

Squamish Trails Society - January 16, 2014

Don Patrick, Vic Drought, Don MacNamara, Penny Wilmot, Heather Evans, Carl Halvorson, Bob Brant, Patrick, Eric Andersen, Astrid Andersen, Jim

Golf Course Dyke Trail

Many improvements and good progress, just a couple more loads of crush and a bit more work to do on the project. Need to thank Coast Aggregate, Coast Valley, Squamish Valley Golf Course. Bob has excellently communicated public thanks to these contributors – press release, tweets, etc.

Valleycliffe Trail

- Eric Anderson's November 2013 presentation was commended.
- STS was before Council recently and told the District that we want to see action on the Valleycliffe Trail.
- Total cost could be around \$30K for the stairs project. Could we use STS funds to get a good deal on materials and labour etc. for stairs project, and a STS trail work day(s). And then need a trail suitable for strollers etc., and Eric points out some other improvement areas.
- DoS has promised community consultation on the trail. Not sure whether the DoS budget includes this project.
- Eric shared the Pedestrian Trail map that was part of the MMTP. Recommended solutions discussed.
- Recommended that the Valleycliffe residents' group to the DoS, with cc to the Trails Society.
- Suggestion also to involve students from the Valleycliffe Elementary and Howe Sound Secondary to get their support for trail upgrades.
- Some Valleycliffe residents have been active in looking at options in the Behrner Drive area should the Kingswood Development go forward.
- The District is keen for an overall connectivity discussion in this area.
- Eric will communicate to the Valleycliffe residents' network favour for the stairs project. Eric will also check whether there are any funds to construct this trail in DoS line items.

Judd Beach (end of Cottonwood, keep to the left ...)

Should we apply online to Fisheries and Oceans approval for this trail upgrade project on private property (Tom Dowad's property). Would need 1 ft boulders (half-load). Could also ask Tom Dowad to try to help make this happen. Need to upgrade the bridge. SORCA has agreed to help out with the bridge / ramp.

Test of Metal Food Booth

Looking into asking caterers / project managers whether they would be interested in taking on the job, with the understanding that STS would make \$2 to \$3 per racer plate and that the labour would be supplied (soccer women).

Be Bright @ Night

Doug thinks that District of Squamish should take on the Be Bright at Night Trademark, and thinks that the District should register it at \$3,000.

Member points out that the law needs to be enforced.

SORCA has presented a proposal for \$60,000 funding.

Squamish Trails Society – March 20, 2014

Vic Drought, Don MacNamara, Penny Wilmot, Heather Evans, Carl Halvorson, Bob Brant, Patrick, Eric Andersen, Jim,

Valleycliffe Trail

Bob was invited in a trails walkabout in a Hospital Hill area.

Hunter Trail - Matt Simmons (DoS) said that DoS watermain rebuild will happen, and he indicated the possibility that as part of this project they could possibly put in a ramp for pedestrian connectivity.

Eric commented that Hospital Hill residents are not really in the loop about the public works and trail, often because the District calls them Valleycliffe which the residents do not identify with. Eric commented that they tend to have limited response from the District of Squamish and they feel they are not being adequately heard by the Council and Staff. The neighbourhood group has also asked that the school be involved particularly students (and link to the safe routes to school program / line item in the DoS budget)

Toboggan trail upgrade may be taken on by Trails Society as a 2014 project.

Kingswood Developer has been asked by the District to do a study about the Behrner extension as a road (due to a petition from the residents of the area) and we are waiting to hear about the outcome of the study in (approximately March 2014).

Eric mentioned that there was a steel staircase proposal for about \$300K, which was not pursued because it is very costly.

Eric mentioned that there is a trail license agreement needed on Kingswood's north site.

Questions about how to connect trails at the Corridor Trail.

STS has talked about south side underpass.

Concerns from residents about bikes and bike speed on some of the trails from Hospital Hill and through the Smoke Bluffs area.

Collaboration Trail

Is getting an ear on the Economic Development Committee; stay tuned re next meeting.

Golf Course Trail

This project is done – job well done by all!

Carl mentioned one small area that may need a tiny bit of work done (near footbridge). We may be able to get Quest students involved, or younger kids, or Coast Mountain Academy (David Baird)

Woodfibre Project

Is offering public recreational access in their consultation with community.

Seniors Centre to 6th Avenue Trail Upgrade Project

Idea is to make it accessible from Seniors Centre and Eaglewind development.

There may be an opportunity to also extend the trail out further, as well, on west side of the dike.

Ted Prior is the primary contact, and Bob will talk with Scott Lamont about it. Nature conservancy involved.

Test of Metal Foodbooth

Considering a cold menu that would eliminate cooking concerns – cold sandwiches package at Nesters. Bob has approached ToM to see if they are interested.

TShirts

Bob sent around an email about T-Shirt colours – 2 shades of green. Most people like dark green, and most like large crest. Heather will help with pre-order among membership.

Vic's Inquiry

Dentville bootleg bridge was removed (near Britannia to Production Way, on private property), and he had an inquiry about what to do about it.

Squamish Trails Society – March 20, 2014

Stephane Perron (Chair), Vic Drought, Don MacNamara, Heather Evans, Carl Halvorson, Patrick, Eric Andersen, Jim, Doug, Shaun Jakob

Regrets: Bob, Penny

Guest: Matt Simmons

Meeting began at 7:20pm.

1. Matt Simmons (District of Squamish Capital Project Manager)

a) Valleycliffe Trail - water main upgrade - potential of 'trail' over top of the water main

Matt wants to understand STS interests for improvements and frame expectations around trails.

District will put trail it back into same or better condition and is considering trail routing in coordination with the water upgrade project.

- District is undertaking a waterline project this year, will go down the hunter trail.
- There is still a section of the trail that is on private property, property ownership will be resolved.
There is old asbestos trail underground, also was the route for wood stave pipe, etc. – lots of history.
- There is a capital line item for east west trail connections, targeted for along Mamquam Road. Possibility --but no promise-- of re-allocated funds for trail work to this area if funds.
- Question about grade – is 15% reasonable? In some areas the grade on existing is at around 30%, i.e. near the connection at Scott Cr.
- The project plans here are being connected with the feasibility study of Behrner extension project that is being done by Kingswood.
Idea of connector from View Place into the Hunter Trail.
- Eric mentioned priority for trail long east side of Clarke Drive – lots of kids' foot traffic to schools.
- District is planning to clean up and resurface the trail, armour the ditch to prevent erosion. Not planning to remove trees (except those in peril of falling anyway).
- Question at the Hunter Trail intersection with Scott Crescent – want to do stairs, or collapse the bank and do a looping trail?
- Traffic safety situation at Hunter and Scott Crescent – need to ensure visibility
- Need to design trail so that bikes can't damage it
- Want to discourage the pedestrian traffic along the side of harbourview place.
- Also DoS will be repaving Pemberton to Loggers Lane, and will put in a bike lane as part of the project.

Action: STS will send input to Matt on the trail. Circulate comments by email among STS and especially considering neighbourhood perspective, then we will collate STS comments and send to Matt. He will be tendering this project in the next 30 days.

Note: meeting discussion was that looping trail is a preference because of approachable grade and will last longer than stairs on steeper area. However it sounds like previously Bob et al had some preference for stairs so need to check into why.

b) Other Trail Projects – discussion and updates with Matt

STS is paving from Pemberton Ave from the underpass (Hwy99) to Loggers Lane and they will be putting in a bike lane on both sides.

DoS has not yet found material to replace the bridge along the Discovery Trail near the Howe Sound Secondary school. Could do a collaborative work project on that one, e.g. if DoS can find some stringers then perhaps STS could help with surfacing and handrails.

Corridor Trail: There is some grant funding to complete the section of corridor trail from Garibaldi Way to Harris Road, and this is being worked on. There is also an interest (but no funding) for lighting some sections.

Corridor Trail – Wesbild issue: Matt was not part of the District discussion at Council earlier this week.

Discussion about paving trail through Rose Park. District and STS are both interested in keeping bike traffic away from Cleveland Ave intersection as much as possible and using the underpass instead.

Action:

Matt invited STS to assemble a list of community trail and bike lane improvement suggestions priorities for Matt – no promises but would like to work together. Start with email list and circulation, and then we can discuss and send to Matt perhaps after our AGM.

2. Wesbild - Standard Life

- Carl and Heather will keep track of this project
- Need to send a finalized letter to Wesbild and Standard Life (registered mail). First need to hear back from DOS if Council discussed this item recent meeting, re signing on and supporting our letter.
- After letter is sent we can begin discussion with tenants.

3. Test of Metal June 14, 2014

- Bob communicated with Cliff that we wouldn't be able to put on the Racer's Food this year; Bob did ask about the prospect of selling hot dogs, but Cliff was hesitant - we likely won't get it.
- Carl will follow up with Test of Metal asap to find out.

- At the very least we should have a public information booth.

4. Woodfibre LNG

Gord Addison is the public information officer for the proposed LNG project at Woodfibre site and he has offered to come and talk to STS.

Interests would be access to the waterfront, and public access to trails.

The discussion was that STS would be open to have Gord come to a future meeting to present and we can provide input on the trail aspects of the project and/or refer him to other relevant groups.

5. Projects in 2014

Ray Peters Trail - along Ross Road parallel to Don Ross school. A couple of sections may need some work, previous work did not last and some engineered work may be needed – this is difficult because of no ditches (only swales). For further discussion.

Trail from Eagle Wind/Seniors Centre to Sixth Ave dyke. Bob has said that he can make initial inquiries to Scott Lamont. Some discussion about feasibility. For further discussion.

SORCA got funding and is working with Matt on Wonderland upgrade. No STS action required at this time.

Dentville to Business Park Connector trail - resident brought to our attention a trail, in relation to a bridge removal ... bridge connecting Britannia to Enterprise Way. We should keep an eye on this connection. It's a bit tricky because there is a pumping station in line with storm drain. Vic is going to check it out.

Coho Park restoration project (John Hawking resident in the area) is still interested. His project would help the trail from worsening and slow down deterioration of the creek. Heather to contact John and see if/how STS could offer some support to neighbourhood efforts.

6. Annual General Meeting on April 17th 2014

- Next month is our AGM.
- Bob will take care of getting the ad in the paper as we are required to do.
- Existing people with specific positions (VP, Secretary, Treasurer, etc.) are requested to consider if they would consider standing for the board positions, and we should also make opportunities known. 'Election' next month at the AGM.
- We could invite the Gondola for trails update at the AGM. Stephane will ask them.

7. Squamish Culture & Heritage Festival

A table has been booked for STS at the Squamish Culture and Heritage Festival (at Quest U) in early May, and Penny has offered to be there at the booth. Thanks Penny! ☺

Adjourned at 9:18pm.

**Squamish Trails Society Annual General Meeting
Squamish Arts Council Building, Cleveland Avenue, Squamish
Thursday April 17, 2014, 7 pm**

In attendance:

Jim
Patrick
Doug
Don
Vic
Carl H
Matt Parker
Shawn G
Stephane Perron (Chair)
John Harvey
Heather Evans
Ann Peters

Meeting called to order at 7:07 p.m.

Guest Speaker - Trevor Dunn, General Manager, Sea to Sky Gondola

- Trevor offered that Sea to Sky Gondola has appreciated STS consistent support for the project, and would be glad to help out with mutual STS as needed going forward – support letters, etc.
- Trevor presented the new trail network being developed by the project (already any future) as well as the existing trails they will connect to.
- The project is about providing access, and interpretation, to appreciate the unique natural environment. Many stroller friendly trails.
- Trail network at top is 2 primary trails – Spirit Trail (will be interpretive trail, with First Nations info) and Panorama Trail 1.6km (geology, geography interpretative material). Most people will only venture about 400m from the gondola. There will also be interpretive people to provide info and enhance the experience
- The gondola also provides backcountry access in all seasons. They are using the network of old logging roads to make trails. They have also built a couple of access points up to sky pilot, and up to skyline ridge. ‘Al’ has also built a Habrich Ridge trail.
- They also have a “bottom to top” trail that taps into the upper Shannon Falls route (2.5 hours) – Sea to Summit Trail. There is also an “evacuation route” (very steep, exposure).
- There is potential for other trails and amenities with future planning.
- Recently STS Gondola found out that their Sec57 application for trails to the Province of BC has been declined and looking into why.

In the future, there are lots of additional trail opportunities. Perhaps ideally the top of the gondola could become the terminus of Howe Sound Crest Trail?

A mountain biking plan (cross country) and trail network plan is a project in process, still in progress to figure out where trails will be and then build them in summer 2015 and then be open in summer 2016. Will be open to ski touring next winter.

Working with Search and Rescue.

Opening Day is May 16, and a guest-focused event will be happening in June.

There is a type 2 trail that connects to the Shannon Falls-Chief Trail, and plans for another trail connection to the Chief as well.

Gondola would like to be part of connecting to town, Chief and Shannon Falls – i.e. Corridor Trail extension. Need to work with Parks and others to make this happen. It would be a real plus for transporting employees (110 people) to the Gondola project as well.

Election of STS Board and Executive for 2014-15

Directors - Jim Gracey, Doug Morrison, Shawn Gosnell, Matt Parker, Carl Halvorson, Victor Drought, Heather Evans, Bob Brant, Penny Wilmot, Jennifer Adams, Vic Drought

Roles:

President – Stéphane Perron

Vice President – John Harvey

Secretary / Scribe - Carl Halvorson

Treasurer – Jennifer Adams (not present at the meeting, confirmed that she would like to continue this role)

Brushback Brigade – Vic, Don and many dedicated others.

Membership and communications projects – Heather will work on this with others.

Other Jobs and Positions

Shawn could be the Smoke Bluff Committee rep – first Thursday of the month.

We need to send a letter to DoS to tell them who the STS member is: Shawn G and Matt P as the alternate. Action: Matt to write letter to DOS.

Brushback Brigade – complimented on the swan trail. They will have some expenses to claim – Vic to connect with Heather with receipts.

Doug suggested that we should get Howe Sound Equipment on our website as a 'special thanks and acknowledgement, and great service'. Doug will check it out, Heather will put on website.

Garibaldi Village -Wesbild Standard Life -update

Will be sending letter to Wesbild and Standard Life in the next week or so.

District letter has been sent already.

Doug suggested that we could consider re-negotiating for a lump sum payment if needed.

Valleycliffe trail, update

There is some work happening in the area as well, and Matt Simmons will keep us

posted.

John is willing to bring STS members out on site to better understand the project.

Wonderland trail improvements -Matt

STS did some work on the trail last year 2013.

A grant application was written and granted at \$5000.00 for project, and the funds will be going through the STS. Matt got Parks approval. Will get the work done when available.

Matt Simmons wish list request -Carl

Jim sent a wish list for trails, and Carl will work on it as well and send to Matt.

John suggested trail upgrade near the watertower at the top of the Boulevard.

Discussion that we should also let Matt know about STS preferences at the bottom of the trail – switchback versus stairs etc. Doug will be in touch with John about this.

New item - Doug

Doug has pointed out a safety matter on the trail connecting Greenwood Way with Thunderbird Creek development. Doug is saying that the property needs to be handed over to the District and then they need attend to the safety matter.

Suggestion to put this on the wish list to Matt Simmons.

Woodfibre LNG –

- Invitation by Gord Addison to come and present trail access improvements offered by promoters. Also possibility of site visit -Stéphane
- Discussion and STS is open to having LNG come and present to us.

Saturday May 3 Quest U, 9-3 Squamish Heritage and Culture Festival

squamishhistory.ca

STS will have a booth, and could use support and assistance on the day of. Penny is leading this.

Mamquam River Campground project – Mamquam River Access Society, presentation from John Harvey to outline the project and the trail linkages within 10 Acre site, crown land April 26, 7pm event - fundraising event to raise \$4-5000 just to make it a go with application etc.

Part of trail network linking to the fish channels, gun range, and sport legacies park, al potential stopover for the sea to sky trail.

Treasury Report

Balance in the savings account was \$10,413.37 as of April 1, 2014 statement.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Next meeting, Thursday, May 15

Squamish Trails Society

General Meeting

June 19, 2014

In Attendance: John, Penny, Carl, Stephane, Doug, Matt, Candy, Heather, Don, Vic, Herbert (guest)

Guest Presenter: John Moonen - Kingswood Development

Called to order: 19:05

Kingswood - Behner Driver to "Former Hunter Lands Roadway Proposal Update: John Moonen

- Hunter lands purchased by DoS in 2012
- engineered proposal for roadway from Behner to bottom of Scott Crescent had been presented by Ueli Liechti
- petition to Council last December for a feasibility study

There were three options:

- short zig zag through the "Hunter" lands
- route to the north that went to the waterfront
- long zig zag to "Hunter" lands

- Kingswood had a feasibility study done and their bottom line was that this option did not work

- original intent included connector trails - not roadways
- BC Hydro "said no", saying that roadways impinge on their ability to use the right of way in their best future interests

option already presented

- adds \$2 million dollars above the cost of Scott Crescent
 - Council does not support . . .
- Improvements to trails and pedestrian infrastructure proposed by Kingswood include:
- improvements to Behner intersection
 - improvements to Clark Drive
 - \$75,000 for improvements at highway intersection
 - rebuild Scott Crescent up the hill for two lanes and 3 meter

wide combined trail on east side

* note traffic study estimated 1 car per minute load on Scott Crescent

- * Kingswood build-out 385 - 420 units
- \$475,000 for construction of a bridge across Mamquam Blind Channel to Rose Park

• 3 metre wide walkway along Mamquam Blind Channel (on project lands) connecting to Corridor Trail at highway bridge

• realignment of Corridor Trail and new crossing infrastructure at highway Scott Crescent intersection

• contribution towards construction / improvements to Taboggan Trail and connector to Smoke Bluffs

Discussion after presentation re: Bike path and pedestrian safety

- Is combined path as presented the best option? Shared lane not the best option.
- Suggested no bike lane going downhill on east side - just emergency lane, 1.2 m bike lane going up plus 1.8 m up and down sidewalk.
- Enhanced signage top and bottom.

LNG Route: Herbert

Along existing pipeline behind Raven's Plateau, over to Robin - then Logger's Lane to Centennial, to Pioneer Way and Queen's Way - then across estuary central basin through Woodpecker Trail area. Pipeline only has about 2ft of cover. Existing line 10" - new 26".

Compressor station location still not determined but could be on Queen's Way behind rail station or further south.

Risks: Has been major explosions in other areas.

- No regulations restricting placement to residential properties.
- No defined setbacks - no real restrictions on locations.
 - * Why are we not allowed to vote on this type of infrastructure passing through our community?
 - * STS should make a public stance?

Regular Meeting:

Approval of Agenda: Moved by Matt, seconded by Carl (website data removed)

Reports: Smoke Bluffs; New vermicomposting toilet through SCAN and MEC grant. \$22,000 plus 3 year maintenance contract.

Brush Back Brigade; 8 volunteers trimmed Triathlon route. Email Vic suggestions.

Test of Metal; Penny - Gelato sold out - \$287 raised. Thank you to Greg who donated product and time.

Penny put a daffodil in the paper and suggested tax receipt.

Financials: Heather to forward for minutes.

Membership: We need a membership recruitment strategy!

New business:

Small Project Money? John looking for approval to spend \$ on little projects each month.

Moved by Heather, seconded by Penny that we approve max of \$100 per month for teen labour projects with a "diary of projects" and "accomplishment list" with receipt showing appropriate information. Carried.

Brennan Park Connector; Doug Race had suggested "gas tax revenue". Cascade had suggested \$100,000 budget but STS could surely do for less, leveraging equipment, donations and volunteer labour. Approach DoS, Squamish Live, Commercial Way

developers for \$ support.

Mashiter Trail; Concerns from residents regarding stability of slope.

Discovery Trail Bridge; High school carpentry shop interested in project. DoS committed to concrete lock block foundations but tides are an issue for first 100 metres of trail. John to "push" project.

Westbuild; Next steps? New business . . .

Old business: Westbuild

No reply from any correspondence. Stephane to try direct contact by calling to confirm they are not responding :-)

Next steps? Presentation to tenants association if they have one? Heather to contact.

Then go to media? Was a tax receipt issued for moneys received in past? Yes.

Scott Crescent; Asking for STS support. After discussion it was agreed we would not endorse plan simply stating that "we have offered suggestions".

Should communicate with DoS to say that developer has said "this" and "are you holding them to it?"

Meeting adjourned 212:09

Squamish Trails Society
July 18, 2014
Minutes

In attendance:

Stéphane Perron, Heather Evans, Doug Morrison, Jim Gracey, Matt Parker, John Harvey

Smoke Bluffs (Shawn and Matt)

Last meeting was a walk around the smoke bluffs (annual tour and discussion) with District staff and Council members.

Brush Back Brigade (Vic)

The BBB is working hard as usual, and the regular update and communications are awesome. Go BBB – and thanks!

Membership (Heather)

Discussed some strategies for how to boost our membership numbers:

- We will do a special promo of \$10 for any membership (individual or family) at the Fall Fair.
- John Harvey is going to pursue a TShirt price comparison (ultimate promotions and others), check back with STS by email, and then if possible we may have the order completed by Brackendale Fall Fair in early September.
- Heather is going to look into online membership fees (check with Jen on previous work on this), as well as the possibility of using mailchimp for regular newsletter type updates to our membership and followers. Hetaher to bring info back to a fall meeting.

Projects

Carson Slough Crossing / Discovery Trail (Matt and John)

Matt and John met with District Staff Bob Smith, Scott Lamont, and Matt Simmons on site.

The District is interested in replacing the bridge across Carson Slough. The District has some stringers they can use. Perhaps STS could help with the bridge surface work – John H will contact Scott Lamont and offer our assistance.

The carpentry program and instructor (sjakob@mountainwave.ca - Shaun Jakob) also is interested in this project – to be contacted.

The District also wants to upgrading the Discovery Trail surface in the area (requires some raising and filling).

The District will also want to cut some of the trees back, which will need to be done outside of bird nesting season.

Commercial Drive to Brennan Park Trail Connector (John)

The District has been out to the site to walk the route and is somewhat interested in the project. There are some stream crossings and this could become expensive

depending on how heavily engineered. Would need to make the route as direct as possible because otherwise people will shortcut and cause environmental degradation and safety concerns. Would need to include environmental groups in the discussion as well – with previous discussions about this project there have been concerns. There is a possibility for partnership/donation from the Squamish Valley Music Festival - John reached out to them and they suggested to get in touch after this year's festival i.e. in October for further discussion. It was mentioned that this project could also be funded partly through amenity contribution from new development in the business park and existing establishments such as Walmart and Home Depot. If this project goes ahead the understanding would be that it would not be principally STS funded.

Mamquam River Access Society Campground (John)

John will contact Jen as Treasurer to outline how he would propose to leverage the STS's charitable status, to channel funds for his fundraising efforts. Perhaps Jen could then bring some info back to the STS for discussion about the implications and whether this would be possible/desireable/feasible for STS.

Treasury Report (Heather for Jen)

Chequing /Savings balance is \$10,198.52.

Heather is going away and will need to hand over the treasury file and chequebook by July 26 to Jen (or Stéphane if Jen not in town).

Wesbild

- STS subgroup on this issue will reconvene next week – trying for Thurs July 24 – Stephane to arrange via Bob. Bob wants to be involved in this issue.
- Heather and Stephane have contacted Wesbild and Standard Life addressees and left multiple messages – no response.
- Heather met with a tenant in Garibaldi Village and learned that:
 - o no tenant group at GV – just individual leases with Colliers
 - o rents have been increased quite a bit in the past year
 - o relationships may be strained btwn some tenants and the leasing company (colliers) and the owner (standard life) – very poor communication
 - o recognition that tenants are likely paying for the trail crossing annual contribution in their rent, but they were not specifically aware of this obligation nor that it is not being paid by the owner
- As a result of Heather's disussion with tenant some suggestions are:
- Need to start contacting more people within Standard Life and with Colliers as well. e.g. At Standard Life - EcoFriendly Initiatives Program, Corporate Social Responsibility group, Vancouver branch of asset management. And with Colliers – Leasing Agent Barry Holmes who is based in Vancouver.
- Jim has drafted a letter to tenants so that we can hand-deliver it to the tenants to explain and discuss.
- Gagandeep from Squamish Reporter is interested in discussing with us.

- Need to look again at the possibility of a limitation period (by Sept 30th) that could limit the society from recovering unpaid funds.
- Need to review the Murdy and McAllister's legal advice to the Society.

Trails Society Meeting

2014.09.18 19:05

Stephane, Pru, Graham, Vic, Penny, Don, John, Matt, Carl, Candy, Heather
Dora. dgunn@squamish.ca Bob and Shawn send their regrets

Presentation by Meg Fellowes. *Laughing Turtle Collaboration Trail*
Update from about a year ago.

Designed to connect attractions both "built" and "natural"
Entry points at multiple locations with simple icon for direction marker,
Basic loop leads to multiple entry points to extended trails and features
Links business, environment, government and social groups

Why Turtle? Roughly turtle shaped and ties to sustainability

Update to Council spring 2014: Budget line item in 2015 for debate. Discussion to get
the concept into the OCP. "How does this trail fit in". Branding Exercise - again, how
this trail fit in.

Extensions: Eagle Salmon Circle Trail (Brackendale), Beaver Pond Trail (Valleycliffe) ,
Cougar Deer Trail (Highlands)
Links and "Gateways" to community amenities, connector trails, neighbourhoods,
business areas

Kiosks Locations / Stories:

Adventure Centre Area Features:

Brew Pub: Sikh Temple: Railway: Brennan Park:

Kiosk Ideas / Panels: - Sea to Sky Trail, Logging / Forestry Museum, Mamquam
Reunion, Coast Salish "Hat", Maps: Trails etc. - Outdoor Recreation: - Forestry / Forests
"more than a bunch of trees": Farming / Food / Community Gardens, Sikh story /
settlement history - Estuary, Transportation, Government

Phase 3: Layering Information - multiple sources, connecting information, production
Community outreach to community groups for support.

Discussion: How do tourist access the loop? Encourage bikes - "we are bike friendly",
bring your bikes. Visitors that stop at each main hub can start the loop. Has Tourism
Squamish been approached? "Flogging it anywhere I can".
Any sections that don't exist? Trouble with rail crossings, some private property issues.
Include kiosk maintenance costs in plans.
Question to Council - if we are going to be Outdoor Recreation Plus we need to look
after all this stuff and that includes upkeep and updating - money.

Wayfinding: Follow the Turtle - need that strong icon for direction-ing

Tourist have said that the number one asset in Whistler is the Valley Trail. Turtle Trail could be our Valley Trail.

Proper "bike trails" need the amenities ie. bike racks, benches, picnic tables, interpretive signage, direction signage, safety infrastructure, funds for maintenance (volunteers important in keeping costs down)

Pave it!

Moving on with the agenda: 19:53

Approval of agenda: John: Couple of projects. Stephane: news from Bob

BBB: 7.5 km, 225 hours this summer. Let them know of area that need attention. Discussions: Dealing with invasives? DoS gave an orientation. Biggest concern with knotweed.

Financial: To be forwarded to Directors.

Membership: Renewals and new members at Fall Fair. Report from Penny. Has more money than paper - didn't balance.

Fall Fair: Thanks to Jim! (and Penny ;-) Questions from Fair: Can I buy on-line? What do I get for my \$10 dollars? Trail maps available for sale? One member wanted to know why she had not heard from us. (and didn't renew!) Heather working on newsletter concept.

Tshirts: Available for sale. One problem - ladies sizes are very small.

New business:

From Bob: - boxes of paper - Heather will be culling. Penny, Candy offered to help go through it all. Need to archive some history "stuff". Kitchen stuff - food service items. Maybe we should keep enough to support work bees, community engagement activities, Society social events. Need to burn some paper to cook some hot dogs to cull the storage shed.

Action item: need to contact Ted to ensure some of the stuff in storage is not his before we cull. Vic to talk to Ted. Penny to assist if Vic needs backup :-)

Skomish Valley Elder's Advisory Circle - info to be forwarded by Stephane

From John: Wesbuild: Lawyer wants to talk to Bob directly to ensure clarity on key issues.

Compared to first opinion now getting strong opinion to move on this. Enthusiastically wanting to pursue. Next step is for Bob to talk to the lawyer and all are aware that executive wants to move forward. Heather willing to help as required. Do we want to put a cap on lawyers fees. We need to be kept current of costs. "We need to be prudent

with Society's funds". Notion that we have started discussions with MoT to look into elimination of right off highway. Should we continue with story in Squamish Reporter?

Action Item: Matt List: Send around existing ideas. We should look at the big map and set some Society priorities. Send out request for ideas and get it in. send to Dora Gunn

Round the Table:

Dora: Introduction - DoS part of mandate is bike routes, commuter trails.

John: Brennan Park connector trail - Walmart might be willing to donate \$2000 if matched on their property. DoS and music festival have expressed interest. Major developers in areas should be contacted to participate.

next meeting Thursday October 16.

Adjourned at 20:47 followed by Tshirt sales.

Squamish Trails Society

General Meeting

October 16, 2014

In attendance: Jennifer, Jim, Stéphane, Carl, Don, Doug, Vic, John Heather and Matt sent their regrets.

Agenda: Add Brennan Park Connector, new opening / closing routines – meeting date change?
Be Bright at Night, RCMP bicycle ticketing?
Carl moved that we accept the Agenda as amended, seconded by Jim – carried.

Minutes from previous meeting: Question about minutes being posted on website? Discussion that we should ask Jude about a refresher course on website administration procedures. Discussion about archival files from Bob. Jennifer also has boxes of STS papers in her crawlspace and is willing to make room for more once they have been culled.
Stéphane moved that we accept minutes as presented, seconded by Doug – carried.

Reports:

Smoke Bluffs Committee: deferred as Matt is not at meeting.

Brush Back Brigade: Vic reported an interesting “almost confrontation” at last work party near Glacier View as a resident took exception to their efforts insisting they were damaging a Provincial Park. It was confirmed that the trail was on DoS land, works had originally been suggested by Counselor Race (who lives in the area) and the actual request for clearing had come from the Mayor. Apparently the gentleman was not happy – taking pictures and taking his complaints to members of Council. The material removed, which was largely blackberries was taken to the dump and put through there system as “invasive species” at no cost to STS. Thank you to Andy Dawson for facilitating a smooth transaction at the landfill.

Report to year to date: 267 hours of volunteer labour and `8.8 km of trails cleared.

Work usually continues until the end of October.

Action Item: Organize an appreciation luncheon for early November.

Financials: \$7258.49 in working fund, but that does not include the \$3000 for lawyer yet to come out. Discussion about the yearly cost of taxes. Last year was \$1250. It was suggested that we may be to get others to do our taxes for a better value.

Action Item: Jennifer to research and membership to send suggestions. Ie. Clearly Accounting?

Membership Report: Noted that we had raised \$220 to date from membership fees.

Discussion: Fees based on our fiscal calendar year so membership fees are due in January. Renewals usual paid at AGM – or community events. Noted that larger membership numbers, and therefore the need for a membership drive, are important for political influence. Discussion regarding membership options ie. “associate memberships” if you are a SORCA member, or if an individual puts in volunteer hours. Also noted that changes in membership formats must be reflected in the Societies constitution and bylaws.

New Business:

SORCA's All Candidates Meeting: Outdoor Recreation stakeholder groups have been invited to join event. Groups encouraged to question candidates regarding their support for user group goals and perspectives. Meeting is Monday November 3. (<http://www.sorca.ca>)

Carl and Jim both volunteered to represent STS

Action item: Carl to confirm STS commitment to participate.



Squamish Reporter: Gagandeep has requested a list of questions that the Reporter might use in its municipal election coverage. (www.squamishreporter.com)

Action item: Membership to send any appropriate questions to Carl, who will pass along.

Armstrong / Spallumcheen Trails Society: Request to use the wording of STS constitution when creating their own. Granted. (<http://astrailssociety.wordpress.com>)

Meeting Night Change: The Arts Council is changing the way use groups access the building. Doug Hackett is the new contact person – and requested that we consider changing our meeting night. Another user group has requested the third Thursday and SAC simply said they would ask if SES would be willing to change – with the understanding that we had first dibs. This was simply a fishing expedition request.
Discussion: No thanks, we like the third Thursday very much, thank you.

Be Bright at Night: Noted that it is that time of year again where it is starting to get dark very early. In previous years DoS had significant advertising and promotion of this initiative and maybe it was time to remind them?

Action item: Stéphane to contact DoS to remind them that it is that time again.

Discussion: noted that local paper had advised RCMP were going to start ticketing for bicycle infractions – including visibility at night.

5 SCHOOL ZONES SAFETY

The Squamish RCMP are increasing patrols and enforcement in school zones, and at this stage the violation tickets being issued are limited. For that the police thank the driving public for being responsible.

As well, officers are increasing their awareness and enforcement regarding cyclists. The police are reminding everyone to wear their helmets, and cycle with the safety and consideration of others as a priority. Share the roadways and trails, and be visible.

If anyone has any information relating to these or any other crimes, they are encouraged to contact the Squamish RCMP at (604) 892-6100 or by calling Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS.

SES: Mid-term Assessment? Stéphane's concern that being ½ way through the term to next AGM he wondered (out loud :-)) where are we at? Acknowledged that it is very difficult follow in Bob's shoes and level of commitment. Need group support to champion issues. Challenges all seem to come back to membership – all organizations need new blood, new champions, new ideas, community profile – members with "a fire in their bellies"! Maybe a renewal of the "adopt a trail" type of activities. Discussion: Where does the "info@" queries go now? (To Bob – passed on to Stéphane.)

Action item communications: Jennifer to check web site and "see what she thinks"! Looking for ideas and suggestions. Discussion: Distribution of minutes to membership and others to create awareness of group and activities. Need to be short and concise – yet meaty enough to garner attention. Needs cool stuff – links, videos – cartoons? Must be representative of original intent of Society as an "umbrella" group for trail users which includes seniors, families, cyclists, walkers, physically challenged, equestrians – you name it, when it comes to trails "we are all users"! (Trail Society web link is on the Squamish.ca website links page)

(Cool bike links: <http://www.copenhagenize.com> <http://www.copenhagencyclechic.com> <http://www.lightfootcycles.com/biking-tips/carrying-cargo/>)

(Insane trail video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TaNBuqSuNqk>)

As we look around the room and see a "lack of youthful faces" – how do we change or move forward. How do we attract a younger demographic, with different needs, to rejuvenate the Society? We need to build "profile", as before when we did lots of projects and got our image in local media. We need events in the news! Would be nice to get more profile, which would lead to easier fundraising? Website is pretty bland. Nice human interest – maybe BBB activities with before and after (maybe during) pictures and a little map showing where the trail is – it might be in your neighbourhood. We need a publicist?!



Old Business:

Wesbuild: Agreement with lawyer is now signed. Check is in the mail for retainer. The lawsuit documents have been sent and was in on time (Sept. 29), though we have not yet received a response.

Discussion: Where is the DoS and their lawyers in this. They had made original advise that this was an iffy case while latest views have somehow changed and that this action "should fly". We have been advise to not go public at this time and wait for advise of lawyer. Noted that Wesbuild is still indicated as our #1 supporter on website – to be removed ASAP.

Trail Review / Wish List: Document as presented to be forwarded to DoS.

Moved by Stéphane, seconded by Doug that we send Review to Matt Simmons and Dora Gunn.

Discussion: Noted that DoS is moving forward on replacement of bridge on Discovery Trail to Carson Place (at High School) and lifting trail along tidal channel. Alternate School working with DoS to build bridge structure. Also noted a good project would be gravelling and creation of crown for drainage on Discovery Trail from in front of the Brick, south to bridge at Dentville end.

Storage Clean-up / Cooking Supplies: Vic has been clearing out the storage area and reports that there is now room for the cooking supplies stored at Bob's. We should get an inventory of these supplies as well as everything else the Society has stored there. As noted previously, Jennifer has also offered to store Society boxed papers and archival information in her crawlspace.

Turtle Tour: Asked whether anyone present had participated. Noted that Meg has other alternate dates and tours planned.

Round the Table:

Commercial / Brennan Park Connector: There has been further discussion with the Festival and they requested "paperwork" for review, and appear to be supportive. Appealing to nearby developers for contributions as well. Question raised whether the intent was for this trail and bridges to be "horse friendly"? Yes.

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 20 at 7 pm, Squamish Arts Council building.

Adjournment: Moved by Stéphane, seconded by Jim
Meeting adjourned 20:45



Squamish Trails Society

General Meeting

November 20, 2014

Call to order: 19:05

In attendance: Jennifer, Jim, Carl, Patrick, Vic, John, Derek, Matt, Doug, Arlene, Heather, Sean
Stéphane sent their regrets.

Agenda: Carl moved that we accept the Agenda as presented, seconded by Jennifer – carried.

Minutes from previous meeting:

Moved by Heather that we accept minutes as presented, seconded by Matt – carried.

Brush Back Brigade Luncheon: Discussion – any targeted funding / fundraising for luncheon? Maybe DoS / Scott Lamont? Note that this is the year we re-graveled the “golf course” trails.

Action Item: Appreciation luncheon Noon, November 26 at Golf Course.

Financials: \$3756.10 in working fund. Jennifer concerned that if we do not succeed with “Westbuild” we will not have enough operating funds - unless we come up with other funding sources. “We will need some serious fund raising.” In the past we did get a “grant in aid” form DoS. Another opportunity maybe grants – if we have someone good at writing grants – ie. Community Enhancement Groups – which are usually targeted at community social services. Related item: Student school project asking questions about society, fund raising and use of funds. John to respond.

Action item: Continue search for “cheaper options” for taxes etc. to save funds.

Discussion: Worthwhile looking into grant options available. One way might be project based – develop projects and approach DoS for funding. Possibly propose a project in conjunction with SORCA? (ie Jack’s)

2015 Projects: We need to have a visioning process – what are our priorities? What is the group support for Brennan Park Connector, Laughing Turtle, gravelling.

Action item: Look to next meeting to establish priorities. We need to come back with ideas.

Proposed Project: Knotweed remediation. Have Brush Back member certified. Grant potential.

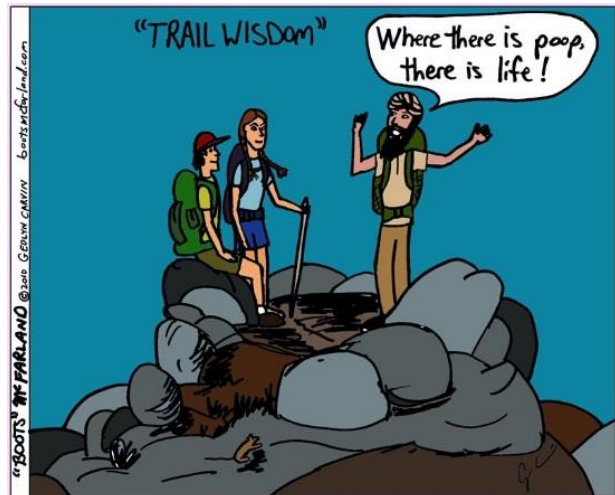
Action item: Bring back cost of certification.

Grant Application: Gravelling, signage,

Discovery Trail Bridge: Almost finished. Also Highway part has been re-graveled.

Maintenance of trails / signage are big issues – in concert with DoS.

Membership Report: Updated membership list. Heather has signed up for MailChimp to “engage” membership. Has created mock newsletter. What should we communicate in our first newsletter? What would we like included? Has the capacity to “subscribe and unsubscribe”. Since we are sending to all members – we should communicate great deal (t-shirt) to pay up. Trail Society has an important role in the community. Heather to circulate draft for comment. Looking into appropriate way for payment on line. Send Heather a cartoon. Be Bright at Night.



Emails from Website: to be forwarded to Stéphane.

SORCA's All Candidates Meeting: Interesting process and should repeat next year.

Wesbuild: Looking to have a discussion with our Lawyer about next steps. How do we know how much it is going to cost? What is the agreement? Discussion regarding negotiations. Eg. At some point it might be "this is the offer". Need to define a few questions. Are we talking about a percentage of settlement? Lawyer made comment that we always assumed "Westbuild" is the culprit and they say they pointed out to Standard Life their obligation. Process has to work itself through.

Trail Review / Wish List: Document as presented was forwarded to DoS. Not correspondence.

Storage Clean-up / Cooking Supplies: Room is available in storage for cooking supplies at Bob's. Vic to contact Bob to pick it all up.

Documents: Have been picked up, reduced and stored in Jennifer's crawlspace. Booth set up stuff at Heather's. Historical stuff saved.

Round the Table:

Smoke Bluff Park: Tree planting where Hydro just cleared? Trail rerouted around "Drenka" property. Spectrum contracted has cleared the line but waiting for BC Hydro oversight before completion. Cascade has provided environmental review.

Grant in Aid / DoS Budget: "Grant in aid" due December 12. Project based decisions – nothing currently planned. Based on value provided by Brush Back alone we should get some targeted funds from DoS. **Action item?** Letter to DoS with Grant in Aid: Value of Brush Back with target for x number of kilometers of trail. Heather and Matt and Derek to work on draft submission for \$5K - \$10K.
Tabled:

Integrated Flood Hazard Plan: Will have implications on trails.

Brennan Park Connector: Support indicated from Brand Live, DoS?, developers etc. Concerns about financial commitments. \$2000 max ask from STS? Looking at multiple funders.
Moved that John explore moving forward with grant in aid toward project. Moved by John, seconded by Doug – carried.

Next Meeting: Thursday, December 18 at 7 pm, Squamish Arts Council building.

Adjournment: Moved by Carl

Meeting adjourned 21:00



Squamish Trails Society

General Meeting

December 18, 2014

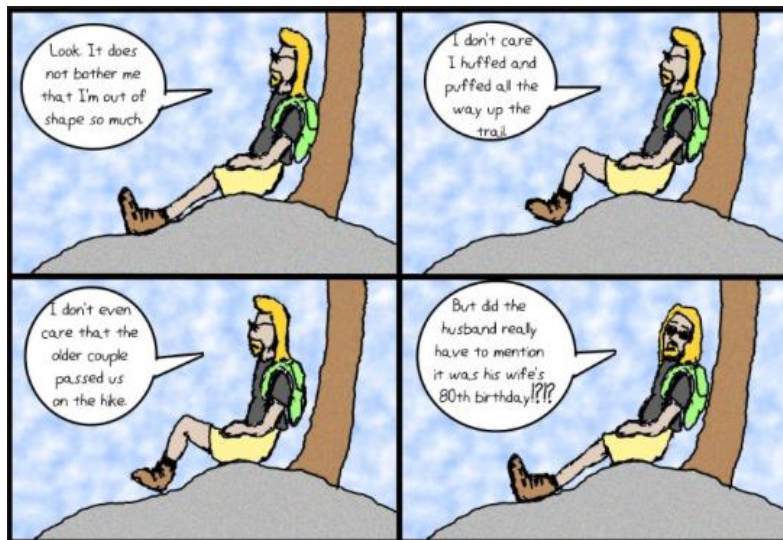
Call to order: 19:04

In attendance: Jennifer, Jim, Carl, Vic, John, Matt, Doug, Patsy, Candy, Meg, Stéphane, Don, Heather, Sean

Agenda: Stéphane moved that we accept the Agenda as presented, seconded by Jim – carried.

Minutes from previous meeting:

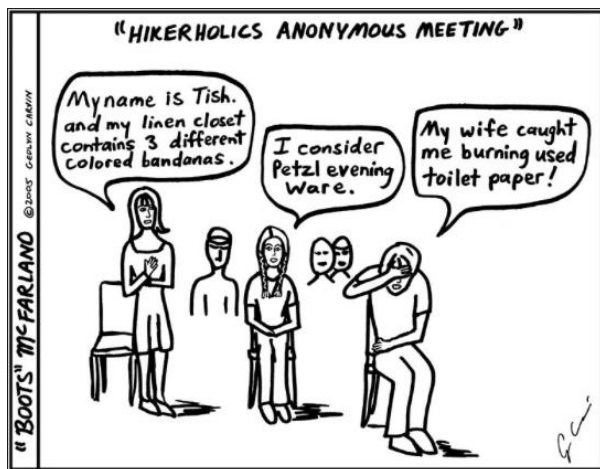
Noted that the previous minutes had the wrong date. Moved by Jim that we accept minutes as amended, seconded by Stéphane – carried.



Brush Back Brigade Luncheon: Apparently the lunch at the Golf Course was lovely – and paid for by the District of Squamish! Thank you very much to the DoS and particularly Andy Dawson for this recognition of the BBB's contributions. After lunch a few retired to Bob's house to move cooking supplies to STS storage.

Financials: Jennifer had talked to Larry McLennan regarding taxes. He felt they could be done for between \$500 - \$600. Jen to take him some files :-). Balance in working fund reported. Note that any donations that require a receipt for this year must be deposited by the end of the year. Noted the \$500 donation from Atlantic Power (Mamquam IPP) Carl moved to accept as presented, seconded by Jim – carried.

Membership Report: Noted that the newsletter had gone out and universally praised. Sent to full list of email addresses currently available with only one request to "unsubscribe". Heather is still fine tuning the list. Discussion: Maybe we could message on "Squamish Speaks" and other Facebook pages? Maybe we could attach a membership renewal with a January newsletter? Maybe we could pay memberships or make donations on-line? This had been researched before and it was felt that the level of fees compared to the amount collected did not make it worthwhile. It was noted that there could be new options available now and may be worth another look? Heather offered to help Jennifer research new options.



Cheekye Fan Proposal: 700 home development in Brackendale will have significant impacts on the Ray Peter and Dump Trails. Both DoS and developer's planner have offered to meet with STS to discuss impacts. **Action item:** Stéphane to invite to January meeting. Also suggested that we invite representatives from Triathlon. Maybe John French? **Discussion:** Followed silly dialogue regarding trail benefit of huge containment berm proposed by development. "Could be considered an community amenity if the top was 3 meter wide, paved, handicap accessible multiple user trail connecting to Cat Lake across the Cheakamus River? Possible training or climbing wall on face of 100 meter high catchment basin

Atlantic Power Corp Donation: Looking for a photo op with \$500 donation.

Flood Plain Forest Interpretive Loop: Meg Proposal for an interpretive loop co-sponsored by Sea to Sky Forestry Interpretive Centre, SRWS and possibly STS? Would entail upgrade and signage of existing Nature Trail loop – with easy access from proposed Forestry Centre site and Adventure Centre. Good opportunity for collaborative work parties. Draft plan attached to minutes by email.

Discovery Trail Bridge: noted that it is pretty much done but with recent high tides the north end has been flooded. Works still required on approaches. New bridge still does not have a name.

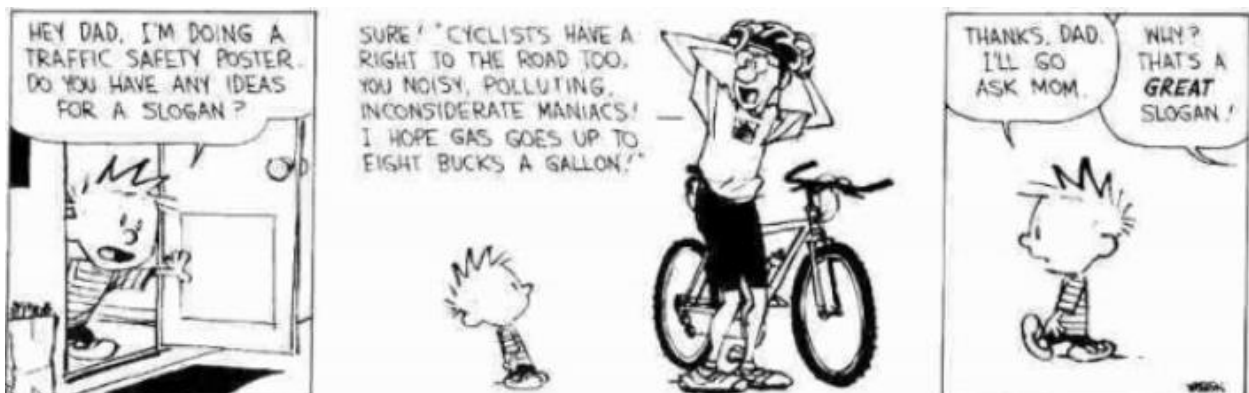
Visioning: What should be our focus in 2015? Any bright ideas?

Turtle Trail turns out to be a favourite. Goal to get route acknowledged on the OCP update. Need to start raising awareness and raise support by installing temporary trail markers defining route, another possible STS project. Could be icon (turtle) either stencilled on the roadway or markers that could be attached to posts or trees or ?. Turtle Trail seen as a part of a larger promotion of Squamish as a bike friendly place – for bikers of all stripes and abilities, and particularly a “bike friendly” downtown core. Turtle Trail and associated loops could connect the community. Discussion re: trail markers. We need a quick and dirty costing of marker options. Jennifer also is going to look into getting Turtle info linked to STS website.

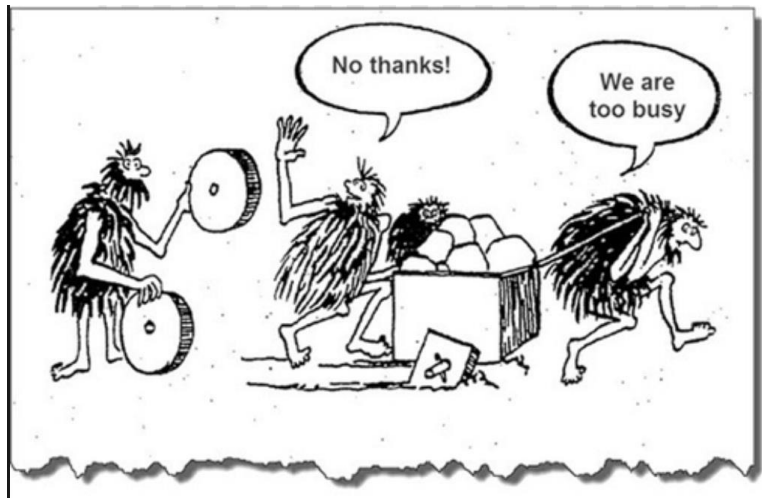


Estuary Trails. Noted that with removal of Westbarr log sort the trail network – from South Loop, North Loop, Cattermole Trails and Swan Trail need to be reassessed. Noted the loss of large bridge on South Loop as a big loss / problem / challenge. All stakeholders need to sit down and set some goals, standards and possibly some limitations to reduce impacts. Matt would like to take on a project to mitigate some of the rootier, muddier sections of the south end of Swan Trail by gravelling over some of the larger roots and filling low sections.

Tim Horton's Trail – refers to abandoned trail across the highway from Tim Horton's that connects to Logger's Creek Trail. It would get traffic off Finch. Needs some gravel and a few culverts.



Hospital Hill Connector Trail – Hunter Trail has been re-gravelled on the top section with the crushed black basalt from Watt's Point that the District seems to favour. STS has complained about this material before. It was used by Terasen to patch up the Discovery Trail and we complained unsuccessfully to have it replaced as it is almost impossible to ride through and does not compact. It has been used in several places by the District and is inappropriate in each case. In the case of Hospital Hill, the other option is "landscape stairs" which have their own set of problems. Recommended that we urge the DoS not to use this material on trails, and instead use 1/2" or 3/4" road base. Suggest gravel replaced first to see if we could avoid stairs?



Thunderbird Creek Trail – Pia to Coho Park – could use some attention.

Connector to Highlands – large set of stairs involved.

Corridor Trail – news that DoS plans to complete section from Garibaldi Way to Harris.

Kingswood Crossing – discussion of continuation of Corridor Trail northwards – what route?

Smoke Bluffs – looking into recycle containers at trail heads. May be appropriate other places?

Brennan Park Connector: Significant commitments from SVMP, Soltera and others. With support from all businesses in Walmart / Home Depot / new business park, DoS should not have to provide any funding to get it completed.

Coho Park Trails: noted that STS should re-connect with John Hawkins (sp?)

Judd Slough Bridge (Dowad property issue) – bridge is still hanging in there, but will need work if it is to survive. Project needs to move forward. Private property issues are still current.

Wonderland: Matt to do more tweaking this winter as folks go around bridges and make trail wider.

Invasive Species: Regional Council workshop in Whistler this February. Vic planning to attend. It was suggested that someone from the Council could give a presentation to BBB to ensure best practices. Suggest sending a letter to request? Also maybe a note on website regarding invasives – which ones to avoid?

Westbuild – side discussion: DoS needs to know where things currently stand. Apparently Westbuild and Standard Life lawyers are now in discussion regarding response to STS letters of demand. Still in process.

Next Meeting: Thursday, January 15 at 7 pm, Squamish Arts Council building.

Adjournment: Moved by Stéphane

Meeting adjourned 21:01

