

**Transition Sooke  
Monthly Meeting Notes  
September 1, 2021 7 pm**

1. Welcome, Land Acknowledgement, and Social Circle
2. Facilitator: Lily; Note-taker: Alan
3. Agenda review
4. **Approved minutes of last meeting (Aug. 4, 2021)**
5. Treasurer's Report (see below)  
**Motion: Receive and approve report of the treasurer. Moved by Lily; seconded by Lynn. Passed.**
6. Transition Sooke needs small signs and a larger banner with our new logo.  
**Motion: Authorize Alan Dolan to work with a printer and spend up to \$250 to produce:  
Three 21x12 vinyl signs mounted on chloroplast  
Large vinyl banner approx 3' x 6' with grommets for hanging  
Moved by Lily; seconded by Lynn. Passed.**
7. Update on Action Items
  - a. Climate solutions tour (Susan C, Chris M, Lynn M, Alan D) \_ Alan noted that a proposal sent out earlier has been withdrawn a new one will be sent out by the committee shortly that specifies where volunteers are needed (Bernie suggestion)
  - b. Press Release for TS support of Eco Academy (Lily) – Based on a decision at our August meeting. Issued and picked up by Pocket News and online Sooke News Mirror
  - c. Bus shelter climate change poster contest (Gord) **Action: Alan to work with Gord to put out a news release on this initiative.**
  - d. WE-CAN Launch postponed until Oct 6. Launch pre-empted by Federal Govt elections (Lily)
  - e. Letter to Mayor and Council supporting the 7% Solution- went out (Roland and Alan)
8. Watchdog Report on Sooke Council Meetings (Hester) Hester gave a comprehensive report on the August 30 Special Council meeting where the latest draft of the OCP was approved for public engagement. The main take-away was that council and staff (yay) publicly voiced their dilemma — they are afraid of developers' power. They want to have stricter zoning bylaws. McInnis: at least incentivize developers to follow OCP; who said? "be strict and charge a lot for Development, developers' are making a fair profit. OCP Advisory Com. wants to stay on to work on the new zoning bylaw, after the OCP is approved by council. For details, go to: <https://transitionsooke.org/council-meeting-watchdog/>

## 9. Team Reports:

- a. OCP and Climate Action Team (Alan D, Susan C) – Alan noted that in conversations with DoS, he learned that the engagement process on the OCP will begin Sept 18 at the Celebrate Sooke event and end in mid-October. There will be a variety of different ways to submit input on the OCP including possibly face-to-face events. The OCP and Climate Team will continue to review the latest draft OCP. This may be an important time to address Sooke Council and weigh in on issues around the OCP of interest to us — growth, development, greenhouse gases, retrofits and more. Alan’s proposal to make a presentation to council on September 20. Susan suggested continue with weighing in on the engagement and letters to the SNM. Addressing council is a waste of time. They do not want to interfere with Dialog, that’s why they have staff and committees working with them. Our work is with staff and committees and so far, it’s been working to influence the council, who have come to the horrifying precipice of “pissing off” the developers. Maja has said she wants to get province onboard. Lily suggested we should all read the draft OCP, come back with 3 concerns with the draft, and write letters
- b. Local Economy Team (Jo) – Local Economy Team submitted answers to Sooke’s economic development survey.
- c. Water Group (Lynn) – Lynn and Chris have done some research, reaching out and nudging. Mike Hicks has asked the JdF to commission a new water study as the last one was in 2003-04 and there has been quite a bit of development since then. Development in areas without piped water is dependent on "proving water" — drilling a well that demonstrates it has the flow to support a household. Some of the areas have very fragile (seasonal or low flow) water supplies so new development could adversely impact people already in the area. Water generally comes from deep or shallow wells or licensed water (license to draw water from streams, etc.). Rainwater harvesting for watering gardens and/or potable water is growing in the area.

OPSRRA is putting out a new well survey for people and will collate the responses. Lynn and Chris are also reaching out and plan to meet in September with people from Langford and Metchosin with the same concerns over the aquifer that reaches from Metchosin to Port Renfrew. We are researching old JdF and JdF LUC minutes and addendum to references to water.

## 10. District of Sooke Committees

- a. Climate Action (Bernie is chair) – CAC trying to reconcile the fact that there are 1,200 dwellings approved for construction in Sooke and that blows the lid off the 7% solution.
- b. OCP Advisory (Susan C attended) - Susan reported that the committee wasn’t too happy with the draft OCP and didn’t think it was ready for council to green light. However, in the interest of Dialog’s timeline and money, the committee agreed

(with one abstention) to recommend Dialog go ahead with the engagement phase but include the OCPAC in developing the engagement. Helen Ritts, the new chair, would present an alternate brief of concerns along with the recommendation.

- c. Land Use and Development – Ctte did not meet in August
- d. Economic Development – Ctte did not meet in August

11. Volunteers needed for TS Table

- a. Celebrate Sooke Day Sept. 18 (Gord booked table, no cost)
- b. Sooke Region Food Chi's Apple Festival Sept. 26 (Alan)

**Motion: Transition Sooke to reimburse Alan Dolan for cost of booking a table at the Apple Fest (\$15) Moved by Lynn; seconded by Chris. Passed.**

12. 100 Debates – Alan noted an upcoming online, all-candidates meeting on environment, health and climate on September 8 (To register: [100debates.ca](http://100debates.ca); For info: [100debatesmetchosin@gmail.com](mailto:100debatesmetchosin@gmail.com))

13. Rally on Saturday Sept 4, 12 – 1 Lions in the Park Everyone is encouraged to download or pick up the form, fill it out and return it to DoS office.

14. Next Meeting: Oct. 6, 2021. 7 pm. Facilitator: Alan

TRANSITION SOOKE  
TREASURER'S REPORT  
Wednesday Sept 1, 2021

**Current Account Balances:**

**Accounts**

Account Name	Balance
Coast Community Chequing (100)	\$3,913.78
SMBI (101)	\$0
Zero Waste Sooke (102)	\$1,197.54
Special Events (103)	0

**INCOME in August: \$0**

**EXPENSES from Aug. 4 (date of previous meeting) to Sept.1:**

**Coast Community Account #100**

Sept. 1 monthly automatic transfer to Britt Santowski  
For Sooke Pocket News

\$ 20.00

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:**

Grant to EMCS ECO Academy as per decision made at

Aug. 4, 2021 meeting

\$1,000.00