating costs (such as insurance and rentals).

DISCUSSION: the board requested a more detailed comparison of advantages and disadvantages of investing in GICS and similar investment vehicles; the Vancouver Foundation (which allows withdrawal of invested funds); and Victoria Foundation (which does not allow withdrawal).

ACTION 1: All board members to read about the two foundations online

ACTION 2: Cameron & Dunsmoor-Farley to summarise the three types of investment

ACTION 3: Gehlbach to include this topic on the September agenda for a decision.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

7.1 Peirce reported that Dr Rooks is busy this summer and would prefer to meet in September.

7.2 Shell Grant for Cox Community Park work. Cameron had previously circulated the board with suggestions for completing signage of significant sites; acknowledgement of donations; installation of a bench; and laying down gravel over swampy trail areas.

ACTION: Gehlbach to included this as an agenda item for the September meeting.

7.3 Lions Club suggestion for bike trails: (See Young’s written report sent to board).

DISCUSSION: GaLTT must balance the needs of bikers and horse-riders with the community’s expressed desire for “natural” walking trails. If the trails become too much like wider dirt roads, it will be difficult to prevent motorized bikes etc., from using them also. There are multiple trail needs on the island and we need broader community input on this topic. Connections to the village and major transportation routes are very important.

ACTION: Cameron, Boehm and Harburn to contact the biking communities and look further into their requirements.

ACTION: Executive to consider holding another strategic planning session in the Fall to discuss longer-term goals regarding investment; trail networks; land acquisition, and other broad topics not covered in our previous strategic planning.

8. No *in camera* session required:

9. MOTION to adjourn: proposed by Madeleine Ani at 9.40 pm. Carried.

Minutes recorded by Jenni Gehlbach

GABRIOLA LAND AND TRAILS TRUST

Board of Directors meeting

Tuesday July 9, 2013, at Tom Cameron's home

Present: Madeleine Ani, David Boehm, Tom Cameron, Jenni Gehlbach, Norm Harburn, Carol Hemrich, Anne Landry, Catherine Legg, John Peirce, Randy Young.

Regrets: Peter Barchyn, Rob Brockley, Dyan Dunsmoor-Farley, Melanie Mamoser, Bob Weenk.

1. Meeting called to order at 5.10 pm by Peirce.
2. **AGENDA: One item added to be discussed *in camera*:** Possible land acquisition—Peirce
Amended agenda adopted by consensus.
3. **MINUTES** from June 11, 2013:
MOTION: Proposed by Jenni Gehlbach, seconded by Norm Harburn to accept the minutes for the June 11th board meeting as presented. Carried.
4. **CORRESPONDENCE filed:**
–Letter from the Ministry of Environment stating that GaLTT is now eligible to receive Ecological Gifts.
–Notice of addition of RDN to our list of insured parties.
5. **REPORTS:**

5.1: PRESIDENT

- Attended MOTI and POSAC meetings re establishing a trail licence or equivalent through the Honeysuckle gravel pit area.
- Added RDN to our list of co-insured to enable our guided walks in RDN parks
- Peirce, Cameron and Young met with the Lions to discuss bike trails
- Discussions with realtor Randi Lynch about available wetland properties.

5.2: TREASURER—Drozd had previously circulated our six-monthly financial statement. Our bank balances on June 30 were (rounded):

Business High Interest: \$122,225.

Chequing account: \$921.

- Drozd had sent Cameron the list of recent new and renewing members.

MOTION: Proposed by Tom Cameron, seconded by Jenni Gehlbach to accept the listed individuals and families as active members of GaLTT. Carried.

5.3: TRAIL WORK

- Young reported work clearing the Evans Road trail and the trail from Clamshell to South Road. A group also traced the trails above Whalebone (trail work to clear these will be on July 21).
- He requested that all board members take responsible for minor clearing work on trails near their homes.
- He estimates that 1 hour of (paid) chipping would clear a broom pile from 2 person-days of lopping from May 1 to June 15 while it is in bloom.
- A local mountain bike enthusiast wishes to meet GaLTT in August about allowing bikes on trails in Elder Cedar and into Kensington, currently blocked. No trail upgrades are needed—just access.

5.4 ACQUISITIONS & TRAILS REPORT: Ani reported that she and Boehm had explored the Millstone Quarry site above Easthom Rd. and she is reading the documents related to its conservation and ownership by ITF. She noted that the possibility for an access trail is already registered in the agreement. ITF has withheld permission for trail access because of safety concerns.

ACTION: Ani, Landry, & Boehm to develop a proposal for the ITF about access to this site.

ACTION: Gehlbach to include this on September's agenda.

5.5 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORTS:

5.5a Community outreach. Legg reported that

- The first Descanso Bay guided walk was well publicized within the park and was successful. People of varied physical abilities attended.
- Our trial Facebook group is up and running with 37 members. She is posting pictures of trails and inviting “friends” to join her on private trail walks. Most are currently not GaLTT members. She will continue experimenting with the format and content.
- Nick Doe’s “pebble adventure” on August 11 is now more clearly defined (NOT as a kids’ event) and will be at Bluewhale Community Park (near Killer Whale Road) between 2 and 4 on August 11.
- She hopes to develop a series of walks in the Fall with a focus other than simply trails, such as birds, and seeks suggestions and contact information for possible “experts” to help at the walks.

5.5b: Market and events table:

- Hemrich reported that we have a small canopy now for shade when outside at the market.
- The schedule for table volunteers was adjusted at the meeting.
- Volunteers were signed up for 2-hour slots at the table at Streetfair on August 18 from 10am to 6pm.

Motion proposed by Catherine Legg, seconded by David Boehm to purchase 30 copies of the laminated brochure for rock identification at \$6.90 each plus postage, to be sold for \$10 each at the pebble adventure and/or at our events tables. Carried.

5.5c Big Tree registry: Boehm reported that he walked recently with Brockley to measure and locate more large specimens. He passed their data to Peirce for addition to the spreadsheet.

5.6 STREAMKEEPERS-no report

5.7 COMMUNICATIONS REPORT: Gehlbach reported

- Newspaper advertisements and Community calendar entries in both papers have been ordered for the Summer walk series.
- Website: Regular updates have been made to our home page and some amendments to the history page.
- Trailmap: All changes to the new trail map’s contents have been signed off. We are waiting for the printer’s proof. We would like to make some changes to the overall layout of the brochure, but in the interests of having maps available quickly, the committee suggests we order 1000 copies for now rather than 1500 and adjust the layout before reprinting later.

ACTION: Cameron to work with Gallery Press to obtain an accurate cost estimate, approve the final draft, and order 1000 new maps ASAP.

ACTION: Gehlbach to further edit the text on the map side and to work with Murray and Preston to adjust the map brochure’s layout for future re-printings.

5.8 POSAC

Young submitted a detailed written POSAC report (attached). It details:

- youth delegation about Huxley Park
- GaLTT delegation about the Honeysuckle gravel pit.
- Huxley Park community consultation processes.
- Mudge Island water access survey
- Parks function report for area B
- estimates for McDonald West change from walkway to fill
- bicycle access Stumps to Jeanette
- Bells Landing grading not possible this year due to budget restraints.

6. OLD BUSINESS: none to report

7. NEW BUSINESS: none to report

8. Motion to move *in camera* proposed by John Peirce, seconded by Jenni Gehlbach, to discuss a possible land acquisition and possible other approaches to that property's preservation.

ACTION: Gehlbach to include this topic on September's agenda.

9. MOTION to adjourn to potluck proposed by David Boehm at 6pm. Carried.

Minutes recorded by Jenni Gehlbach

GABRIOLA LAND AND TRAILS TRUST

Board of Directors meeting Tuesday September 10, 2013, at WI Hall

NOTE: No August board meeting was held.

Present: Madeleine Ani, Tom Cameron, Dyan Dunsmoor-Farley, Jenni Gehlbach, Norm Harburn, Carol Hemrich, Anne Landry, Catherine Legg, Melanie Mamoser, John Peirce, Randy Young.

Regrets: Rob Brockley, Bob Weenk. **Absent:** Peter Barchyn, David Boehm

1. Meeting called to order at 7.30 pm by Peirce.
2. **AGENDA:** Agenda adopted by consensus.
3. **MINUTES** from July 9, 2013: Friendly amendment to Item 5.6—Mamoser noted that although she was not at the July meeting she had previously circulated her Streamkeepers' report to all Board members. (See also the comments about pebble brochure pricing in item 5.5b below.)
MOTION: Proposed by Jenni Gehlbach, seconded by Norm Harburn to accept the minutes for the July 9th board meeting as amended. Carried. (Note: There was no August meeting.)
4. **CORRESPONDENCE:**
 - Peirce received an email from Canada Helps that a cheque had been returned to them by the post office. Apparently, the PO had closed our mail Box because we had not renewed its annual rental. Gehlbach said the PO had also returned a member's renewal form and fee, as well as a letter from NALT.
ACTION: Cameron to pursue this because we have no record of any warning notices about the PO Box.
ACTION: Gehlbach to email members about the PO Box glitch.
 - The June/July correspondence/discussion about cleanliness and rowdiness at Twin beaches near Turtle Rock remains outstanding since the complaining owner has not yet met with Legg to discuss it.
 - A homeowner near the Sealovers Lane beach access marked on our map has complained to GaLTT that it is just a ditch without real beach access, so the public uses his gate and driveway instead. Young reported that he has since made a sign for the owner's gate.
DISCUSSION: Visibility of beach accesses from the beach side is generally poor. Discussions are needed with RDN, and possibly with CRD re Saturna's good beach-access signage.
ACTION: Gehlbach to include beach-access signage in October's Agenda.
5. **REPORTS:**
 - 5.1: PRESIDENT**
 - Peirce reported that he has not been busy this summer, but thanked the board members who have been active on GaLTT's behalf organizing the market table, the trail map, the walk series, & trail maintenance.
 - 5.2: TREASURER**—Drozd had previously circulated our financial statement. Major expense this summer was the trail-map printing (just over \$6000). Major income was the \$2000.20 donation to our land acquisition fund received from Gabriola Land Conservancy when it folded.
Our bank balances on September 10 were:
 - Business High Interest:** \$119,951.64
 - Chequing account:** \$1,138.73.
 - Drozd had sent Cameron & Gehlbach the list of recent new (7) and renewing (7) members.
MOTION: Proposed by Tom Cameron, seconded by Dyan Dunsmoor-Farley to accept the listed individuals and families as active members of GaLTT. Carried.
ACTION: Gehlbach to send Young the list of new members, for his trail-work list.
 - 5.3: TRAIL WORK**
 - Young reported he and/or his teams have
 - tracked and trimmed a new trail from Joyce Lockwood Community Park to the top of the hill.
 - cleared tansy ragwort from the village to Elder Cedar

–cleared a secondary trail from the Honeysuckle gravel pit to Colleen.

Howard Houle has asked for a Parks meeting about a trail licence or equivalent for the gravel pit area. No action yet.

Young’s group will work on Yogi trail on September 15. When he is away on Sept 29, Bob Weenk will work on some 707-acre Park trails.

ACTION: Harburn to transfer the loppers to Weenk for the September 29 work party to use.

5.4 ACQUISITIONS & TRAILS REPORT: Harburn reported that:

–Harburn, Landry, Young, and Ani had gone through the Strategic Planning document and assigned the remaining tasks listed. It will take some time for most of them to be completed.

–He has applied to the Real Estate Foundation for an award for GaLTT for spearheading the Sally Robinson Covenant with AFCLT. He acknowledged help with the writing and the supporting documentation from Sandy Tassel (AFCLT) and Gehlbach. There is stiff competition, but recognition would benefit us greatly in the future when fund-raising for acquisitions.

–Peirce reported that he has asked Josée Velsen to do some professional-quality photographs of the Robinson covenanted lands to be used by AFCLT (and possibly GaLTT) for publicity.

5.5 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORTS:

5.5a Community outreach. Legg distributed her detailed report (attached) to board members before the meeting. She reported that

–There are now 86 Facebook members, though she and Gehlbach do most of the postings. On average, about 42 of the FB members view the postings.

–266 people in total participated in the various walks and events over the summer. See her attachment for a breakdown of the figures. Feedback from participants was very enthusiastic.

–Nick Doe and Steve Earle are presenting the “Antique Rock Show” at the GaLTT table at the Commons Fall Fair on September 22.

–Welcome Wagon is this Thursday (September 12). Newsletters and walk tickets to be distributed.

–GaLTT will lead an island-length trail walk on Sunday October 6. We’ve had positive responses to an initial email-out from 14 members, including the Gambrells who will invite the walking group to join us. Brockley and Harburn will lead the section from Descanso Bay Park to Tin Can Alley. Legg will lead through 707-Acre Park and on to Tait Road. Young will lead from Tait to Silva Bay.

ACTION: Harburn, Peirce, and Gehlbach will clip and flag a new trail (roughly 1.5 km) on Crown land from Tait Rd through to the North Rd entrance to McCollum dirt road, so that we don’t have to walk along North Road from Stumps 707-entrance to Tait Rd.

–Weenk will lead more walks in 707 each second Saturday of the month, starting in October.

–Other events in development are Bird Watch Sit with Jeff Rietkirk and Forest Remedies with Heather MacLeod.

5.5b: Market and events table: Hemrich reported that

–The new maps are selling very well and the increased price is not a problem. Our vendors are very happy to be resupplied. Artworks has an outstanding account, so does not have new copies.

ACTION: Cameron to follow up with Artworks about the outstanding account.

–She noted that the purchase and selling prices mentioned in the Board Motion in item 5.5b of the Minutes for July were inaccurate. The pebble brochures arrived with a marked retail selling price of \$7.95. The publisher had sold them to GaLTT with a 20% discount. GaLTT has been selling them for \$8 to avoid messing with small change following a discussion about not appearing to “gouge” the public.

–It has been hard to get volunteers for the Saturday tables and she questions the value of our display tables at other Community events.

–Gehlbach and Legg will organize the GaLTT table at the Fall Fair with the Antique Rock Show alongside.

–There is a notice about our new trail map tacked on top of the large out-of-date map hanging outside the co-op (which includes trails on private land and a small notice about the old price of our map).

ACTION: Cameron to discuss the maps further with the manager of the Co-op.

5.5c Big Tree registry: Peirce reported that he has received Boehm’s rough field notes but has been unable to transfer the data to a usable spreadsheet. Landry expressed interest in helping with the Registry and will discuss her possible role with Boehm.

ACTION: Ani to work with Boehm on producing a usable Excel spreadsheet for the registry. Peirce to pass the existing spreadsheet and fieldwork notebook to Ani.

ACTION: Mamoser to download a copy of Shaw TV’s interview with Boehm about Gabriola’s Big Tree registry, so that it can be shown at the next AGM.

5.6 STREAMKEEPERS—Mamoser reported that:

–They have a draft logo designed by Gabriolan Daniel Smith.

–They received a \$1,500 grant from the Canadian Ministry of Fisheries and Oceans. This will likely be used to buy Streamkeepers’ Field Kits.

–They did an interview for the Hope Show on CKGI with Kathleen Miniely.

–Next meeting is Thursday 19th September at Women’s Institute Hall.

–They have been listing what they have achieved to date and brainstorming ideas for the coming year.

–They are trying to avoid political involvement in RAR issues as a group. Therefore they have shifted their primary focus away from Castell Brook, which is on private land and comes under the regulations. Instead they will focus on the small culverted stream in Descanso Bay Park. They are discussing this with Deb Ferens.

The draft of Streamkeepers’ Mission Statement was discussed, and it was suggested that although its substance was good, the wording needed some rearrangement. Gehlbach had edited it somewhat before including it on the Streamkeepers’ website, and members were referred to that site www.galtt.ca/gabriolastreamkeepers.html.

5.7 COMMUNICATIONS REPORT: Gehlbach reported

–The 2nd edition of the trail map was signed off, printed and distributed.

–For the next printed trail-map edition, Gehlbach has reduced the amount of text that currently appears on the map side in response to a request from Cameron Murray who judges that it spoils the appearance and clarity of the map. She has sent the new text to Judith Preston.

–Newspaper advertisements and Community calendar entries were placed in both papers for the Summer walk and Event series.

–Website: Regular updates about events and trail work-bees are made to our home page. All pages are amended as new information comes in or links become outdated. Some new links have been added to the geology page.

–Members were emailed about all summer events and walks, and messages sent to the GabEvents list and to the Facebook page.

–Notices have been sent out to members about the upcoming events on September 22 and October 6.

–61 delinquent members have been encouraged recently to renew their memberships for 2013. Those who have already renewed have been thanked.

–She discussed the need for another Newsletter this Fall with Peirce, but they agreed that most of the Spring newsletter’s contents remain current. She has been busy with the trail map and a new brochure, and, other than the walk-series this summer, we have no significant news to report. She suggests that the next Newsletter be delayed until after the AGM and election of new directors.

–Following earlier discussions with Tom Cameron, Gehlbach had a preliminary meeting with Cameron Murray’s new business partner Megan Walker about re-designing our brochure. The objectives are to bring all the information up-to-date; to sharpen the text and update the photographs; to give the brochure a more professional appearance; to aim its appeal to potential members and volunteers as well as potential large donors; and to include a small membership form that can be torn off and mailed. Walker is willing to design a three-fold, four-panel

brochure to be printed on legal-size paper and has sent an estimate of her fee (attached) which includes a courtesy discount because Topographics values what GaLTT does.

MOTION: proposed by Jenni Gehlbach, seconded by Tom Cameron to approve approximately \$500 for the design of a new printer-ready three-fold, four-panel GaLTT brochure as estimated. Carried.

5.8 POSAC

Young reported that the survey of the proposed trail from MacDonald to Peterson has been sent to MOTI for approval.

MOTION: proposed by Randy Young, seconded by Norm Harburn that, subject to MOTI approval, to be obtained by RDN Parks Dept., GaLTT will install a fill and culvert trail connecting MacDonald to Peterson, with an estimated budget of \$4375. Carried.

6. OLD BUSINESS:

6.1 Foundation investments. Cameron and Peirce feel that a committee is needed to consider our investment in either Victoria or Vancouver Foundation because the detailed conditions are so complex.

ACTION: Landry, Legg, Cameron and Peirce will meet to consider the issues and bring a suggestion to the board for an investment strategy at our October meeting.

6.2 Shell grant. No further action yet

ACTION: Gehlbach to include this on the October agenda

6.3 Meeting with Bob Rooks: Peirce has had no response from Dr Rooks despite several attempts at contact. Rooks did try to call but left no message. Peirce has sent him an email to let him know that on our October 6th walk our planned route crosses his land between River Place and the Clinic, saying “we hope he does not object”.

6.4 Requirements for bike trails: No further action so far.

ACTION: Ani to call and check with our insurance company about our coverage for bikes and horses on our public or licensed trails.

ACTION: Gehlbach to include discussion of bikes and horses on our trails in October’s agenda

6.5 Proposal for ITF re Millstone quarry site. No further action so far.

ACTION: Gehlbach to include this on October’s agenda.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

7.1 Strategic Planning.

ACTION: Peirce will consider a strategic planning session with our members in November. Dunsmoor-Farley will work with him on the approach to strategic planning to be used.

7.2 Canadian Wildlife Federation’s Backyard Habitat Certification Program. Legg reported that feedback about this idea has been mixed in preliminary discussions. Some felt the program to be too “city” oriented. She has contacted Growls, Commons, Tara Qua, and the Gardening Club about possible partnering for participation in the CWF program. Discussions continue.

7.3 Gabriola Phone Directory advertisement: Gehlbach has notified Judy Preston about the need to change the price of the maps in GaLTT’s advertisement. If we wish to change anything else, the deadline is October 31st.

7.4 BCLTA’s covenant-management workshop is on October 24/25 in Victoria. It will include sessions about engaging youth and using social media. Full registration and accommodation is \$299. This was felt to be good value. (Travel and food are attendees’ responsibility.) No refunds are possible after October 1st. The Board decided that as many as possible should attend, car-pooling as needed. Landry, Harburn, Mamoser, Legg and Gehlbach expressed interest in attending.

ACTION: Peirce to contact BCLTA re details and then organize GaLTT participants and carpooling

8. Motion to move *in camera* to discuss possible land acquisitions proposed by Jenni Gehlbach, seconded by Madeleine Ani. Carried.

9. MOTION to adjourn proposed at 9.30pm by Norm Harburn. Carried.

Minutes recorded by Jenni Gehlbach

GABRIOLA LAND AND TRAILS TRUST

Board of Directors meeting Tuesday October 8, 2013, at WI Hall

Present: Madeleine Ani, David Boehm, Rob Brockley, Tom Cameron, Jenni Gehlbach, Norm Harburn, Carol Hemrich, John Peirce, Bob Weenk, Randy Young.

Regrets: Dyan Dunsmoor-Farley, Anne Landry, Catherine Legg, Melanie Mamoser. **Absent:** Peter Barchyn,

1. Meeting called to order at 7.30 pm by Peirce.
2. **AGENDA:** Agenda adopted by consensus.
3. **MINUTES** from September 10, 2013:
MOTION: Proposed by Jenni Gehlbach, seconded by Norm Harburn to accept the minutes for the September 10th board meeting as presented. Carried.
4. **CORRESPONDENCE: none received or sent.**
5. **REPORTS:**

5.1: PRESIDENT— Peirce reported that he has:

–arranged for Josée and Keana Velsen to do a publicity photo shoot of Robinson Woods for our own use and for American Friends (AF)’s publicity. Also provided a quote for AF article “A Breakthrough in British Columbia”

–clipped a new trail from McCollum Rd to Tait Rd with Harburn and Gehlbach.

–participated in the End-to-End walk October 6th

–met with Cameron re investment planning and talked with personnel at Salt Spring Conservancy and NALT who advised that we invest ourselves, without a foundation, sticking to GICs and other low-risk investments that are free of moral debate.

–set up a meeting October 9th with Bob Rooks (see item 6.4).

–organized logistics for the BCLTA conference Oct 24/5

–passed Boehm’s field notes to Ani.

5.2: TREASURER—Drozd had previously circulated our financial statement. Major expense this month was the BCLTA conference fees (\$2153). \$1000 was transferred electronically from the high-interest a/c to chequing to cover this expense. Our bank balances on October 8th were:

Business High Interest: \$119,057.13

Chequing account: \$622.93.

–Drozd had sent Cameron & Gehlbach the list of recent new and renewing members.

MOTION: Proposed by Tom Cameron, seconded by Jenni Gehlbach to accept the listed individuals and families as active members of GaLTT. Carried.

ACTION: Gehlbach to send Young the list of new members, for his trail-work list.

5.3: TRAIL WORK

Young reported that in recent months there has been a very low turnout for work parties. Next week they will work on 707’s Granite Trail (the last effort was a washout because of heavy rain). **DISCUSSION:** of possible contributors to the drop-off in trail maintenance volunteers (e.g., competing activities and our recent publicity emphasis on maps, guided walks, trail licensing and covenants).

ACTION: Gehlbach to meet with Young and Legg to discuss publicity about trail work.

5.4 ACQUISITIONS & TRAILS REPORT: Harburn reported that:

–the main Real Estate Foundation’s non-profit land award was given to Atira a women’s resources society for their project converting shipping containers to studio apartments. Carol Newell was recognized as a Land

Champion for donating “millions of hectares” for conservation, including on Cortez Island. The Foundation offers quarterly grants up to \$20K for projects such as mapping watersheds and twice-yearly grants over \$20K for conservation projects.

–The covenant group met to think about planning for the future.

–They also met to discuss bike trails as per Randy’s map and they hope to meet with someone from the Lions’ Club to explore this issue.

ACTION: Harburn to contact Dixon Kenney about bike trails.

–On October 5th Ani, Harburn and Cameron met with Bruce McIntyre at 610 Berry Point Rd to explore dedicating a trail in memory of his partner. He and his neighbor Chris Jacobsen are amenable to trail licences through their properties. A third licence will be needed on Lot 17, which has an absentee owner, to complete the trail from McIntyre’s property to Balsam Street.

ACTION: Ani to write to the current owners of Lot 17, and if necessary to hire a skip-tracer.

DISCUSSION: trail systems near Gillen, Balsam & Clarendon; also Finn Rd and Twin Beaches areas.

5.5 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORTS:

5.5a Community outreach. Brockley presented Legg’s report previously distributed:

–There are now 84 Facebook members. Goal next month is to increase postings about the benefits of membership.

–The October End-to-End walk was successful—71 participants signed the map. She will use the route map and photos for a future poster.

–Weenks’ guided walks to continue monthly through the winter with more work on orientation.

–Waiting to confirm October 20th bird-watching walk with Jeff Reitkerk.

–“Healing Forest” walk with Heather MacLeod—probably better in the spring.

–Legg wishes to develop and manage a monthly events calendar in 2014 (our 10th anniversary year) to help coordinate our various initiatives. All agreed that such a calendar would be useful.

5.5b: Market and events table: Hemrich reported that

–Attendance at the Commons Fall Fair table was poor because of the weather. But they sold several pebble brochures and a vest.

–Market table: The maps continue to sell well. She has had problems getting volunteers for holiday weekends and needs someone for this last Thanksgiving weekend table.

–She has not applied for a GaLTT table at the Christmas Craft Fairs. They have not been productive for us in the past except for selling Christmas cards, which compete with crafters’ sales.

5.5c Big Tree registry: Boehm reported he is still finding large specimens and is currently searching for a large pine and a large hemlock. Ani has taken over the production of a usable spreadsheet.

5.6 STREAMKEEPERS—Mamoser reported that:

–They have a second draft of their logo , which still needs some minor changes.

–They are planning a one-year anniversary celebration of their achievements. This will serve to thank their volunteers and to recruit new volunteers, including those who have previously shown interest.

MOTION: proposed by John Peirce, seconded by Norm Harburn that GaLTT contribute \$200 toward the costs of the Streamkeepers’ one-year anniversary reception at The Commons on October 19th.

Carried with two abstentions.

5.7 COMMUNICATIONS REPORT: Gehlbach reported

–**Email** reminders were sent about renewing memberships for 2013.

–**Emails** were sent to all members and to GabEvents about the October 6th walk.

–**Newspaper** ads, an article, and Community calendar entries were placed in both local papers for two weeks about the End-to-End walk on October 6.

–**Website:** Regular updates about events and trail work-bees are made to our home page. The Streamkeepers page has been updated with their news and their new logo.

–**Brochures:** she has been working with Megan Walker to re-design our brochure and showed the 2nd draft. DISCUSSION: Board members wish to see more emphasis on what membership fees and donations “buy”—the most frequent question from potential members and donors.

ACTION: Gehlbach to work with Cameron and the designer to refine the content of the brochure draft, including information about the use of fees and donations, and meet next week to finalize it.

5.8 POSAC—Young had no POSAC news to report.

6. OLD BUSINESS:

6.1 Foundation investments. The committee has tentatively decided *not* to invest in a foundation so as to preserve easy access to our capital. They will continue to investigate suitable investments.

6.2 Shell grant. No further action yet

ACTION: Gehlbach to include this on the November agenda

6.3 Strategic planning: Dunsmoor-Farley and Peirce recommend deferring strategic planning until the Spring following the AGM and election of a new board.

ACTION: Gehlbach to begin the planning process for our next AGM.

6.4 Meeting with Bob Rooks:

ACTION: Peirce, Cameron, Ani, and Kerry Marcus to meet with Bob Rooks on October 9th to establish relations and explore possible points of mutual interest.

6.5 Requirements for bike trails: No further action so far.

ACTION: Gehlbach to include this on November’s agenda.

6.6 Millstone quarry site access: No further action so far.

ACTION: Gehlbach to include this on November’s agenda.

6.7 BCLTA covenant management workshop.

ACTION: Workshop participants to board the 8.50am ferry on October 24

6.8 Bike and horse access to trails.

ACTION: Cameron to check our insurance policy.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

7.1 Beach accesses and signage from the shore. Yellow concrete markers are effective, but we need more.

ACTION: Young to raise the issue with POSAC.

7.2 Honorary life memberships: Gehlbach suggested that asking significant donors to the Society for additional membership fees seems inappropriate. As allowed in our Constitution, in recognition of their donations, a certificate of life membership could be awarded to them at AGMs.

MOTION proposed by Jenni Gehlbach, seconded by Norm Harburn that significant donors to GaLTT be awarded honorary life memberships at the Board’s discretion. Carried.

MOTION proposed by David Boehm, seconded by Rob Brockley, that Sally Robinson and the McCollum family be awarded honorary life memberships in GaLTT. Carried.

8. MOTION to move *in camera* to discuss possible land acquisitions proposed by Jenni Gehlbach. Carried. No decisions were made *in camera*, so no motions required.

9. MOTION to adjourn proposed at 9:30pm by Norm Harburn. Carried.

Minutes recorded by Jenni Gehlbach

GABRIOLA LAND AND TRAILS TRUST

Board of Directors meeting

Tuesday November 12, 2013, at WI Hall

Present: David Boehm, Rob Brockley, Tom Cameron, Jenni Gehlbach, Norm Harburn, Carol Hemrich, Anne Landry, Catherine Legg, Melanie Mamoser, John Peirce, Bob Weenk, Randy Young.

Regrets: Madeleine Ani, Dyan Dunsmoor-Farley (Note: Peter Barchyn has resigned.)

6. Meeting called to order at 7.30 pm by Peirce.
7. **AGENDA:** Agenda adopted by consensus with the addition of an *in camera* discussion.
8. **MINUTES** from October 8, 2013:
MOTION: Proposed by Jenni Gehlbach, seconded by Bob Weenk to accept the minutes for the October 8th board meeting as presented. Carried.
9. **CORRESPONDENCE:** A letter was sent by Peirce to support an application for funding by People for a Healthy Community (PHC).
10. **REPORTS:**
 - 5.1: PRESIDENT**—Peirce reported that he:
 - with 6 other board members attended the LTABC workshop on covenants
 - forwarded a new insurance quotation to the treasurer.
 - following a remark by our RDN director, sought to clarify with Dean Gaudry the ownership of the land containing Wilkinson Way Trail to 707-Acre Park
ACTION: Ani to conduct a title search
 - walked the Finn Rd. trail to Balsam and looked at Lot 17's small wetland and critical trail connector. Walked ENE on the trail from the West end of Chelwood to Norwich. This trail needs to be on our trail map since it appears to be on Crown Land.
ACTION: Cameron to maintain a list of changes needed on the next edition of the trail map
 - answered queries (approx. 3 per month) from info@galtr.ca
 - retrieved from Dunsmoor Farley our last management contract with ITF for Elder Cedar prior to renewing comprehensively our relationship with them about Elder Cedar
 - contacted Valdes Island Conservancy (www.valdes-island-conservancy.org) and suggests that GaLTT join them and invite them to join GaLTT. One of their directors may visit Gabriola by boat shortly
MOTION: Proposed by John Peirce, seconded by David Boehm that GaLTT join the Valdes Island Conservancy. Carried
 - installed two yellow concrete markers at the shore ends of the beach-access trails from South Road (near El Verano) and at Shaw Road.
 - arranged with the Harburns to hold the GaLTT potluck Christmas party at their house (560 Spruce) on December 10th, starting with a short meeting at 6pm.
 - 5.2: TREASURER**—Drozd had previously circulated our financial statement to the Board. Major expense this month was the BCLTA conference fees (\$2153). \$1000 was transferred electronically from the high-interest a/c to chequing to cover this expense. Our bank balances on November 12th were:
 - Business High Interest:** \$119,163.42
 - Chequing account:** \$880.15
 - Drozd had sent Cameron & Gehlbach the list of recent new and renewing members.
MOTION: Proposed by Tom Cameron, seconded by Anne Landry to accept the listed individuals and families as active members of GaLTT. Carried.

MOTION: Proposed by Tom Cameron, seconded by Norm Harburn that memberships purchased after October 1st include membership for the following year. Carried.

5.3: TRAIL WORK

Young reported that

- his work party built 48 feet of boardwalk on Petroglyph trail and Wiseacre Woods
- he manufactured several concrete public access signs to install at the shore end of beach access trails.
- he installed two signs at Whalebone Beach accesses; Peirce installed two at False Narrows accesses
- he is organizing *Daphne laurel* removal at Quequeg Park on November 17th

Weenk reported that Girl Scouts have cleared Scotch broom and *Daphne laurel* from the back of the Rollo Centre property.

ACTION: Brockley will remove the fallen tree on Yogi Trail (reported by Harburn).

5.4 ACQUISITIONS & TRAILS REPORT:

Harburn reported that:

–the “Greening your Title” binder (from the LTABC workshop) produced by the West Coast Environmental Law Research Association has useful information on how to do covenants and suggested best practices. He also distributed the LTABC brochure “Saving Your Land”.

ACTION: Harburn and Landry to discover if a copy of this can be kept in the local library.

–the principals involved in the Jacobsen McIntyre trail have our licence template and wish to move forward on this project ASAP.

ACTION: Ani is checking Lot 17 title

–he is discussing the possibility of a trail system connecting 707-acre Park to Dole Road with Jethro Baker and others and is trying to confirm the owner of the property between Keith Drive and Sea Meadow.

ACTION: Harburn and Mamoser to walk the existing trails with Jethro Baker.

–Sandra Tassel will be on Gabriola over American Thanksgiving

ACTION: Harburn and Landry to meet with Tassel to work out a memorandum of understanding regarding monitoring inspections for the Robinson Woods covenant.

DISCUSSION of the small (1/2 acre) wetland covenanted property off Marvin Road. The covenant is currently held by The Land Conservancy, which has been in financial difficulty recently. The Sounder had reported a month or two ago that GaLTT might be taking over this covenant, which was news to us.

ACTION: Harburn and Landry to find out more about the status and terms of this covenant.

5.5 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORTS:

5.5a Community outreach

Legg reported that there are now 88 GaLTT Facebook friends. She has rejected lots of “junk” applicants wishing to advertise. Her goal is to find a way to increase friends’ involvement in GaLTT as members or volunteers.

–13 people attended the bird-watching walk in Coats Marsh on October 20th

–7 walkers explored 707 with Weenk last Saturday

–she is developing a monthly events calendar in 2014 (our 10th anniversary year) to help coordinate our various initiatives (market, walks, trail work, talks, etc.

–she suggests we offer GaLTT membership Christmas gifts—e.g., annual membership +map +card for \$30

ACTION: Gehlbach to email members with this suggestion once details are worked out.

DISCUSSION: There is a need for GaLTT (and other non-profit organizations) to have a “home”—an accessible place to be seen and contacted year round, and a central place for storage; possibly a shared facility with a shared

phone number. Our only public presence now is our market and event tables and those not already involved with GaLTT have no other way of knowing who we are, what we do, or how to join (or rejoin) us. Many Gabriolans never go to the market. Possible central venues such as The Commons, the school, Agi Hall, and Women's Institute Hall were discussed. Sustainable Gabriola (Island Futures) may be interested in this idea.

ACTION: Legg to coordinate Community outreach, Communications, and Events Committees to meet to discuss this issue further.

ACTION: Gehlbach to put this topic on January's agenda

ACTION: Cameron to enquire about the current ownership status of WI Hall

5.5b: Market and events table:

–Hemrich will attend Welcome Wagon's next meeting and needs our new brochure as soon as possible for distribution to newcomers.

–There was a discussion about having a display table in the village occasionally to increase our community visibility/accessibility.

–There has been some confusion in the accounting of money from sales at the market table. Currently those managing the table deliver the money and their report directly to Anne Drozd, so Carol isn't always aware of what has been sold. She would like this procedure to change.

–TRAIL MAP SALES: The current map is selling well (North Road Clothing has sold out). The B&Bs would like to buy maps at a discount so they can offer them free to their guests. Boehm reported that Pages has a large stock of out-of-date trail maps and is not happy.

ACTION: Cameron to pursue discounting maps to B&Bs and replacement of outdated maps with Pages

5.5c Big Tree registry: Boehm reported he is still finding large specimens (such as a large walnut on Dempsey) and would like to take groups in to see them. The Board emphasized that GaLTT groups cannot be encouraged to trespass; property owners' permission would be needed if the viewed trees are on private land.

ACTION: Boehm and Legg to discuss organizing walks to view big trees.

5.6 STREAMKEEPERS—Mamoser reported that:

–They held their one-year anniversary celebration of their achievements and she thanked the board for approving its budget. The cost came in well under budget at \$135.69. About 40 people attended including IT Trustee Sheila Malcolmson, RDN Director Howard Houle, the RDN Drinking Water and Watershed Protection Co-ordinator Julie Pasani, members of the GaLTT board, and Chris Bowers from *The Flying Shingle*. They signed up two new volunteers and two new GaLTT memberships.

–Their next meeting will be on November 21st at 7pm in WI Hall.

–They are continuing with their plans to work with the school and will also work with pre-schoolers.

–They will work with RDN to restore the stream running through the Descanso Bay Park campground.

There was a discussion of starting forage fish protection and restoration initiatives on Gabriola, but currently this is outside the mandates of Streamkeepers and GaLTT.

ACTION: Boehm to pursue this initiative personally, and to contact Ramona De Graf about covering pilings to encourage the laying of herring eggs as was done in Squamish.

5.7 COMMUNICATIONS REPORT: Gehlbach reported

–**Email** was sent to members about Jamie Lawrence selling his scuba gear with proceeds to go to GaLTT. Lawrence says no responses so far.

–**No newspaper** ads this month though the Shingle printed a good report of the Streamkeepers' anniversary.

–**Website:** Regular updates about events and trail work-bees are made to our home page. Board meeting minutes from 2010 to 2013 have been put on the board page in downloadable pdf format.

–**Brochures:** Cameron and Gehlbach have signed off the text and overall design of the new brochure but we are waiting for some more suitable photographs for the volunteer section.

ACTION: Cameron and Gehlbach to complete production of the new brochure, provide Hemrich and Legg with Welcome Wagon copies for newcomers, and investigate the costs of an island-wide mail-out.

5.8 POSAC—Young reported that POSAC has concentrated recently on Mudge Island water access:

- They have approved #15 Davidson Bay for water access development
- They will improve shore access and parking near Driftwood Bay.
- Dodd Narrows viewpoint is MOTI property so cannot be a community park. RDN has no legal rights there
- Community Park work will not include garbage cans and outhouses
- Houle will ask whether a car-top boat ramp can be placed at Flatfish Rd., which isn't park property
- Some of the uses proposed for Huxley aPark may be suitable for the small park off Paisley Place, off Lockinvar.
- Gabriola's *Topographix* (Megan Walker & Cameron Murray) will put together the management plan proposal for Huxley Park, which has been delayed until Spring 2014.

6. OLD BUSINESS:

6.1 Foundation investments. Nothing to report.

ACTION: Gehlbach to include this on the December or January agenda

6.2 Peirce reported that he, Cameron, Ani, and Kerry Marcus had a cordial meeting with Bob Rooks with a frank exchange of ideas and interests. He is currently in several business negotiations and we must wait to see how they unfold, but he is sympathetic to our needs regarding trail access and conservation. His assets are now entirely in Canada, so American Friends is irrelevant to him.

6.3 Bike trail requirements: No report.

ACTION: Gehlbach to include this on the December or January agenda

6.4 Millstone quarry access proposal: No report.

ACTION: Gehlbach to include this on the December or January agenda

6.5 BCLTA covenant management workshop report.

Landry reported that the conference was extremely valuable. The Land Trust Alliance of BC (LTABC) gave two brief workshops on social media and youth education initiatives, but the rest of the two days (including the first evening) was concerned with the long-term management of covenants. The covenant information, presented by BC and national representatives of The Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC), was relevant and timely.

Mamoser also reported that networking opportunities were good, with 20 BC conservancies attending. Wendy from Habitat Acquisition Trust has a Memorandum of Understanding for covenant co-holders that she will share with us if we wish.

–SOCIAL MEDIA & EDUCATION Gehlbach handed the workshop materials about social media and youth outreach education initiatives to Legg. She and Mamoser reported that:

- The LTABC social media expert was enthusiastic about the benefits of using social media, in particular Facebook (FB) and Twitter, for Community outreach and for fund-raising. He discussed what type of page to choose, who should post and what should be posted.
- Galiano has used FB successfully for crowd funding a project.
- He also strongly recommended the use of the FB thumbnail ads, which are good value because they can be targeted to particular viewer profiles, and are charged only when clicked on. FB will then supply statistics about who sees the ads. He also gave handy tips for designing the ads.
- A classroom youth engagement tool has been developed by The Land Conservancy, and has been given to us in print and electronic form. A member of the NALT board who was there is a retired teacher and would welcome a joint initiative with GaLTT to do an educational presentation in Nanaimo's high schools about conservation.

–COVENANTS Material covered by NCC included:

- Is a covenant the right tool for the land?
- Writing covenants
- Baseline document reports
- Monitoring covenants
- Record keeping
- Dealing with covenant violations
- Landowner relations
- Budgeting and fundraising for covenants
- Amending covenants.

It was noted that the risk of covenant violations sharply increases when properties change hands.

Two summary quotes:

Our mission is conservation, not acquisition.

Securement and stewardship = protection. NOT acquisition = protection.

ACTIONS/AREAS OF WORK for GaLTT (unprioritized):

- **CO-HOLDING:** We are co-holders on two covenants (Elder Cedar with NALT & Wharf Road with ITF) and an informal co-holder with American Friends on Robinson Woods. It is important to draft co-holder agreements with our co-holders to clarify our roles and responsibilities and establish a dispute resolution policy. We also need to update our agreement with ITF on management.
- **FINANCES:** We must establish budgets and endowments for on-going monitoring and maintenance of the covenants we hold now; develop policies around budgeting and endowments for future covenants; and consider contingency funds related to potential court cases.
- **MONITORING:** We need to clearly define our responsibilities related to monitoring our current covenants, including policies and procedures. These include developing forms; determining who is conducting the monitoring; deciding how and when to monitor (e.g., consider using the date of signing as the monitoring date); deciding how to mark photo stops along the monitoring route; determining the next steps in following out our monitoring responsibilities. (E.g., What is needed for us to establish a monitoring program for Robinson Woods?)
- **LONG-TERM RECORD KEEPING:** Covenants are in perpetuity so all records must be safely stored for the long term. Policies and procedures are needed for what records are kept, where they are stored, what form they are in, what back-ups are to be stored and where etc. We must consider fire-proof cabinets and/or safety deposit boxes. We could have a checklist of annual tasks (maybe more than just for covenants) to be reviewed for completion a month before each AGM. Madeleine Ani should be included in the record-keeping discussions.
- **RESOURCE DOCUMENTS:** GaLTT should purchase key resource documents from the US Land Trust that cover covenant topics in depth (e.g., covenants, baseline documentation reports, monitoring, fundraising)
- **EQUIPMENT:** Determine what equipment is needed for monitoring and maintaining covenants. Examples are cameras and GPS devices. Establish a policy about whether and when to buy such equipment. Randy Young should be included in equipment discussions.
- **POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:** The need for policy and procedures for many aspects of covenants was stressed during the workshop. They should be in place BEFORE an issue arises (E.g., project selection criteria, dispute resolution procedures, how to deal with covenant violations.) GaLTT's current policies and procedures should be reviewed. Dyan Duns Moor Farley should be involved in these discussions.

NEXT STEPS: After discussion and revision of the above the next action steps will be to

- Set priorities
- Assign responsibilities for each action item
- Set timelines.

6.6 Bike and horse trail use insurance. No report.

ACTION: Gehlbach to include this on the December or January agenda.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

7.1 AGM. Peter Barchyn has resigned but all other current board members are willing to continue. Sam Betts and Adrienne Vance were suggested as possible candidates.

ACTION: Peirce to discuss GaLTT board with Sam Betts.

ACTION: Mamoser to discuss GaLTT board with Adrienne Vance.

The first week of February (before the Winter Olympics start) was selected as a good time for our AGM.

ACTION: Gehlbach to check the availability of The Haven's Phoenix Auditorium that week.

Various possible speakers attractive to a wider audience were suggested: Katie Blake from the BC office of NCC; landscape artist Carol Evans of Victoria (featured in the museum's hippy display); Robert Bateman, artist conservationist, and Salt Spring Islander.

ACTION: Peirce to contact Robert Bateman and Carol Evans about their availability, affordability, and willingness to come to our AGM the first week of February 2014, or for a separate event later in the spring.

7.2 Valdes Island Conservancy Already dealt with Motion in Item 5.1.

7.3 ACTION: Cameron will book Women's Institute Hall for two hours every second Tuesday evening throughout 2014.

8. MOTION to move *in camera* to discuss conversations with landowners regarding access and conservation, proposed by Jenni Gehlbach, seconded by Norm Harburn. Carried.

9. MOTION to adjourn proposed at 9.50pm by David Boehm. Carried.

Minutes recorded by Jenni Gehlbach

GABRIOLA LAND AND TRAILS TRUST

Board of Directors meeting

Thursday December 12, 2013, at Norm Harburn's home

Present: David Boehm, Rob Brockley, Tom Cameron, Jenni Gehlbach, Norm Harburn, Carol Hemrich, Anne Landry, Melanie Mamoser, John Peirce, Randy Young.

Regrets: Madeleine Ani, Dyan Dunsmoor-Farley, Catherine Legg, Bob Weenk.

1. Meeting called to order at 6 pm by Peirce.
2. **AGENDA:** Agenda adopted by consensus.
3. **MINUTES** from November 12, 2013:
MOTION: Proposed by Jenni Gehlbach, seconded by Norm Harburn to accept the minutes for the November 12th board meeting as presented. Carried.
4. **CORRESPONDENCE:**
 - Cameron reported we have received a greeting card from ITF thanking us for our work.
 - Peirce reported an email from Kate Emmings requesting permission to include us in their unified GIS-based database of protected areas. It was informally agreed that this was acceptable.
5. **REPORTS:**
 - 5.1: PRESIDENT—** Peirce reported that he has:
 - answered queries received at info@gallt.ca including a report of a dangerous tree on the trail off Stalker Rd. (no action taken yet)
 - discussed the need for a new Management Agreement for Elder Cedar as requested by ITF. The old agreement is at the end of its 5-year cycle. Covenant Committee has a copy of the 2008 agreement.
ACTION: Covenant Committee with Dunsmoor-Farley to draft a Management Agreement for Elder Cedar.
 - Someone (a nearby landowner?) has twice removed the yellow beach access marker from the shore near El Verano. It is currently at the South Road end of the trail.
ACTION: Young and Peirce to establish the exact location of the DLS section pin and the road allowance to resolve the issue.
 - Spent time with Sandy Tassel of American Friends and her husband Craig.
 - Attended meeting with Tassel and Sally Robinson about coordinating the monitoring of Robinson Woods.
 - Met with Cameron and Nigel Hart (a financial advisor who was on the first board of GaLTT) to discuss various investment options that go beyond GICs but remain moderately conservative and avoid contentious companies.
ACTION: Peirce to get copies of their investment policies from SSC and NALT.
 - Drafted an invitation to Robert Bateman to speak at our AGM and left it with Michelle Benjamin (Arts Council) who knows Bateman.
 - 5.2: TREASURER—**Drozd had previously circulated our financial statement. Cameron reported that:
 - he has paid the coming year's rent for our meetings at Women's Institute Hall.
 - he spoke with Michelle Benjamin of the Arts Council who says they are expecting to take over WI Hall in the Spring and will continue to rent the hall to other non-profits. He expressed our support for the concept of preserving and maintaining the Hall and suggested that we might be able to partner with them to develop and use the property's 0.7 acres.
 - he has issued cheques for newspaper advertising, GaLTT shirts & vests, streamkeeper expenses, and trail building materials at Arbutus Lumber.
 - we have received a \$10,000 donation (of appreciated stocks) via Canada Helps this month.

Our bank balances on December 12th were:

Business High Interest (1.05%): \$119,266.26

Chequing account (0.01%): \$10,739.02 (following the donation)

–he worked with Gehlbach to sign off the contents of the new brochure and has solicited competitive bids for the printing. Gallery Press was initially much higher than two Nanaimo printers, but reduced his price somewhat; he was still higher but we decided to support this local business. The brochure will be published in early January.

–he met with CCCU regarding long-term investment strategies.

–he reviewed and renewed our insurance policies through Megson FitzPatrick Insurance Services and added Hemrich’s address as an insured property related to our market materials stored there.

–completed membership application for Valdez Island Conservancy.

–Drozd had sent Cameron & Gehlbach the list of recent new and renewing members.

MOTION: Proposed by Tom Cameron, seconded by Jenni Gehlbach to accept the listed individuals and families as active members of GaLTT. Carried.

ACTION: Gehlbach to send Young the list of new members, for his trail-work list.

5.3: TRAIL WORK

Young reported that there’s been little activity this month because the weather was too dry to allow safe broom pulling. He removed some Daphne laurel from the Whalebone corridor at Howard Houle’s request. The BC Government website for reporting invasive species is not working.

5.4 ACQUISITIONS & TRAILS REPORT: Harburn, Landry and Ani reported that the committee:

–gave the two extra copies of “Greening your Title” to Gehlbach for our files and to the Gabriola library for their local reference section. The Committee has two copies.

–has exchanged emails with Anne Kerr of NALT about useful templates and resources for covenant work and recognized the need for a covenant co-holder agreement. Kerr has started work on a draft.

–has received two covenant co-holder templates from Wendy Tyrell at Habitat Acquisitions Trust that should be useful for developing our agreements.

–Landry, Harburn and Peirce met with Sandy tassel (AF) to discuss a working agreement for the Sally Robinson covenant.

ACTION: GaLTT Covenant Committee to produce a template for yearly review of the Robinson covenanted property. They will also review the property and send their report to the landowner and to American Friends (AF). AF will reimburse GaLTT for related expenses (with receipts). It is up to GaLTT to decide on the use of volunteers vs. consultants.

–the registered owner of the “Gaudry” property is Lauren Isabella Young. She is Gaudy’s wife.

ACTION: Cameron to put her name on the insurance regarding Wilkinson Way trail, rather than Gaudry’s.

ACTION Harburn to contact Lauren Young about the trail and insurance.

–the registered owners of Lot 17 at the corner of Balsam and the old winery are Marc and Judy Oljaca. The properties involved in the trail from Berry Point Road to Balsam are owned by McIntyre, Jacobsen, & the Oljacas

ACTION: Ani to skip trace the Oljacas to enable us to move forward on this trail; also, to write a letter to Chris and Len Jacobsen.

–the “Keith Trail” property is registered under the name Michael Luchuk.

ACTION: Landry to contact Michael Luchuck through info on LinkedIn. If that is not the correct owner, then **Ani** will order a skip trace.

5.5 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORTS:

5.5a Community outreach. Legg emailed her report that she:

–organized a Saturday morning walk December 14 from 707 to Taid Rd. with Bob Weenk.

- organized a December 15 early morning shore-bird-watching walk at Sandwell Park with Jeff Reitkerk.
- posted about these walks on Facebook (page now has 95 members)
- met with Hemrich and Gehlbach to discuss community activities, storage requirements, and Xmas gift memberships. Supplied Kraft paper for wrapping.

ACTION: Board members to give Legg dates and info for her 2014 GaLTT Activities Calendar.

5.5b: Market and events: Hemrich met with Legg and Gehlbach to discuss storage requirements and the gift memberships, which she will process as they are received and arrange for delivery or pickup.

5.5c Big Tree registry: Boehm reported he now has the required spreadsheet program on his computer.

5.6 STREAMKEEPERS—Mamoser reported that:

–They have applied for the needed permits for data collection and for rehabilitation projects in Winthuysen Creek in Descanso Bay Park.

–They have received money from DFO for stream-keeping kits.

They are hoping to present Alex Morton’s “Salmon Confidential” in the New Year.

DISCUSSION: This might be a good alternate presentation for our AGM if Bateman cannot come.

5.7 COMMUNICATIONS: Gehlbach reported

–she has provisionally booked Phoenix Auditorium for our AGM on Tuesday, February 4th 2014.

ACTION: Peirce to contact alternative speakers if Bateman cannot come to our AGM.

Mamoser to approach Adrienne Vance about joining the board.

–**Email** reminders were sent to delinquent members about renewing memberships for 2014.

–**Emails** were sent to all members about the December 14th and 15th walks and about buying Xmas gift memberships.

–**Facebook & web page** announcements about gift memberships and about the guided walks.

–**Newspaper** ad about gift memberships and donations.

–**Brochures:** she and Cameron signed off the brochure’s contents with Megan Walker and approved printer’s proofs.

–Passed LTABC covenant conference materials to Jinny Hayes for the Commons Covenant team.

–Met with Hemrich and Legg to discuss storage needs and organize the Christmas gift membership drive.

–Talked with Jinny Hayes, Judith Roux, and Susan Yates about a putting a storage locker or shed at the Commons and filled in the *Share the Commons* Application form. Also informally discussed the idea of a long-term headquarters for the various non-profit organizations, which Yates said is “on their radar”, though they currently have no space.

ACTION: Gehlbach to attend the January *Share the Commons* team meeting.

5.8 POSAC—Young had no POSAC news to report except that Houle would like some of the 707-acre Park signposts to be turned.

6. OLD BUSINESS: deferred to January board meeting

7. NEW BUSINESS: none to report

8. MOTION to adjourn to potluck party proposed at 6.45pm by Jenni Gehlbach. Carried.

Minutes recorded by Jenni Gehlbach