

Wells-Barkerville Community Forest Ltd.

Minutes: Open Board Meeting

February 21, 2017

At District of Wells Municipal Hall – Board Room

Attendance: John Massier (Board Chair); Janet Aitken; Margaret Inoue; Paul Galliazzo, RPF; Ian Macdonald; Councillor Virginia Wilkins; Andrew Young, CAO, District of Wells

Public Attending: Mayor Sharpe, Councillor Kozar, John Aitken, Richard George, Larry Pawlowicz

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA

- a. The Meeting of the Wells-Barkerville Community Forest Ltd (WBCF) Board was called to order by the Chair at 7:00 PM
- b. Agenda – Moved by Virginia Wilkins, Seconded by Ian Macdonald that the Agenda be adopted as amended by deferring the adoption of the December 9, 2016 meeting minutes to the closed part of the meeting. Passed Unanimously

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES: Nil

3. DELEGATIONS AND PETITIONS:

- a. Susan Mulkey, BCCFA Extension and Communications Manager

At 7:05 pm John Massier, WBCF Board Chair welcomed Susan Mulkey.

Ms. Mulkey provided an overview of the activities of the British Columbia Community Forest Association (BCCFA). She stated that the BCCFA works to promote best forestry practices among its community forest membership to help secure long-term benefits that also support a range of values beyond traditional forestry. She stated that expansion of the community forest program in BC is the number one priority of the BCCFA. The Provincial Government, however, has established other programs in response to recent Court land claim decisions (i.e. Tsilhqot'in land claim decision). Because of the Court's decisions and the large number of land claims there is lots of uncertainty now across the Province. There is always a need to develop and maintain good relations with First Nations in BC.

Ms. Mulkey stated that she has looked at the WBCF Agreement Application which includes several documents including for example a management plan and a business plan and that those documents provide specific directions for the WBCF.

Andrew Young asked Ms. Mulkey to forward a copy of the WBCF business plan to him as he has never seen it. It will also need to be forwarded to the WBCF Board.

She stated that problems can arise for community forest boards from shareholder involvement in the affairs of the corporation. She recommended against the appointment of shareholder representatives to a Community Forest Board due to the potential for a conflict of interest.

Ms. Mulkey then spoke about the “Shareholder/Corporation Contract” document which the BCCFA developed in 2016. She explained that the BCCFA promotes consensus based decision making. Nevertheless, it is important that a contract document between the two parties is established before problems arise. The challenge, however, is in the details of the contract document. She stated too that there needs to be a clear benefits policy established before the community forest starts to receive revenues. It is also important too to determine what the community forest intends to do in the future.

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Susan Mulkey concluded her remarks at 8:00 pm. She then left the meeting.

Moved by Margaret Inoue, Seconded by Virginia Wilkins that the presentation by Susan Mulkey, Extension and Communications Manager with the BC Community Forest Association be received. Passed Unanimously

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES / UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Nil

5. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Administrative activities:

- i. Mailbox: Margaret Inoue reported that a post office mailbox had been set up at for the WBCF Ltd at the Wells Post Office. The WBCF Ltd mailbox number is 69. Keys for the mailbox are available at the Wells Post Office and are registered under the names of: John Massier, Chair; Margaret Inoue, Vice-Chair; and Andrew Young, Finance-Chair.

- ii. Bank Account: Andrew Young reported that a bank account at Integris Credit Union for the WBCF Ltd is in the process of being set-up. This will be completed shortly after Coffey & Bernath (Solicitors) have completed filing the company's annual report with the Provincial Government.
- b. Board Procedures / Policies documents: Copies of the several documents were distributed to the Board for future review and discussion, including "The Shareholder/Corporation Contract" developed in 2016 by the BCCFA, and several draft Board policy documents (e.g. Policy Definitions, Mission Statement, Director Code of Conduct, Conflict of Interest, Director Qualifications, Role of Director, Directors Role – Expectations, Duties of Officers) there are based on materials provided by the Valemount Community Forest.

Moved by Virginia Wilkins, Seconded by Paul Galliazzo that the documents be received by the Board. Carried Unanimously
- c. Future presentation by Chris Elden, RPF with West Fraser Mills (WFM) to the Board regarding WBCF development planning.

It was noted by Margaret Inoue that she and representatives from the Wells and Area Trails Society (WATS) had met with Chris Elden to provide input to WFM regarding trails and other important features in the WBCF.

Moved by Virginia Wilkins, Seconded by Andrew Young that Chris Elden, RPF be invited to make a presentation to the Board in late March or early April regarding WFM development plans for the WBCF before a presentation is scheduled for the Wells community. Passed Unanimously
- d. Future presentation to the Wells-Barkerville Community by WFM – regarding WBCF development planning – date to be confirmed (as addressed above).

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS: Nil

7. CLOSED MEETING

- a. The following portion of this meeting is closed to the public to discuss matters related to:
 - i. The security of the property of the WBCFC;
 - ii. The acquisition or disposition of land or improvements; and
 - iii. Negotiations and related discussions that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the Board, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the WBCFC if they were held in public.

At 8:30 PM John Massier, WBCF Board Chair stated that the Board meeting would proceed into an in-camera meeting. The members of the public then left the meeting.

At 10:00 PM the open meeting of the WBCF Board resumed.

8. NEXT MEETING

- a. It was agreed that the next meeting of the WBCF Board would take place on Monday, March 6, 2017 at 6:00 pm at the Wells Municipal Hall.

9. ADJOURNMENT

- a. At 10:01 PM it was moved by Virginia Wilkins, Seconded by Janet Aitken that the Board meeting be adjourned. Passed Unanimously.