

Transition Sooke Monthly Meeting Feb 4, 2023

In attendance:

Alan, Lily, Carol, Dave, Chris, Lynn, Diana G, Jo, Heather, Gord, George, Isaline, Susan C, Paula, Bernie, Bonnie, Susanb

1. **Appoint note-taker:** Susan B
2. **Agenda** was accepted as presented.
3. **Review Notes** from January 11, 2023, were approved. Moved: Jo, Second: Bernie
4. **Treasurer's Report** – Lily was accepted as presented, Moved: Lily, Second: Susan

Lily reported that she is currently working of T2 forms for Transition Sooke dating back to incorporation.

Current Account Balances:

Account Name	Balance
Coast Community Chequing (100)	\$1,571.26
Zero Waste Sooke (102)	\$1,142.75
Special Events (103)	\$0

Details:

Coast Community Chequing (Account #100)

Opening Balance (Jan.1 2023): \$ 1612.76

Expenditures: \$ 40.00 donation to West Coast Climate Action Network

\$ 1.50 Interact Service Charge

Total Expenditures: \$41.50

Current Balance: \$1571.26

No changes to Zero Waste Sooke (Account #102) or Special Events (Account #103) since the report presented at our last meeting.

5. Actions from January meeting

- a. Jo to contact Stephen re bike lockers: Jo spoke with Steven. The bike lockers are owed by BC Transit, placed as a donation. Steven will continue to be the contact person. Interested locker renters should contact the gmail, and the gmail folks (Susan and Jo) will forward the contact info to Steven. The lockers are now listed on the BC Transit, SoS and CRD green maps. They rent for \$10 per month, \$100 per year.
- b. Susan B to drop off TS newsletter at the Sooke Museum: The Museum is will to archive both hard copy and electronic copies of our newsletters. They began the process of downloading newsletters from the website, but found that editions from 2013 to 2016 were missing. These items are being hunted for: Jeff Bateman was able to come up several, but not all.
- c. Susan B has met with Susan Percival about the eco fair in May; An email conversation including Gord is ongoing regarding the poster contest.
- d. Alan to notify United We Stand for Old Growth and get TS on the list of supporters
Steering: This has been done. Alan will coordinate a TS presence with banner at the Feb 25th event. Susanb will be in town and will meet others there.
- e. Susan C to send invite to active members to join public forum committee: This has been done both through email and through the newsletter.

6. Steering Committee Report

- a. Report on Strategic Planning Session (January 22, 2023) – Susan B. Susan gave a short report, a full proceedings of the event is available on the website. She noted that three teams came out of the session:
 - Fundraising
 - Social Marketing and Outreach
 - Protecting Land and reducing emissions

The first two teams have met, the third has not yet met, but may be strongly influenced by the Public Forum.

Lily spoke briefly about the fundraising group, noting that money is needed for two types of expense:

- Operating costs such as the website and domain, etc and

- **Projects**

She reported that various fundraising ideas have been discussed including membership fees, donations, a fundraiser event, donation jars at every event. She also noted that both the Speaker's Series and the Eco Home Tour made money prior to COVID.

She indicated that although the District of Sooke has funded various TS projects, as there are no ideas ready at this time, TS will have to wait till next year to approach them for funding. It was noted that Zero Waste Sooke may apply for funds for a community clean up.

The list of funders compiled by Diana G was referenced and other sources of funding were discussed (Real Estate Foundation (Paid for the Eco Home Tour, CRD, EMOTIV)

- b. Posting on the active members list: Alan reminder folks that anyone and everyone may post to the active members list; just make sure your post meets the criteria: so personal comments, etc. Alan noted that he is able to shrink any files that are too big for posting.

7. Working Group Reports

- a. Watchdog volunteer call – Susan B: no report
- b. Water –Chris and Lynn. Members of the 606 Water Group are trying to grow it. It is not really a Transition Sooke organization, more connected to OPSRA water.
- c. Zero Waste – Paula reported that the Fabric Swap was very successful and raised \$118 in donations which will be given to the library to help pay for a 3D scanner to go with their i3D printer.

8. Network Reports:

- a. We-Can – Lily reported that Feb 22 at 7 pm a Webinar will be held giving briefing about the 3 biggest climate campaigns.
 - b. SICAN Susan C reported that SICAN will be taking a regional approach through the CRD, concerning electric transportation and buildings, and will receive a 20 minute presentation from Andrew Gage, the lawyer behind Sue Big Oil. Susanb noted that she and Jo will be presenting to Council on Sue Big Oil on February 27.
9. **Report on Public Forum** –Susan reported that the public Forum has been booked for March 26 in the Community Hall, downstairs. There will be an email with times and other details and full report for the next monthly meeting.
10. **Sooke EV charging stations** –Led by David and Carol, a discussion ensued about EV charges in Sooke and the need to increase the number of Level 3 chargers, which take only 30

minutes to achieve a full charge.; the District provides level 2 chargers only which can take 4-7 hours to charge. This isn't good, considering that Sooke is on the Pacific Circle Route. Port Renfrew has a Level 3 charger.

11. **Old Growth Rally** – Feb 25. TS involvement – Gord
12. **EMCS Poster Contest** – Gord reported that EMCS is happy to participate again this year on a climate poster contest. Gord will once again contribute \$200 but would like to up the value of the prizes and asked Transition Sooke to also contribute \$200. This request was moved by Gord, seconded by Susanb, and was carried.
13. **Fortis “renewable natural gas” update** – Susan C, Kief, Roland Susan’s report follows:
Adopting Lynn’s name for the sub-team: Fortis Disinformation Defence Group, Susan reported that they continue to research, analyze and challenge Fortis’ claims to deliver low-carbon renewable gas (biomethane). Our information is built on what other municipalities, organizations and individuals have shared, as well as preparing our own arguments.

The province will be passing a new building code regulation called Carbon Pollution Standard to help municipalities account for the intensity of carbon emissions from buildings.

The group’s task is to communicate with staff and council about the need to electrify all buildings that can easily be electrified, leaving only the most difficult cases to use the scarce biomethane. This is the most prudent way to meet our GHG emissions target.

Here’s a link to Safe Cities toolkit for BC Residents to advocate for low carbon buildings in your community, check this draft out: https://docs.google.com/document/d/13-TeG2-gKdtXle8dUgieWVQofXNL_6iQ4hMOppTPO9Y/edit?usp=sharing

14. **Update on SRCHN Volunteer and Job Fair, Feb 11** – Paula and Alan will set up and table from 10 to 12 while Jo, Susan and Aurora will table 12-2
15. **Bonnie ‘s Beyond Costco** presentation: Bonnie reported that she met with the Mosses, then met with management folks at Costco. They were receptive and are already doing some good stuff. They had looked over the presentation before the meeting. Costco has two big “footprint issues”; food waste, and recycling. By donating to Mustard Seed and

Rainbow Kitchen, Costco has food waste managed through the week except for Sundays.
Speculative discussion ensued, but no action items.

16. Lily suggested a fundraising idea regarding the Return It depot returning cash payments for items to Transition Sooke, on donors request.

Action Items: Alan to coordinate a Transition Sooke presence at the Feb 25 Old Growth Rally.

Next Meeting: March 11; Facilitator: Susan B