

16_07_24, FoKL's Board Meeting
12 – 2 pm Lakeside Park, Nelson

Attending: Sukhananda, Melanie Mobbs, Ben Simoni, Michelle Oakley, Lily Feedback, Alanda Greene

We welcomed Michelle and introduced ourselves.

Melanie provided printed copies of draft agenda, suggested items for FoKLSS attention in the ensuing months (outlined by David), and a workplan for 24/25 suggested by David.

Agenda Items

1. Financial Report (Ben):

- Ben has had no response from book keeper, Cleilie, on exact financials to end of 2023.
ACTION: Alanda contact Ben and Rory (former FoKLSS treasurer) with suggestion for both of them to visit Cleilie in person and get the financial information.
- Estimated \$5000. in the bank. There is money owed from past projects but Greg advised Ben not to count on this coming in.
- Insurance and WorkSafe continue to be paid
- For short term – ongoing expenses – we're okay but to become more active, to implement a work plan, we need to spend money, especially on the help we need.
- We need unrestricted income with freedom to spend it as necessary.
- Ben suggested that we looked for a grant from Eco once we can employ staff again. They can offer up to \$25K in wage subsidy.

2. Beach Clean-up (Lily)

- Visited Harrop Wetlands previous week, took photos
- Not sure exactly where a beach clean-up would happen
- What items are in storage that support beach clean-ups?
- AGREED, It is important to keep these going in creating awareness of FoKLSS and in giving support for FoKLSS activities.
- We will have two this summer, in August.
- ACTION: Lily will contact Gwen and Camille for information on previous clean-ups to inform choosing beaches this year, recruiting volunteers and the equipment available
- Lily will contact Greg to get key.

3. Charitable Status (Sukananda)

- We're well-prepared to move forward on this. The legal information has been sent. We need a more detailed explanation of the work we do to explain the Strategy. David's proposals are in the draft Work Plan he circulated which links activities to strategic goals.
- We need to have the decision to apply for charitable status ratified at the AGM and vote on the proposed changes to the constitution accordingly.

4. Grant Research Report (Melanie)

- ACTION: Melanie Up to \$3500 is available with **CBT** for Board Development Grant
 - i. 20% contribution required from FoKLSS
 - ii. Sukhananda suggested looking at the last report done through CBT, to see what was recommended and what was completed last time we got their Board governance advice.
- ACTION: Melanie - BC Gaming Grant:
 - i. In 2022 FoKL received from them a \$4000. grant for Osprey Monitoring. All reports were completed
 - ii. BC G Grants will provide year to year grants for ongoing projects. Suggestion to make our application more general, putting together all the projects we have normally done year to year and including outreach (instead of education) for access the year-to-year support. Much information in on the website – reports about projects completed in the past. There's even a Children's Passport for Water Awareness program. We want to promote lake awareness

5. Volunteer Committee Creation With the idea of reducing board meetings to monthly and smaller groups addressing these areas.

Fundraising & Grant Writing: (Melanie, Ben, Lily, Greg?)

- Money will be needed for the Summit.
- ACTION: Perhaps Greg can ask Fortis for \$20K also Nelson Hydro might help – would Greg be the best contact
- Sukhananda raised area of approaching business organizations for money. For this, we need a story to develop. A few benefactors soon would give a baseline to move forward, before grant writing.
- Needing someone with fundraising experience
- Grant writing: Melanie – and Lily wants to learn this
- Stephanie may be able to help here.

Kootenay Lake Summit (Alanda, Gwen, and maybe Martin and David?)

- We need board involvement on speakers to choose. The committees can suggest speakers and bring to board.
- We need to decide on who and when (dates) to find out if people will be available. And we need a nice venue if we are going to make a charge and make this a fundraiser this year.
- Lily suggests the floating wetlands project – has the slides from this and would need to contact Margot Webster, the creator.
- Other suggestions: Greg, Robin, Susan Simard, Eileen Delahanty-Pearkes, indigenous
- Melanie mentioned a possible Sinixt speaker
- ACTION: Sukhananda will contact Martin, Greg, and John on the possible topics and invitees.

Beach Clean-Up (Lily and others?)

- AGREED: choose popular visible beaches. Taghum and Lakeside were mentioned but this might depend on who is responsible for looking after them\
- We'd have two in August – and post on social media
- ACTION: see above
- ACTION: Sukhananda to point Lily to previous beach report clean-ups

Education and Outreach (Sukhananda and others?)

- Membership drive connection:
- ACTION: Sukhananda to send out info to the existing membership group, explaining current 6-month membership. Offer early info on the Summit so that they can book their places.
- On social media we need stories and photos
- ACTION: Lily has sent Sukhananda photos from Harrop Wetlands.
ACTION: Michelle – question Stephanie (Co-op Radio) for fundraising advice using social media.
- ACTION: Sukhananda's upcoming interview on radio tomorrow morning to be posted today on social media; acquire copy of interview to be posted later; post info on upcoming beach clean ups.
- ACTION: Sukhananda ask members for someone to volunteer social media support.
- Ideas for the future: a membership card with various business sponsors with connection to lake/water giving 10% (eg) discount with presentation of a FoKLSS card. eg Prestige, Ainsworth, paddle boards, marinas and restaurants, and others with businesses on the Lake

Board Development Committee (Michelle, Melanie, Martin, Sukhananda)

- Material is being added to website in the area just accessible to Board members to provide an easily accessible place to refer back to meetings and agreed policies and guidelines.
- ACTION: Sukananda to give Michelle the web link when she has her email address. Include Melanie in the email.

6. Work Review 2024 (David's list)

Everyone on board received the list; these are comments or changes on specific items; others remain for now for action/comment later

July Suggestions:

- financial reports not done; in progress
- David is back next week and needs to be updated on the comments on his Work Plan and this timeframe.
- Begin summit fundraising – Melanie, Greg, Fortis?

- Volunteer role descriptions, each committee could write these on their areas needing help.
- Member fundraising – start here (a move)

August:

- complete financial reports (moved)
- Start Board development
- Agree work plan (see David's)
- develop stewardship communication campaign – ask David about his thinking on this

September

- start regular monthly Board meetings
- member fundraising and looking for volunteers – continuing here
- draft charity application (moved)
- AGM – too soon, need work plan, charity amendments, financials ready (see November)
- continue with Summit planning

October

- hold Summit ideally by end of October (preferably before Sukhananda leaves for winter)

November

- the AGM needs to be in November, after the Summit time for charity status to be completed and the accounts brought together. The AGM also involves any Board membership changes. We vote on them. New-comers are accepted for 3 years.

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General Other comments:

- We need to talk with Robin about meeting before September. We could invite him to ashram, or could some of us could go to Creston,
- ACTION: Lily text Robin again asking and offering suggestions, reiterating we would like to talk with him
- David: a revised work plan – communications with David next week

Next Meeting: after Ben returns, late August, could be Zoom.