

## **MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Gabriola Transportation Association**

**Held:** On Tuesday, May 28, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Gabriola Community Hall.

**Present:** 5 members in person or by proxy, as per the registration sheet, plus one Gabriola elected official.

There being a quorum present per Bylaw 13(iii), the meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Jim Ramsay, President.

### **Notice of Meeting/Minutes**

The Secretary, Jim Ramsay, reported that notice of the meeting had been duly issued in accordance with Bylaw 10. Minutes of the AGM held on May 2, 2012 were approved as circulated, with correction to the meeting of Directors following the AGM to reflect appointment of André Lemieux as Treasurer, rather than Erik Andersen.

### **President's Report**

The President, Jim Ramsay, reported on GTA's fifth year, which has ended with a number of significant transportation issues, to be discussed later on the agenda. He noted that GTA is an umbrella organization intended to co-ordinate transportation issues on behalf of the residents of Gabriola Island.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer, André Lemieux, reported that the Transit Study Trust Account balance of \$5,549.08 was transferred to Island Futures Society and that special account has been closed. The General Account balance is \$15.00. The Treasurer's report was approved.

### **Appointment of Auditor**

In accordance with Bylaw 53, it was moved, seconded and carried to waive appointment of an auditor.

### **Public Transit**

Jim Ramsay reported that the 3 year pilot project Gabriola Community Bus service is tentatively scheduled to begin on June 3, 2013 following final approval by the RDN Board of \$30,000 from the Community Works Fund to cover the purchase of two used buses. As part of a soft launch, the first week's fares will be by donation. Following an official opening on June 8, regular service should begin on June 10. The meeting expressed great satisfaction at this significant transportation addition to the Island.

John Hodgkins reported on two meetings of the Nanaimo Transit Future Stakeholder Advisory Group. Following John's suggestion of a shuttle bus between the Gabriola Ferry Terminal and the Departure Bay Ferry Terminal, a new Route 25 bus has been started to provide just such a service.

It was proposed that a more generic body should be considered to represent all transportation modes on Gabriola, like Bowen Island which has combined its Ferry

Advisory Committee with a Transportation Advisory Commission; however, Island Trustee Gisele Rudischer suggested Bowen's situation is different being a municipality with a taxpayer-funded transit service.

### **Ferry**

As Chair of the Ferry Advisory Committee, John Hodgkins reviewed the results of the FAC meeting of April 3, 2013: (a) Gabriola parking lot issues were discussed, including suggested less restricted crew parking following the daily shift change at 3:10 pm. (b) Only 30 minutes of overtime is paid each day in the longer schedule, with costs offset by fuel savings due lower speeds. Following the Provincial election, the government has announced there will be no change to schedules until April 2014. Next steps following the public consultation process are not known.

Following discussion, it was moved by André Lemieux, seconded by Randy Young, and carried:

- THAT all members of GTA should look into information that would result in reducing Gabriola ferry costs.

### **Roads**

Jim Ramsay reported that at the meeting of GTA, Chamber of Commerce and Ratepayers' representatives with MoTI officials held in Nanaimo on January 23, 2013 it was agreed that a public meeting would be held on Gabriola "this summer". It was proposed that this meeting should be planned for the last week of June at the Agi Hall if possible. Items to be discussed will include the following:

- Positive actions by Emcon since last June's public meeting, such as line painting, use of good-quality gravel and dust suppression.
- Pedestrian/cycle movements from the ferry, including signage.
- Requested monthly sweeping of road shoulders.
- Traffic management measures within the Village corridor.
- Road infrastructure improvements at dangerous intersections, including Church/North Roads, Ferry Terminal and Taylor Bay/North Roads.
- Coast Road seal coat proposal.

### **Other Transportation**

It was reported that the RDN's Community Works Fund has now allocated \$65,000 for planning of the proposed off-road cycling and pedestrian trail from South Road to Tin Can Alley.

## **Other Business**

Randy Young proposed that consideration be given to creating a Transportation Advisory Committee to the RDN, similar to POSAC for Parks which has a budget. Trustee Rudischer noted that, unlike parks, there is no Gabriola transportation funded by taxpayers, which would be necessary to have a budget and staff resources. It was agreed this matter should be considered further and discussed with our Regional Director.

## **Election of Directors**

The following were elected as Directors for a one year term: Erik Andersen, John Hodgkins, André Lemieux, Jim Ramsay and Randy Young.

Regional Director Houle has declined to appoint a Director in accordance with Bylaw 23.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

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Immediately following the AGM, a meeting of the Board of Directors was convened with the following in attendance:

Erik Andersen  
John Hodgkins  
André Lemieux  
Jim Ramsay  
Randy Young

The following officers were elected:

President	- Jim Ramsay	Treasurer - André Lemieux
Vice-President	- Randy Young	Secretary - Jim Ramsay

The Board extended its thanks to the Community Hall Association for providing this meeting space without charge to GTA under their new policy for non-profit AGMs.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.