

Bella Coola Valley Tourism

April 6th, 2021 MINUTES

Location: Zoom Meeting

Date: April 6th, 2021



Present: Sherry C, Jayme K, Carsten G, Tom H, Jan P,

Regrets: Abra S, Bobby S

Absent:

Guests:

Call to Order: 7:12pm

1. Adoption of Agenda MOTION: CG/ JK

2. Adoption of February's Minutes MOTION: SC/ JK

3. Business Arising from February (& March AGM):

- Date set for **Town Cleanup Day**: Saturday, May 22nd. Two announcements will be in CMN paper to gather support. Holly W (former BCVT director) inquired about involving BC Search & Rescue & BC Watershed Society to cleanup the rivers & tributaries. TH will follow up w/ Holly. Cleanup Day grant application submitted to CCRD for funding. No word on approval yet. (CCRD APPROVED 5/14/21)
- **Visitor Information Booth** to open sometime in June, though not clear what date. Two student staff are lined up (Lily Carlson & Thomas Northeast). TH is co-ordinating job trainings with Keith H of Nunumus Management. TH attended a DBC ZOOM Visitor Training meeting. BCVT is enrolled for one director & two staff for a full day of online training (similar to Community Ambassador course).
 - **Volunteers needed:** COVID supplies need to be installed last week in May.
Jan P & Chris volunteered - Thank You
- **Membership payments** are slowly arriving. Members also updating their webpages. I'll be sending out dues reminders during the next two months
- **Hwy 20 road conditions** are the worst ever. Dawson contacted to the hundreds fix bad spots
- **Pacific Coastal** airlines hasn't increased flight for their summer schedule (currently 3x weekly). I called PCA & was told there is still a chance of daily flights, if there is demand (Saturdays Added)

starting in June).

- BC Ferries first NSW arrival will be Tuesday, June 22nd. Arrivals scheduled 3x wkly until the end of September
- **Social Media:** No information yet: Contact w/ *Land Without Limits* social media coordinator for any pointers or tips to attract more online viewers. (TH & CCCTA staff playing phone tag)

4. New Business:

- **Insurance Pool for Memberships:** Jan P, has volunteered to pursue a Membership insurance plan
- **Bear Advisory Committee** TH met with Rae Kokeš, the new Bella Coola WildSafeBC Community Coordinator re: **Bear Facts poster**. She was helpful & provided good information. The draft content will be presented at the next Human Safety Committee for approval later this week.
- TH attended a ZOOM **Bella Coola Community Forest** meeting. Mainly discussed strategic community outreach programs & scheduled meeting again later this month. TH setup BCCF's YouTube channel to help with community announcements/presentations. TH communicated with Hans G re: growing unrest w/ Saloompt logging plans
- TH wrote a Letter of Support to the **Resource Society** & three ministers: *Minister of Environment & Climate Change Strategy, Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations Region & District Contacts & Minister of Tourism, Arts, & Culture* for a prohibition on **old growth logging** w/in the valley (Not yet sent). A local resident's letter of support to prohibit logging in the **Lost Lake area** was published in CMN & a similar petition was started on FB to present to the Resource Society.
- **Annual Membership Dues** are trickling in (mostly through INTERAC). TH will send out receipts with bear-pictured playing cards (donated) to the members.
- **BCVT is no longer storing supplies at Bella Coola Storage.** 101 Things..guides, TV & DVD player removed to setup & housed at the VIB in June.
- **Garbage** emptied at Radcliff pullout by Tom H (during the last week in April) Jan P will set up a contract with Thor D to start empty the garbage starting Victoria Day Weekend

5. Open Forum:

- **Grant Update:** Jan P stated next opening for beautification grants in June (Bike Trails in September). Directors mentioned cleaning the defaced MacKenzie rock, but after discussion it was decided to let CCRD take that on. Benches will all have Nuxalk carvings.
- **Visitor Guides** stored at the Co-Op. Shop Easy isn't as eager to house guides, so stocking will be more labor intensive.

7. Reports: President / Marketing:

- **Summer Promotions** - TH had two radio interviews (CBC & Global) to promote tourism. Several successful FB posts including Fishing & Hiking, one Ferry paid promotion on FB All ads marketed to provincial residents, but had inquiries from almost every province in Canada. Campers have

been the largest segment of inquiries.

- TH updated the Bella Coola website's **COVID** information & will continue as provincial travel restrictions change (possibly with provincial Vaccine passports?).
- **New Member:** Grizzly & 4Bros marine tours, provided G4B carries & presents proof of insurance insurance. Witing on payment. Web page completed.
- Visitor Emails inquiries slowly picking up by the day

8. Treasurer's Report: (delayed this month due to bookkeeper out of town)

9. Adjournment: 7:55

Bella Coola Valley Tourism Box 670, Bella Coola, British Columbia V0T 1C0
Telephone: (250)799-5202 www.bellacoola.ca ~ info@bellacoola.ca