

BOWEN ISLAND MUNICIPALITY

Minutes of the **Bowen Island Municipality Ferry Advisory Committee Meeting** held on Wednesday, May 3, 2006 at 7:15 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Bowen Island Municipal Hall, 981 Artisan Lane, Bowen Island, British Columbia.

Amended July 5, 2006

M. Watson

COMMITTEE IN ATTENDANCE

Andrew Stone – Chair
Anne Ayre
Doug Elliott
Doug Sinkinson
Gil Yaron

COUNCIL IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Morse

REGRETS

Bruce Howlett

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Frinton
Councillor Wrinch
Gayle Ferguson – Minute Taker
Elizabeth Ballantyne

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:17 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 April 5, 2006 be adopted.

CARRIED

REPORTS

Transportation Inter-committee Working Group Status Report

Councillor Morse provided the following update on the Transportation Inter Committee Working Group:

- Gil Yaron had indicated his willingness to serve on the Transportation Inter-committee Working Group;
- The Committee's concerns had been communicated to Mayor Turner and Councillor Hocking;
- Rewriting of the terms of reference was in progress.

The Chair requested the Council Liaison to clarify with Mayor Turner and Councillor Hocking the depth of the review of reports to be read and the timeline for the research

to be undertaken by the Working Group.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Meeting with BC Ferries

The Committee requested that the Marine Superintendent's Report dated April 26, 2006 be attached to the May 3, 2006 minutes.

Coast Card

The Committee reiterated important issues related to the proposed coast card as follows:

- Multi cards for families on one account;
- No expiry date;
- Swipe card for foot passengers similar to Sea Bus operation;
- Top up capacity via debit card or on-line banking.

Life Saving Equipment for Queen of Capilano

The Committee discussed the following issues related to life saving equipment for the Queen of Capilano:

- The suggestion to change the present life saving equipment on Queen of Capilano as it was located on the top deck and there were potential problems with the chute system;
- Increasing safety – The Chair agreed to send an e-mail to BC Ferries asking to know where the life saving equipment was on the car deck;
- Increasing occurrence of foot passenger overloads.

Councillor Morse reported, when queried regarding foot passenger capacity, BC Ferries had stated that 450 was the limit and required two extra crew. With the projected population growth for Bowen Island, this was a serious issue and the new vessel would be able to accommodate 600 foot passengers.

Year Round Ferry Schedule

In discussion with BC Ferries regarding the impact of a modified summer schedule, BC Ferries had indicated the schedule could be adjusted to be an annual schedule, which could increase the likelihood of better on-time performance.

The Chair agreed to inform BC Ferries of the need to notify the Public of the slight change in the schedule beginning in June, 2006.

Displays on the Queen of Capilano

The Chair reported that BC Ferries had a concern regarding groups putting up displays that may look unprofessional and/or damage the walls or equipment located behind the walls.

A committee member suggested that BC Ferries be requested to provide criteria for displays, which could be reviewed by the Committee and then given to various groups who wish to have a display on the Queen of Capilano.

New Coastal Ferry Services Contract

Anne Ayre noted that suggestions had been made to contact the local MLA and other ferry advisory committees to ensure services were not reduced and the service fee remained and preferably would be increased.

Discussion followed.

It was Moved and Seconded

That the Bowen Island Municipality Ferry Advisory Committee recommend to Council that a letter be sent to the Ministry of Transportation and Highways and copied to MLA under the signature of the Mayor, stating that Bowen Island Municipality are expecting Ferry service to remain the same, or be improved and an increase in fares to be not more than inflation and that the Province increase their fee services; and

That the Bowen Island Municipality trust that there will be a public consultation process regarding the new coastal ferry services contract; and

That the Chair of the Bowen Island Ferry Advisory Committee circulates the letter to other Ferry Advisory Committees.

CARRIED

Councillor Morse and Doug Sinkinson agreed to inform the local MLA regarding the issue and the impact proposed increased fares would have on the Bowen Island community.

Meeting with new Senior Master

The Committee had informed BC Ferries that “*on time performance*” did not include a ten minute delay and was not acceptable.

It was suggested that the new Senior Master David Woodman be requested to meet with the Committee, possibly in June, 2006.

