

BOWEN ISLAND MUNICIPALITY

Minutes of the **Bowen Island Municipal Ferry Advisory Committee Meeting** held on Wednesday, April 5, 2006 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

Andrew Stone, Chair
Anne Ayre
Bruce Howlett
Doug Sinkinson

REGRETS

Doug Elliott
Gil Yaron

COUNCIL IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Alison Morse

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Elizabeth Ballantyne
Councillor Frinton
Councillor Wrinch
Gayle Ferguson – Minute Taker

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

It was Moved and Seconded

That the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

It was Moved and Seconded

That the minutes of the regular Bowen Island Municipality Ferry Advisory Committee meeting held March 1, 2006 be adopted.

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Luz Budzinski to Council re: the timing of the Ferry Passenger Shelter Project

The Committee received for information the letter from Luz Budzinski to Council regarding the timing of the Ferry Passenger Shelter Project.

The Committee reaffirmed its desire to move ahead with the Ferry Passenger Shelter Project.

E-mail from Glen Leicester, Translink to CAO Hadford

The Committee briefly discussed the advantages and disadvantages of an express bus service from Bowen Island direct to Vancouver, mentioned in the e-mail from Glen Leicester, Translink to CAO Hadford.

It was Moved and Seconded

That the Bowen Island Ferry Advisory Committee support an express bus service from Bowen Island direct to downtown Vancouver. CARRIED

E-mail from Kevin Falcon to Minister Greg Osaba

It was noted that the issue of replacing paper commuter tickets with a Coast/Smart card would be raised at the April 26, 2006 meeting with BC Ferries.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Defining BIMFAC's decision making parameters

In conversation with Mayor Turner , it had been suggested that the Committee pass a resolution regarding what matters could be dealt with directly and what matters would require a recommendation to Council.

Councillor Morse read from Bylaw 107 regarding what matters the Committee was charged with and the need to consult with Council on policy issues such as major changes in scheduling, vessel capacity, and impact on Public roads.

The Committee noted its agreement with the terms of reference as set out in Bylaw No. 107.

The following issues were also discussed:

- Gallery Decks:
 1. The Committee would like to request that gallery decks be installed as soon as possible;
 2. BC Ferries had indicated gallery decks were part of their 2011-2012 Capital plan;
- Possible conflict with issues of reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and providing adequate marine transportation;
- BC Ferries recent changes in personnel.

Gallery Decks

The Committee agreed to defer discussion of gallery decks on the Queen of Capilano to a future Ferry Advisory Committee meeting.

Update on meeting with BC Ferries

Anne Ayre noted there would be an ad in the *Undercurrent* regarding the meeting with BC Ferries on April 26, 2006 at Horseshoe Bay.

- The Committee suggested the following items for the April 26, 2006 agenda:
- Smart/coast cards
- Appointment of senior master for Route 8 and new organizational structure;
- Sea to sky construction update – the effect on ferry loading and unloading;
- Queen of Capilano refit;
- Year round schedule;
- Summer extra sailings;
- Display by Cooperative Auto Network and Jack Bell Foundation on the Queen of Capilano;
- Snug Cove update;
- Ferry Sustainable Community Advisory Committees Transportation Working Group;
- Process for the new service contract.

Anne Ayre agreed to e-mail the agenda to members prior to sending the final draft to BC Ferries.

Transportation Working Group

Councillor Morse presented the draft terms of reference for the Ferry and Sustainable Community Advisory Committees Transportation Working Group and reviewed changes to be made to the document. She noted that the revised document would be presented to Council for approval on April 10, 2006.

Bruce Howlett expressed the belief that the objectives as set out in the Ferry and Sustainable Community Advisory Committees Transportation Working Group terms of reference document were not achievable. He read a draft letter he had prepared. The following were some of the issues raised in the letter:

- Terms of Reference could be viewed as a complete research project;
- Joint task force would require lengthy input to identify and review Bowen Island's governing documents, commitment to greenhouse gas emissions, preparation of an option analysis on each of the ferry marshalling options;
- The above tasks to be achieved with lay people and a proposed budget of \$6,000 in a 6 week timeframe, something staff and Council had been unable to achieve in six years.
-

Mr. Howlett suggested the following:

1. The project be undertaken by a subcommittee of Council with staff resources;
2. Municipal staff to prepare terms of reference and estimate time and cost of project;
3. A large consultant firm with sustainability as a filter be engaged to develop an integrated study with the Transportation Working Group overseeing the project.

Discussion followed regarding the feasibility of objectives for the Ferry and Sustainable Community Advisory Committees Transportation Working Group.

The Committee believed that the objectives as laid out in the Transportation Working Group document were overly ambitious and would require more expertise than available. When Councillor Morse asked if anyone was willing to volunteer to serve on the committee, no one volunteered.

Coastal Ferry Services Contract

Councillor Morse reported as follows on the Islands Trust Council meeting March 9, 2006 with Martin Crilly, BC Ferries Commissioner as follows:

- Chart of BC Ferries route costs met by customers – Route 8 (Bowen Island) was at 43 percent;
- Martin Crilly indicated he had no input in to what monies government would put in. His role was to ensure BC Ferries was delivering per the contract and was not exceeding the total revenue BC Ferries could get from the routes;
- The Municipality would need to lobby the Ministry of Transportation if more runs were needed as BC Ferries could not change the service level;
- Contract finishes March, 2008. Need to lobby Ministry of Transportation in 2006 and 2007 for increase in service, which would require an increase in subsidy
- Councillor Morse suggested that in order to perceive what service Bowen wanted, a survey of ferry users as was done on Hornby/Denman Islands, could be done on Bowen;
- Other issue raised by Mr. Crilly – what does it mean when the ferry is referred to as our highway? What level of road/service should the Government provide?
- Process for surcharges to pay for ferry marshalling improvements discussed with the assistant commissioner:
 1. Decide what the Island wants;
 2. Ascertain the costs;

3. Discuss and agree on process with BC Ferries;
4. Make an application to the Commissioner for a surcharge.

Report form TDM Sub
Committee

The report from the Traffic Demand Management Subcommittee was deferred to a future Ferry Advisory Committee meeting.

Coastal Ferry Services Contract

It was noted that the Coastal Ferry Services Contract was on the BC Ferries website.

The Chair agreed to try and send the pertinent pages on Bowen Island to Committee members.

Councillor Wrinch re: Ferry
Marshalling area requirements

Councillor Wrinch reviewed a document he had written regarding requirements for a ferry marshalling. He noted that the road costs were BC Ferry's and the Municipality was responsible for Village infrastructure improvements. Costs for aesthetically improving the road could be recouped in a Ferry surcharge.

Next Meeting

May 3, 2006

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.