

Area D – Cowichan Bay OCP

Meeting Notes OCP Steering Committee

Monday, January 10, 2010
Cowichan Valley Regional District – CR2
9:00 am – 11:00 am

1. Adoption of Agenda

- The agenda was adopted with the addition of the December 2nd public hearing regarding the marine riparian DPA bylaw.

2. December 13th Meeting Notes

- Notes from the December 13th meeting were adopted without changes.

3. Vision Statement

- The committee agreed to have ongoing discussions regarding the vision. However, most committee members expressed an interest in having a short, concise statement that is supported by principles and goals. An important note was made that the statement should reflect on the intrinsic value of place and eclectic character that the community wishes to preserve.

4. OCP Survey #2 – Goals & Directions

- The committee briefly reviewed responses to the survey which have been received to date. Thus far, 82 responses have been received. Ann will create a new link to the survey and send another email to the subscriber group with the option to complete the survey multiple times per computer station. Paper copies of the survey will be made available in Area D and at the CVRD office.

5. Consultation Activity Summary

- Proposed Marine Riparian DPA Bylaw: Robert reported on the December 2nd public hearing regarding the draft marine riparian development permit area bylaw. It was noted that, although this was a separate initiative from the OCP, the occurrence reflects badly on the OCP process. While generally the intent of the bylaw was good, the lack of

prior public consultation was unfortunate. The bylaw is expected to be defeated. Ann will be having follow-up discussions with waterfront owners to discuss options for foreshore protection.

- Agricultural Panel Discussion: The panel discussion amongst industry representatives on agriculture and food security took place on December 16th. Excellent input was received from those who attended. CVRD staff will investigate the potential of a lease classification in agricultural zones to incentivize more intensive farming and market gardening. Issues around housing need to be explored concurrently. A summary of the discussion has been prepared and will be posted on the CVRD website.

6. OCP Process – Next Steps

- Ann is arranging focus group discussions with business owners and operators. A larger economic development session should be held when more direction is available.
- Neighbourhood workshops have been proposed for early February.
- It was agreed that, in preparation for the next major public workshop, the steering committee should tour Area D – Cowichan Bay and explore land use options for various neighbourhoods and nodes. This will enable a better frame of reference when engaging with the public. It was noted that meetings and workshops to date have been general in nature and there is a need to move toward more specific details and ideas.
- Ann will float potential pre-workshop and workshop dates with the committee via email.
- The committee will undertake to complete a more defined consultation schedule at the next steering committee meeting.

7. Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be held Monday, January 24th from 9:00 am – 11:00 am.