

BOWEN ISLAND MUNICIPALITY

Minutes of the **Bowen Island Municipality Ferry Advisory Committee Meeting** held on Wednesday, September 3, 2008 at 7:15 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Bowen Island Municipal Hall, 981 Artisan Lane, Bowen Island, British Columbia.

COMMITTEE IN ATTENDANCE

Bob Lalonde – Chair
Doug Elliott
Daniel Heald
Trish Jacquet*

COUNCIL IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Alison Morse

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Gayle Ferguson – Minute Taker
(*denotes partial attendance)

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

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

That the agenda for the September 3, 2008 Bowen Island Municipality Ferry Advisory Committee meeting be approved as amended.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

Minutes of the July 2, 2008 Meeting

It was Moved and Seconded

That the minutes of the regular Bowen Island Municipality Ferry Advisory Committee meeting held on July 2, 2008 be adopted.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Measurement of Performance

The Chair agreed to follow up with Jason Bowman, Regional Director, Horseshoe Bay Regional Terminal Operations regarding whether any action had been taken on moving the cut-off time for measuring on-time performance from ten to five minutes.

BCF Student Transportation Issues

The Chair noted that there were a number of issues involving the School District and BC Ferries, which are a concern to this Committee and the community. He suggested that the Committee be more proactive and ensure that there is representation at meetings.

It was agreed that either Trish or the Chair would attend meetings between the School District and BC Ferries.

FAC Appointment Process

The Chair reported that BC Ferries had indicated no change in the process of representation for the coming years and BC Ferries would continue to accept BIMFAC as BC Ferries, Ferry Advisory Committee.

Schedule

The Chair agreed to follow up with BC Ferries regarding their promise to have one, year round schedule.

New Member

Daniel agreed to continue his attempts to contact Kim De Sante and request him to join the Committee as a user of the extended system.

Ferry Vehicle Marshalling

The Committee agreed that BC Ferries send people or pay for a marshalling person from the Island for busy traffic days.

NEW BUSINESS

Complaint – BCF personal information requirements

It was agreed that the issue of personal information requirements be discussed at the next meeting with BC Ferries regarding their rationale for requiring so much personal information.

BCF /BCFA annual meetings &CCFAC meeting of Aug 26 & 27

Councillor Morse reported on the annual meetings held August 26 & 27, 2008 with BC Ferries, BC Ferries Advisory Committees and the Coastal Chairs Ferry Advisory Committee. She commented on the following issues:

- How to convince the Province that the communities are suffering. All communities' ferry traffic stats are down. Bowen's stats are less significant than the other minor routes;
- Tourism impact has been significant;
- How to go forward – Northern Routes are in process of finalizing a strategy;
- BC Ferries looking at other ways to raise revenue. There are huge labour costs as well as fuel;
- Discussion of an innovation workshop re reducing costs, i.e. split shifts;
- BC Ferries Business Plan – setting up a tourism centre in Vancouver and expanding the use of the experience card;
- Next meeting – accounting issues regarding fuel charge and proper tracking;
- Commissioner Martin Crilly – there is a reluctance to

reduce service. The Commissioner will look at the contract and the Act. Issue was raised that there is no incentive for BC Ferries to be creative. First thrust is to arrange a meeting with the Minister to have the savings go back to the user;

- Tourism Economic Plans – Ferries are not mentioned;
- BC Ferries Annual Report – Bowen Island route tariff revenue was \$7.1 million. Operating expenses were \$10 million. Province put in \$5 million to support the Bowen Island route, which had 57% utilization for the year;
- Annual report from the Commissioner – lack of improvement on minor routes.

Communications

The Chair suggested that the Committee look at ways to improve communication with Council and the general public. This Committee should decide on what issues we want to give a brief succinct message on.

Committee members suggested the following:

- a press release from CCFAC – would like it to be put up on the BIM website;
- Articles in BIMLink;
- Writing a Ferry Chat – a summary of events, i.e., one around the kids and another around the CCFAC.

Cut-off time

The Committee discussed the following issues regarding the 10 minute cut-off time:

- Is the ten minute cut-off appropriate for the Bowen Island run?
- Should it apply to the last sailing?
- Should there not be the ability to make judgements, i.e., last sailing, 200 students;
- Is BC Ferries running on time with the 10 minute cut-off time? Need to look at stats. Can we attribute it to the ten minute cut-off?

The Committee agreed to add the ten minute cut-off time to the agenda for the meeting with BC Ferries in November.

Next Meetings

October 1, 2008 – regular BIMFAC meeting.
November 5, 2008 – meeting with BC Ferries.
November 12, 2008 regular BIMFAC meeting.

Temporary Ferry Structure on South Dock

Council Morse reported that Council had agreed to go ahead with the building of a temporary waiting shelter on the South dock at an approximate cost of \$7500.

Ferry Schedule and Filming
Activities

A Committee member suggested that vehicles related to filming activities on the Island should not come on the busy commuter sailing times.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.