

Adopted on October 5, 2011

BOWEN ISLAND MUNICIPALITY

Minutes of the **Bowen Island Municipal Ferry Advisory Committee Meeting** held on Thursday August 3, 2011 at 5:15 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Bowen Island Municipal Hall.

COMMITTEE IN ATTENDANCE Kim De Sante, Chair
Bill Van Luven

COUNCIL IN ATTENDANCE Councillor Alison Morse

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE Gayle Ferguson – Minute Taker

CALL TO ORDER The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:24 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA **It was Moved and Seconded**
That the agenda for the Bowen Island Municipality Ferry Advisory Committee August 3, 2011 meeting, including the On Table Items Agenda be approved.
CARRIED

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES **It was Moved and Seconded**
That the minutes of the Bowen Island Municipality Ferry Advisory Committee meeting held May 10, 2011 be adopted.
CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Resignation from Daniel Heald The Chair noted that Daniel Heald had resigned from the Committee.

Bulletin Board The Committee discussed the procedure for posting notices on the Queen of Capilano’s community board and agreed to leave the situation as it is with BC Ferries staff posting notices.

Passenger Disembarking on car deck The Chair noted he would email Daron, Customer Service and Jason Bowman Director of Terminals regarding:
• the ongoing issue related to the safety of passengers waiting on the car deck while cars disembark;
• the need to make the Public aware that there the Customer Service desk is now in the Passenger Terminal

NEW BUSINESS

North Shore Transit Plan	Councillor Morse reported that Translink have finished their preliminary vision of the North Shore Transit Plan. She further noted that better connections to buses should be considered as it is Bowen Islanders who are paying taxes to Translink, not Langdale or Nanaimo residents.
Information preparation for August 23, 2011 FAC Chairs meeting	It was noted that during the meeting with Blair Lekstrom, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, although short, the Minister was the first to openly acknowledge that fare increases were having an impact on the community. The press is also being supportive. Issues discussed: <ul data-bbox="662 779 1422 1129" style="list-style-type: none">• price caps to be reset in April 2013;• the \$515 million needs to increase to \$582 million so is where price increase is and represents an 8.9% increase for next four years compounded;• the Committee could suggest strategies to the community on how they might save money;• message to the Commissioner should acknowledge the Committee/Public needs more input from BC Ferries regarding capital costs and priorities.
Ferry Marshalling and BIMFAC	The Committee is interested in the ferry marshalling issue and in communicating with the community regarding community's ideas for ferry marshalling.
Proposed FAC Community Involvement Blog/Brochure	Bill suggested involving the community by creating a blog site or brochure related to strategies for keeping commuters' cost down. For example a parking spot in Horse Shoe Bay, carpooling or best time of day to travel. He suggested the Committee could start by having a series of ongoing articles in the <i>Undercurrent</i> , which could turn into a blog site. The Committee could also ask BC Ferries to collaborate. Issues discussed: <ul data-bbox="662 1717 1422 1866" style="list-style-type: none">• blog or website - could have a webpage for commuter suggestions or a site by BC Ferries. Bill has a template;• blog is a sounding board for bringing in suggestions/ideas and Bill could manage it;

- Bill to provide more information at the September FAC meeting

BC Fares: Next Response

Councillor Morse noted that the Municipality had sent a letter to the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure endorsing the letter from the Islands Trust requesting that economic and social considerations be taken into account when establishing fares and service levels for ferry dependent communities like the Gulf Islands.

The Committee discussed the following issues:

- BC Ferries branding at a cost of \$2.3 million for the Queen of Capilano interior upgrades;
- performance Term 3 - suggestion that all capital expenses related to Route 8 be made public in advance of the next contract so that we could have input in determining priorities on how our money is spent;
- suggestion - go to community and say what are your priorities and then present that to BC Ferries i.e. top three;
- Bowen's priority – keeping fare increases at a reasonable level is the community's top priority. We are different than other communities with high and low incomes but no medium;
- capital works being done on main routes – is it more than is necessary for good route maintenance?

CORRESPONDENCE

The Chair noted that the following emails had been responded to by the letter published in the *Undercurrent*

Email dated May 14, 2011 from B. Wallace

The Committee received for information the Email dated May 14, 2011 from B. Wallace

Email dated May 14, 2011 from L. Haigh

The Committee received for information the Email dated May 14, 2011 from L. Haigh

Email dated May 17, 2011 from Seniors Keeping Young

The Committee received for information the Email dated May 17, 2011 from Seniors Keeping Young and noted that the email had been forwarded to BC Ferries and to the Commissioner

Email dated May 16, 2011 from

The Committee received for information the Email dated

Gordon Ganong May 16, 2011 from Gordon Ganong

Next Meeting September 8, 2011 at 6:15 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.