



TLC The Land Conservancy

Meeting: BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Regular Meeting)
Date: September 27, 2009
Time: 2:00 pm
Location: TLC Head Office, 1195 Esquimalt Road, Victoria

MINUTES

In attendance: Alastair Craighead (Chair), Briony Penn, Elspeth McVeigh, David Merner, Magnus Bein, Cheryl Bryce, Barry Glickman, Ken Millard, Carol Pickup, Frances Pugh

By Phone:

Regrets: Todd Wong

Staff & guests: Bill Turner, Ian Fawcett, Kathleen Sheppard, John Keller

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting called to order at 2:05 pm. Alastair Craighead in Chair.

2. AGENDA:

Agenda adopted as circulated.

3. BOARD WORK PLAN:

Ian Fawcett circulated a proposed Work Plan for the board for the coming year, outlining meeting dates and locations as well as prospective agenda and educational topics to be addressed at each meeting. It is intended that this be a planning document and that specifics for each meeting will be confirmed prior to each meeting.

The Board reviewed the proposed Work Plan, generally agreeing with the plan and specifically agreeing to address communications and community relations issues at the next meeting.

Briony Penn asked to make a presentation on carbon offsets at the next meeting. The date for that meeting was changed to October 25, and it was relocated to Victoria.

The November 28 meeting was relocated to the Lower Mainland. It was also agreed that Briony Penn would provide a public presentation on carbon offsets at that meeting.

4. AGRICULTURAL STRATEGY:

Fran Pugh addressed a number of issues that relate to TLC's agricultural mandate. The Board then discussed those issues and others, including: TLC acquisitions criteria, the problems associated with TLC using volunteer workers and competing with working farms, the risks and rewards of piloting difficult agriculture projects, the purchase of development rights on ranches, support for local food production, the challenges facing Keating Co-Op, the Horse Lake Co-Op, the huge support from the community for Madrona Farm, the opportunity to demonstrate how longer term tenure for tenant farmers affects conservation practices on farms, as well as the link between this discussion and our overall TLC "innovation and leadership" strategy, risk taking strategy, and communications strategy.

5. DEVELOPMENT REPORT:

- a) **Activity Update:** John Keller provided an update on recent and pending development activities, including communications, community outreach and membership development activities. He indicated that a more in-depth communication strategy will be presented at the next meeting
- b) **Members Appeal:** The appeal letter to members has raised over \$20,000 to date. Feedback has been received by some directors regarding the tone and content of the letter, as it relates to the desire to see a united TLC.

- c) **Annual General Meeting:** It was recognized that the AGM was very successful in its “vibe”, its good turnout, and good interaction (questions and answers) with the membership. It was seen as a strong indication that TLC is successfully turning the page on the past and looking to the future in a strong, united way. The Board expressed their thanks to the staff and volunteers who worked to make the event a success.

6. IN CAMERA MEETINGS:

Briony Penn outlined proposed criteria for Board decision-making on holding in camera meetings without staff present. The criteria comprise three scenarios in which such a meeting could be held:

- where a member of staff has a complaint against the Executive Director and has exhausted other avenues of redress provided in the Human Resources and Harassment policies
- consideration by the Board of the performance of the Executive Director
- other matters, on a case-by-case basis, where it is clearly required to meet in Camera.

In all cases, the reasons for such meetings must be articulated, in particular to the Executive Director, and staff must be provided with a fair opportunity to respond to any allegations regarding staff decisions.

7. DECLARATION OF INALIENABILITY:

Kathleen Sheppard reported on three properties that have been acquired by TLC in recent years, and proposed that each be declared inalienable.

Moved (Carol Pickup) / Seconded (Ken Millard) that the Elizabeth Lake property in Cranbrook be declared inalienable. CARRIED.

Moved (Elspeth McVeigh) / Seconded (Carol Pickup) that the Monks Point Park property in Tofino be declared inalienable. CARRIED.

Moved (Ken Millard) / Seconded (Briony Penn) that the West Twin property in McBride be declared inalienable. CARRIED.

8. PROPERTY REPORT:

Bill Turner reported that the Provincial Government introduced legislation this week to declare two properties that TLC has assisted in acquiring – Skaha Bluffs (Penticton) and Squitty Bay (Lasqueti Island) – as Provincial Park.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Moved (David Merner) / Seconded (Cheryl Bryce) that the meeting adjourn. CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.