

BOWEN ISLAND MUNICIPALITY

Minutes of the **Bowen Island Municipality Ferry Advisory Committee Meeting** held on Wednesday, June 4, 2008 at 7:15 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Bowen Island Municipal Hall, 981 Artisan Lane, Bowen Island, British Columbia.

Amended July 2, 2008

M. Watson

COMMITTEE IN ATTENDANCE

Bob Lalonde – Chair
Doug Elliott
Daniel Heald
Trish Jacquet

COUNCIL IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Morse

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Elizabeth Ballantyne*
Gayle Ferguson – Minute Taker
(*denotes partial attendance)

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**It was Moved and Seconded**

That the agenda for the June 4, 2008 Bowen Island Municipality Ferry Advisory Committee meeting be approved as amended.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

Minutes of the May 7, 2008 Meeting

It was Moved and Seconded

That adoption of the minutes of the regular Bowen Island Municipality Ferry Advisory Committee meeting held on May 7, 2008 be deferred to the July meeting.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

The Chair noted that there were a number of items from the previous meeting to be discussed with BC Ferries. Those issues would be added to the agenda of the Committee's July 2, 2008 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Summer Ferry Schedule and Communication Rationale

The Chair noted that the Committee had previously communicated their concern to BC Ferries regarding BC Ferries' decision to have two schedules, with the summer schedule effective June 25, 2008.

Committee members present at BC Ferries presentation to explain the rationale for the change commented that BC Ferries had admitted to not knowing whether the schedule change would make a positive difference in on-time performance.

Elizabeth Ballantyne: An Integrated Transportation Approach

Elizabeth Ballantyne read from her document regarding an integrated transportation approach. Key issues were:

- Suggestion that as the Bowen Island Municipality Ferry Advisory Committee was in a position to act as a catalyst for change, it could assist in encouraging public transportation. She believed that the Committee could play a proactive role to bring BC Ferries and TransLink together in this time when there is a need to minimize the impact of vehicle transportation;
- BC Ferries Customer Services, Policies and Procedures – as a traveler on BC Ferries and Translink, she requested the Committee to investigate procedures to optimize connections and communications with passengers;
- BC Ferries meeting marine needs of British Columbians – deserve clarification on authority of Terminal Manager to make decisions regarding departure time; what is BC Ferries procedure currently? Is it arbitrary or is there a rationale?

The Chair agreed to move forward with the above and requested Elizabeth to e-mail a copy of her document.

Communication of schedule

The Committee discussed the following issues regarding communication to the Public of the upcoming schedule change:

- Schedule could be posted on the Forum, Municipal website and in the *Undercurrent* ;
- 257 bus schedule – it appears that BC Ferries have not coordinated the new schedule with TransLink;
- Councillor Morse is to discuss with Greg Curry, from West Van Transit, if changes will be made to accommodate BC Ferries new schedule for Bowen Island;
- The need for an integrated transportation approach and a ferry schedule that runs on time.

The Chair agreed to receive comments from Committee members on Doug's draft document and revise the draft.

Also to respond to Mr. DeSante's letter regarding the schedule change.

New Member for the Committee

Daniel agreed to contact Kim DeSante to request him to join the Committee as a user of the extended system.

CCFAC/MOT Meeting
Coastal Community Ferry
Advisory Committee Meeting
(CCFAC)

Councillor Morse reported on the May 22, ~~2006~~ 2008 meeting of the Coastal Community Ferry Advisory Committee Chairs and representatives from the Ministry of Transportation:

- Everyone seemed happy with the tone of the meeting but unhappy regarding the fact that there were no promises about fare increases;
- General agreement that there needs to be a long term sustainable strategy for minor routes in the Performance Term Three contract;
- Discussed tourism and economic development agencies and how we should meet with those separately. There is a concern related to the ridership dropping;
- Integrated transportation plan was discussed;
- Meeting outcome – a two day meeting in the Fall with the Commissioner and BC Ferries.

The Chair commented that the CCFAC serves as a means to communicate the issue of sustainability of the communities. The government as sole owner needs to recognize the effect of the Ferry system on communities they are serving. He suggested that Council be informed of the work of the CCFAC through a report from this Committee that could be forwarded with the minutes.

Councillor Morse agreed to draft a one page document regarding the terms of reference and objectives of the CCFAC for review by the Committee at the July 2, 2008 meeting.

BIM and BC Ferries

Councillor Morse reported on the recent meeting with various departments of BC Ferries and Municipal staff and council members:

1. The objective of the meeting was to discuss infrastructure issues below Cardena Road;
2. Meeting again on June 19, 2008;
3. First step is to have drawings and a plan agreed upon by both parties;
4. Alan Boniface suggested that whatever was done,

planning suggested by the Snug Cove Master Plan or Ekistics for that area, should not be disrupted;

5. Cost – option to have BC Ferries add surcharge on tickets as a way to pay for infrastructure improvements.

BIM Translink Meeting

Councillor Morse noted that the meeting with Municipal staff and TransLink’s strategic planning group was an exploratory meeting regarding how transportation planning was done, what the contract covers, Peter King’s contract and how the Municipality can have input related to bus schedules.

Smartcard

The Chair agreed to discuss the issue of the use of the smartcard at busy commuting times with BC Ferries Jason Bowman.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Next Meeting

July 2, 2008.