

Draft Notes: Transition Sooke Monthly Meeting

Date: Wednesday January 8, 6:30 – 8:30 pm. Place: Library /Zoom

Attendees: David Merner (facilitator), Alan (note-taker), Jo, Lily, David Mallett, Carol, Susan B, Susan C, Levi, Sinclair, Keith R, Chris , Lynne, John, Paula (arrived late)

1. Welcome, Introductions, Territorial Acknowledgement, note-taker-Alan
2. Agenda Review
3. Approval of Minutes from December 11, 2024 meeting. Moved Susan B, seconded John. Approved.
4. Acceptance of Treasurer's Report (Lily). Moved Lily. Seconded Keith. Accepted.
5. Actions
 - a. Alan and Levi to organize a meeting regarding rezoning application for 2396 Mountain Heights Road by West Ridge Trails – **moved to action item 6**
 - b. Venue for AGM – Thursday March 27, 2025(Jo / David Merner) – Library booked from 6 pm; Co-Housing not possible – **will go with library**
 - c. Alan and Lily to look through the Nov 17 Strategy Session report, identify action items, and bring back to future meeting with lists of tasks that need to be done. Lily developed a triage decision-making process that was explained and handed out to everyone. **ACTION: Everyone to fill out the form and send back to Lily**
 - d. Susan Belford to call the previous members of the OCP group about reconvening. Changed **ACTION: Susan Clarke to call the previous members of the OCP group about reconvening**
6. Rezoning application for 2396 Mountain Heights Road by West Ridge Trails (Farrell Estates) and proposal to offer a one-acre community garden

A very stimulating and far-reaching discussion took place on the background information, advantages and disadvantages of accepting the offer from the developer. Several **actions** emerged from this discussion:

- **More information on the broader aspects of the development**
- **Levi to invite Gerard LeBlanc, local representative of the developer, to speak to Transition Sooke members**
- **Susan B to ask Ella Creek folks to monitor this development for impacts on local watercourses**
- **Susan C will ask experts to look at the development proposal and assess it in terms of natural assets and suitability**

- Susan C and members of the OCP and Climate Action Group will regroup and ensure that the OCP provides better protection
- OCP and Climate Action Group to modernize “Scenario D”
- Susan C will develop a town hall proposal that uses Scenario D to provide a visioning process for the future of Sooke. The OCP committee, Susan B, Levi, and Chris will work with Susan C on this

7. Action Group Reports

- Steering Committee – Steering committee is not meeting every month because most of our work can be done in the context of the monthly meeting of active members. Some coordination via email occurs to ensure all our ducks are inline for the next monthly meeting. This is consistent with the bylaws of Transition Sooke, which delegate decision-making powers to the active members.
- Zero Waste Sooke – Upcoming events: January 19 Repair Café at the Sooke Community Hall, downstairs; January 26 Baby and toddler gear swap at the library; February 11 Presentation at Sooke Region Lifelong Learning — “My Zero Waste Life” at the library
- Sustainable Food Security and Agriculture – Developing a draft letter of intent for the Sooke Family Resource Society to create a community garden on its property on Wadams Way. Holding conversations with District of Sooke staff to ensure that the master planning process for John Phillips Memorial Park occurs in a timely manner and includes the potential for a community garden. Keeping up the pressure on Sooke staff to ensure the new OCP continues to include community gardens in new developments. Consideration for a community garden at West Ridge Trails Development on hold until further conversations take place with the broader Transition Sooke membership.
- Climate Strategy – Licking our wounds after the zero-carbon step code defeat at council. Next meeting is January 9
- Decolonizing our World View – Next meeting is January 22
- f. Consider forming a Local Government Action Group (Levi)**
- g. Consider getting involved in The Lions’ Sookarama with some version of Scenario D.**

8. Report from Climate Action Networks that TS belongs to:

- SI-CAN – SI-CAN joined a number of other groups as signatures on a submission to the BC government’s flood strategy (see latest TS newsletter to see the submission)
- WE-CAN – working with Union of BC Indian Chiefs (UBCIC) on a First Nation climate action plan

9. Future facilitation - Who is on the roster and which months will they do? – **Alan will send out a schedule.**

Adjourn

Next meeting: February 12, 2025; Location: library

TRANSITION SOOKE TREASURER'S REPORT

For January 8, 2025 Meeting

Current Account Balances:

Account Name	Balance
Transition Sooke Core Funds (100)	\$1,522.44
Sooke Community Garden (101)	\$3,219.72
Zero Waste Sooke (102)	\$2,074.37
Special Events (103)	\$0

Details:

Transition Sooke Core Funds (Account #100)

Opening Balance	\$ 1,382.44
No expenses in December.	
Funds Received: 2 donations from active members	\$ 140.00
Balance	\$ 1,522.44

Sooke Community Garden (Account #101):

Opening Balance:	\$ 3,219.72
No Income or expenses in December	

Zero Waste Sooke (Account #102)

Opening Balance	\$2,069.37
Expenditures: Purchase of sandwich board	- 65.00
Funds Received: Payment from Café Voisino for mugs sold in Dec.	+ 70.00

Balance: **\$2,074.37**

