

## Notes from Transition Sooke General Meeting, March 3, 2021

### Members Present:

Alan Dolan (facilitator)	Lynn Moss	Chris Moss
Jack Gegenburg	Hester Vair	Alysha Jones
Diane Bernard	Moki Tacon	Bev England
Heather Phillips	Susan Belford	David Mallett
Carol Mallett	Susan Clarke	Bernie Klassen
Paula Johanson	Jo Phillips	Don Brown
Koshin Moonfist	Lily Mah-Sen (notes)	

1. **Welcome**, Introductions, Acknowledgement of First Nations Territory
2. **Agenda** Review
3. **Approval of minutes of Feb. 3, 2021**  
Moved by Susan B/ Seconded by Moki “that the minutes of Transition Sooke’s meeting of Feb. 3, 2021 be approved as circulated.” Passed

4. **Treasurer’s Report.** David Mallett, the outgoing Treasurer, gave the report (see appendix).

Moved by Heather/ Seconded by Susan B “to reimburse David Mallett \$184.00 for payments made on behalf of Transition Sooke as per March 2021 Treasurer’s Report.” Passed

Moved by David/Seconded by Lynn “to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented.” Passed

5. **Funding Request.** Don Brown presented a request from the Sooke MultiBelief Initiative (SMBI) for \$300 towards the cost of producing a video featuring SMBI’s compassionate work in Sooke (such as support to the homeless shelter and subsidized housing for those on low income.) The video will be shown at a Charter for Compassion International webinar. SMBI will also be applying for a matching grant from the DOS community projects fund. The application to the fund would be made in Transition Sooke’s name.

Moved by Heather/ Seconded by David: “to approve the expenditure of \$300 for SMBI’s Compassionate City video project.” Passed

6. **Action Items from previous meeting.** All action items completed with exception of Bylaws Revision (Hester and Jill are working on it). Moki lead a Transition Sooke team on the Coldest Night of the Year Walk. They raised a total of \$640 for charities working with the homeless in the Sooke Region.

## 7. Report from Transition Sooke's OCP and Climate Action Team

The OCP and Climate Action Team has been active since Aug and has met 15-20 times. On Feb. 25, Alan and Susan B made a presentation to DOS' OCP Advisory Committee to explain our position that climate action must be the overarching framework for Sooke's new OCP. (Presentation is available for download: <https://transitionsooke.org/official-community-plan-and-climate-action-team/> and can be watched for a limited time here: <https://zoom.us/rec/share/bEcr97IE55TP8q8L3F4iJ86He2QvblEAQjsSRluDjYktj3dLkBucSRijf4NELZzk.iqTIVjB4OAsl1pPv?startTime=1614830018000>)

### Comments on the Power Point Presentation:

After viewing the presentation, the following comments and suggestions were made:

- Excellent presentation—needs to be shown widely, including to Sooke Council and to other relevant committees (Climate Action Committee, Land Use Committee)
- Use social media to get this information out to the public
- Set up a Roundtable Discussion with members from the OCP Committee, CAC Committee, and Transition Sooke
- In presenting this information to Sooke Council, follow up the presentation with a specific proposal or “ask” for them to consider
- Dialog (the company hired to produce the OCP) has set up an on-line survey for Sooke residents on growth in Sooke (looking at such things as patterns of growth—i.e., whether growth should take place in the core or in designated neighbourhoods). This approach already assumes a high level of growth. What about a no-growth scenario?
- Can we turn the planning process around? Private land developers make the decisions on where, what and when to develop, and we have to live with the results. Can we, as a community, first decide what we need and want to see in our community? The developers would then need to work within our parameters, not the other way around. Attempts to do this type of exercise (they were known as “Charettes”) have been held in the past. The results of the Charettes, though, seem to have disappeared into “nowhere”.
- In looking through historical documents, we find that Sooke has produced some excellent plans that take climate change into account—but these plans have never been properly implemented. How can we hold DOS accountable for follow-through?

### Climate First Document:

Last year's Climate Action Committee (a DOS Committee) had used the term “Climate First” in the workplan it presented to the Sooke Council. Al Beddows, a Councillor, asked what is meant by that term. The question was sent to DOS staff for a response.

Our OCP and Climate Action Team has worked on Transition Sooke's definition for “Climate First”. (draft sent out with the agenda for this meeting). Our intention is to send our definition to the Sooke Council, cc'd to the Advisory Cmts. Please review the draft and send comments to Alan asap.

**OCP Video Stars:** Only a small number of youth and people on limited incomes responded to Dialog’s fall consultation on what people want to see in Sooke. We want to reach out to a broad range of citizens by asking Sooke residents of all ages to videotape their answers to questions such as “What do you like about your neighborhood?” “What don't you like?” “What do think of the rate at which Sooke is growing?” Transition Sooke will highlight some of the video results on social media and will use others to stimulate discussions at an online Town Hall meeting. To get involved with this project, contact Alan.

8. **Report on Sooke Council Meetings.** Hester reported that the Council watchdog group is continuing to monitor council meetings, either joining the meeting virtually or viewing the video recordings afterwards. There are some technical challenges, especially when on-line links to committee meetings don’t work properly, or when the DOS staff take a long time after the meetings have already been held before posting the videos.
9. **Climate Emergency Reports from other Action Teams:** none
10. **District of Sooke Climate Action Committee:** There are 5 Transition Sooke members sitting on this committee: Moki Tacon, Bernie Klassen, Beth Lange, Anna Russell, and Steve Unger. A number of working groups have been established (e.g., a group that will review the data and crunch the numbers, a group that is looking at how to meet the challenge of reducing GHG’s by 7% each year, a communications group). This committee was informed that they have the year to wrap up their work, as this will be the last year for CAC to exist.

**District of Sooke Land Use Committee:** Susan Belford sits on this Committee. They have just held their initial meeting.

## 11. Transition Sooke Communications

### **New One- Pager to describe Transition Sooke**

We reviewed the one-pager on TS worked on by Jack, Alan, and Lily. It describes who we are, how we do it, what we do, and where we come from. We agreed that the document needs to be reviewed regularly and updated as needed.

**Website:** Claudia Frickel is working on the website with Alan.

**Newsletter:** Bernie and Christa Brenan are working on the newsletter. We still need volunteers to work on publicity and to take on the role of Secretary.

12. **Next meeting:** Wednesday April 7, 2021, 7-9 pm

## 13. Adjournment

Moved by Alan/ Seconded by Lily “to adjourn”. Passed.

Appendix:

TRANSITION SOOKE  
TREASURER'S REPORT  
Wednesday, March 03, 2021

Accounts

Current Account Balances: Account Name	Balance
Coast Community Chequing (100)	\$4,657.39
Wild Wise Sooke (101)	\$0.51
Zero Waste Sooke (102)	\$1,197.54
Special Events (103)	\$0.00

**INCOME:**

NO INCOME IN FEBRUARY

**EXPENSES:**

EXPENSES IN FEBRUARY

1. Annual renewal of website hosting with WordPress \$120.00
2. Annual Transition Sooke Domain Name renewal \$ 24.00
3. Annual Societies Annual Report BC Filing Fee \$ 40.00

TOTAL. \$184.00

Payment paid on-line using David Mallett's VISA  
David Mallett reimbursed by cheque #129

4. March 1st Monthly automatic transfer to Britt Sankowski  
for Sooke Pocket News \$ 20.00