

7/10/2024 FoKLSS Board Meeting Notes

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

Agenda

1. Updates

2. Draft Plan Response & Discussion

- missing or extra?
- budgets?
- roles, timelines?
- funding?

3. Next meeting

1. Updates (Sukhananda)

- **Social media:** more than 1500 saw the June 20 meeting notes, 35-40 responded positively and Blair from Fortis forwarded them with a “this is good” comment.
- **Contact made from:**
 - Four potential volunteers who are willing to contribute effort, if we can be clear what the tasks are
 - Storm Lennie 9a Nelson Reporter) would like to help get the word out
How do we most use or get the best effort from those who want to get involved?
- **Current membership numbers:** 55.
- **Financials:** Ben:
 - FoKL’s bookkeeper has finally updated the books. We will now switch to either QuickBooks online or using an alternate bookkeeper who maintains financials with QB.
 - ACTION: Ben will speak to David this week the cost of the bookkeeper he mentioned (used with Nelson United) and compare cost.
 - Updated accounts sit at about \$6000; monthly expenses for storage locker, software, insurance, Gwen’s time.

2. Draft Plan

- **Funding:**
 - Ben reiterated the need to establish secure funding. (We need staff.) BC Gaming Grants and others are now coming out. Do we have a volunteer team to do the grant submission? BC Gaming can be non-project grants and perhaps assign enough funds to get us going.
 - Sukhananda mentioned that in talking to funders we need projects to show that “we’re in business” – small ones like beach clean-up, Kokanee Creek Park (need to check with David who mentioned this, as to what he had in mind). We could get some volunteers – eg, those working with youth. Others? These could put us in a position to apply for grants to lead larger projects later
 - ACTION: Melanie will look at FoKLSS accounts with Ben and Gwen.

- ACTION: Lily is willing to lead beach clean-up. She will look at Harrop wetlands project this coming week, take photographs. The work FOKLSS did there is showing success – a good news story.
- ACTION: Melanie will call the CBT coordinator to discuss which grant applications might give the best fit for funding.
- ACTION: Sukhananda will contact Paris about who Melanie should best talk with in the RDCK

- **Charitable Status**
 - Top priority for many types of funding but will take time.
 - need for a push of people to be involved to coalesce and move forward
 - need a funding start, short term, to get moving with the goal of charitable status asap. This process requires AGM ratification.
 - need to resolve unfiled tax question?
 - ACTION Melanie will check with Gwen on this information

- **FoKL Summit**
 - will require much of our finances
 - Melanie will contact Martin as to his involvement
 - Summit could be in fall; Juliet Craig of Kootenay Conservation is hosting a 2-day Summit in October. We would want to avoid scheduling a summit close in time to that.
 - ACTION: Sukhananda will circulate the information about that – so that we don't clash
 - ACTION: Check with Fortis as to funding a summit (not sure who yet)
 - ACTION: Sukhananda will send out a request to members needing to renew and invite new members
 - need to determine who might like to be part of organizing.
 - Who might we want to invite? What kind of presentations? We brainstormed
 - Lily suggested possibility of using Harrop Wetlands project – data on before and after
 - Robin Louie – Indigenous presentation
 - Susan Simard as presenter – knowledge on influence of forests and logging methods
 - *Big River; Resilience and Renewal in the Columbia River* – David Moskowitz and Eileen Delehanty Pearkes
 - Lily knows grad student who had good presentation on work with floating wetlands as method of using plants to take up contaminants.
 - ACTION: Lily will get more info to share
 - Influence of shoreline development on fish stocks
 - development control to protect shoreline, loss of unspoiled edges

Committee Possibilities

- Charitable Status: Sukhananda, David, Gwen

- Finance: Ben, Melanie (Greg?)
- Board Development: This is an interest of Melanie. There is CBT funding for this.

**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, July 16: Nelson, Rotary Shelter at Lakeside Park,
12 noon – 2pm – Bring your lunch.**

Preparation: reflect on Draft Plan document David submitted