

CLAYOQUOT BIOSPHERE TRUST
Culture Committee

Tuesday March 4th, 2008
6:00 – 9:00 pm
North Island College, Ucluelet

Meeting Notes and Next Steps

Present: Richard Lucas, Anne Morgan, Kirsten Johnsen, Shane Oregan, Mare Dewar, David Griffith, Greg Blanchet
Guest: Gregory Charleson, Sharmalene Mendis-Millard
Staff: Rebecca Vines, Jean Wylie

- 1. Dinner was provided from 6:00 – 6:30**
- 2. Review and approve agenda & recent minutes**

Approved as presented with addition to Item # 7. Discretionary Funding, two requests to review this evening, one presenter is available.

3. CBT Update

The Board ratified John Platenius' appointment as Alternate Director for District of Tofino. The team sponsorship and event sponsorship requests have been approved and are being processed. David Fraser attended the 3rd World Congress for Biosphere Reserves in Madrid, Spain. A few outcomes; possibility of twinning with another international biosphere, contact with delegate for upcoming CBRA AGM as well as gathering information about the possible expansion of the Biosphere Reserve. Rebecca will be traveling to Peru with the USS Global Ed Class as one of the chaperones and away from the office March 15-30/08. An update on her trip will be available at the next committee meeting. The Executive Director position is currently being advertised and will close March 17th. David has been on an interchange agreement from Environment Canada and will be returning to his position there August 1, 2008. Advertising efforts are; local, regional, national and international. For those that were unable to attend the "All Committee's Meeting" on Feb. 20/08, it went really well. Approximately 50-60 in total covering wide spectrum of community interests from the region. CBRA will be hosting their AGM in Tofino this year. With the expected 70-80 delegates. Cultural exchanges and events will be included in planning this event.

4. 2006 Project Funding

All final reports are in and are now available through our webpage. Go to Projects; enter tab, Funded Archive section.

5. Review of Committee Roles & Responsibilities

Rebecca thanked the group for their volunteer commitment. The committee was urged to feel free to acknowledge what is working and make suggestions for improvements.

Likes;

- establishing the committee process itself and relieving the BoD of the politics and process as a whole associated to the committees as a whole, brilliant idea.
- staff doing great job chairing the meetings
- easy to submit, no lengthy application process, very general and straight forward

Dislikes;

- need more discretionary funds

Recommendations;

- give the community information as to what it is that CBT does, to get word out. People in the community are not totally aware of how CBT may be able to assist with community projects and initiatives, the word needs to get out there, built interest and intrigue. IE: Morpheus Island, people are not aware, their relatives could be buried there, built community awareness and interests of and from the area, take pride in being a member of the community
- start using media to build awareness, IE: radio community information sessions, interviews by proponents, chek tv, a-channel, cbc news stations and community events. Make notices in the newspaper less wordy.

6. 2007 Call for Projects

Overall, the Committee was very pleased with the 2007 process, especially as much had been learnt from the 2006 process. Again 100k will be available in total, 40k in multi-year commitments, with 60k available to recommend in 2008.

Input included the following;

Working;

- application process went really well
- template that was implemented was a excellent guide
- still high demand for fund from within community

Not Working;

- meetings through biosphere region, not happening? need to make it work, keep on it.
- non-profit, charitable to receive funding presents difficulty as there are excellent projects that could be submitted by a single person and benefit many. Need to find a constructive way around this, perhaps limit that funding amount and create a 3 way contract specifying financial and individual responsibilities
- Ads for meetings, events and sessions – need to be more friendly, nice inviting words, get creative, be brief and less detail so that they will call, contact, engage, etc.

Recommendations;

- see about accessing satellite service to Hot Spring Cove through school signal, help to alleviate lengthy travel to meetings
- schedule committee meeting during same time as Board schedule, in remote F.N. communities

7. Discretionary Funding follow up discussion

This was an opportunity to provide input to Rebecca for planning of both the Historical Interests Dinner and the trip to Morpheus Island.

Historical Interests Dinner, invite members of the community to share in their ideas, hopes and dreams for such things as a museums and cultural centers. See what is going on and what community members thoughts are. Would like to have all that are involved with history of the area receive an invitation. This will be a per plate fundraiser with a variety of ticket types available, Corporate Costs, by donation and strictly by invitation at no charge. Dinner will be a replica of what would have been provided in the 1930's.

Morpheus Island Trip, David Griffith will visit the island with volunteers to first clear a path and see what condition the area is in. In regards to protocol, it appears First Nations do not have any burials that they are aware of on the island. Just the same, ensure that proper protocols are followed, contact Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation officially and see what can be found out and or get authority to visit island and do work as mentioned. Check the trees for first nations burials. The land is registered through the District of Tofino and does not have Crown status. Once the island is cleaned up, a tour can be scheduled to visit the island and learn of the history within the area. Would like to determine burials and contact family members who may not be aware that they have family members buried there, again, document that information

Approve \$3137 for the coordination of both events. Rebecca to set up a contract to have David Griffiths and the Tonquin Foundation manage the project.

Ucluelet and area Historical Society request for \$1500 approved with conditions.

Rebecca contact proponent for a bit more detail related to the budget. Clarify that if they do not receive the other 3K they have requests from another source, that they can still use the \$1500 from us and how it would be used.

Pacific Rim Whale Festival request for \$1535 approved.

Event is for locals and tourists. Open to anyone who wants to participate at no charge. Widely advertised and is the 22nd Anniversary of the event thereby very well organized. Other cedar bark workers can setup and display they crafts. This is more of an educational event than an opportunity to fund raise. Donations in kind Weigh West donated the use of the Coho Room.

Recommendations/suggestions; charging people by donations, perhaps make two hats and raffle on to assist with costs of material, perhaps the completed could be displayed at the Whale Centre.

8. Visiting researcher Sharmalene Mendis-Millard

Sharmalene asked the group for input to her current research on biosphere reserves. She provided a brief background on her project and members provided their opinions.

9. Next Meeting

The Committee did not set the next meeting date.