

Adopted on January 11, 2012

BOWEN ISLAND MUNICIPALITY

Minutes of the **Bowen Island Municipal Ferry Advisory Committee Meeting** held on Wednesday October 5, 2011 at 7:15 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

CALL TO ORDER The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA **By unanimous consent** the Committee approved the agenda for the Bowen Island Municipality Ferry Advisory Committee October 5, 2011 meeting with the addition of BCF meeting, the Commission meeting, Snug Cove Planning and Reports on BCF AGM, Island Trust BCF Commissioner meeting and UBCM Ministry of Transportation meeting.

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES **By unanimous consent** the Committee adopted the minutes of the Bowen Island Municipality Ferry Advisory Committee meeting held August 3, 2011 were adopted.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Meeting with BCF Oct 13, 2011 The committee identified the following items they wished to raise with BCF:

- transit connections;
- bulletin board;
- cut-off time;
- lower gate closing;
- foot passengers on the car deck;
- presetting the ramp to save time;
- fuel surcharges;
- operational detail information.

Meeting with BCF Commissioner October 15, 2011

Committee to meet at the Gallery at 9:30 to set up. The Committee agreed that they should present the survey results to the Commissioner, particularly the results that related to the effect of the high fares and the concern that BCF does not seem willing to address the issues of the community with regards to service. Some examples include the lower gate closing and the difficulties being

encountered by foot passengers with mobility issues or encumbrances having to use the overhead walkway.

Snug Cove Marshalling Plans

Councillor Morse updated the committee on the Snug Cove Planning process and reports presented to Council by James Tuer. Discussion ensued about ferry marshalling. The question was asked if it was worth the real estate to add the extra lane as the traffic flows well once it starts to move. Would that much time be saved? The committee identified the problem areas being parking in the ferry line-up, the dash for the dock, and parking around the library. It was noted that there had been a recent accident with the bus in the through lane hitting a car that was pulling out of the ferry line-up lane and that perhaps now the police would pay more attention to the issue. One solution that was suggested which would keep people from parking in the ferry lane was to install a yellow low curb similar to what is on the left of the lane into Horseshoe Bay.

BCF Annual General Meeting

Councillor Morse updated the committee on the FACC meetings (3) in August in conjunction with the BCF AGM. She noted that the meeting with BCF was brief with most of the discussion on the FAC appointment process, traffic loss throughout the system and concerns raised by route 3 being added to the major route group. The FACC meeting itself dealt mostly with the upcoming review by the BCF Ferry Commissioner. The meeting with the Ferry Commissioner was a good discussion on the Coastal Ferry Act Review. The commission noted that they had met with many communities and the issues raised were quite similar, service issues and cost of fares. There will be a series of discussion papers released on questions they would like input on.

Islands Trust Council meeting with BCF Commissioner

Councillor Morse provided a verbal report on the Islands Trust Council's meeting with the BCF Commissioner in September on Saltspring Island. She noted that the Trust had made a power point presentation which can be found on the Islands Trust website and it raised many of the same issues and concerns that all the routes have. The press release in the information items gives the website links.

UBCM Meeting with Ministry of Transportation Staff

Councillor Morse advised the Committee that she and Councillors Frinton, Hooper and Poole and CAO Mahood

had met with Kirk Handrahan, Marine Branch and Kevin Richter, Assistant Deputy Minister at UBCM. She noted that they were pleased to hear that the Minister had directed staff that the ferry issues were a number one priority and that Councillors advised the staff that the rising cost of fares was just as much or more of an issue for Bowen as other communities especially since Bowen was a commuter island and people had to use the ferry to get to work.

NEW BUSINESS

Referral from Council re NP Concept Plan

The committee agreed to confine their comments to ferry related issues. The Committee reviewed the report from BCF to Parks Canada that had been sent to committee members by BCF. The Committee raised one concern that the report might have overlooked the potential for overloads on Saturday mornings from Horseshoe Bay and Sunday afternoons from Snug Cove and agreed to raise this with BCF on Oct 13th. The Committee requested that the Council Liaison to advise Council that BIMFAC concurred with the BCF Report to Parks Canada.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Powell River Regional District Press Release of July 26, 2011

The Committee received for information the Press release from the Powell River Regional District re Coastal Districts meeting with Minister Leckstrom.

Letter from Minister Leckstrom dated August 29, 2011

The Committee received for information the letter dated Aug 29, 2011 from Minister Leckstrom to Mayor Turner re BCF and the Coastal Ferry Act

Islands Trust News Release dated September 19, 2011

The Committee received for information the press release from the Islands Trust re Coastal Ferry Act.

Next Meeting

October 13, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. with BCF in Horseshoe Bay.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.