

MINUTES
RESILIENT SAANICH TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
Via Teleconference
December 8, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Councillor Rebecca Mersereau (Council Liaison), Kevin Brown, Brian Emmett, Tim Ennis, Stewart Guy, Jeremy Gye, Purnima Govindarajulu, Brian Wilkes (Chair), Bev Windjack

Staff: Adriane Pollard, Manager of Environmental Services; Thomas Munson, Senior Environmental Planner

1. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND THE DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION STATEMENT

Councillor Mersereau read the Territorial Acknowledgement and the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Statement.

2. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m.

MOVED by T. Ennis and Seconded by B. Emmett: “That the Agenda for the December 8, 2020 Resilient Saanich Technical Committee be approved, as circulated.”

CARRIED

3. PRESENTATION: DRAFT SAANICH ENVIRONMENTAL MAPPING

The Manager of Environmental Services presented the “Saanich Environmental Mapping” (PowerPoint on file) and noted the following:

- The purpose of the GIS and the Atlas is to provide accessible information to members of the public and it used by staff as a flagging tool.
- A comparison between the 1999 and 2020 data was made; the inventory is being updated as new technology arrives.
- Council has approved a new Environmental GIS Analyst position who will be responsible for keeping the Atlas updated.
- To verify a polygon, it is best to validate on the ground but there could be limitations on private property.
- Accuracy is best achieved when a surveyor plots the boundaries.
- Refining boundaries can be done in many ways but are most often done by aerial photo.
- Boundaries for Natural State Covenants are very accurate as they have been surveyed.
- 64% of Saanich wetlands are located on private land.
- When complaints are received or if there is an infraction at the Building Permit stage or development stage, staff follow up with an inspection of Natural State Covenants.
- A brochure is sent to property owners every three years with respect to the Natural State Covenant and how to maintain the area including invasive species removal.
- The marine inventory includes the Gorge area and outer coast.
- The public are able to receive hard copies of the Atlas at a cost.

- The Atlas has more environmental information than shown in GIS.
- Staff use the Atlas when they are on-site, in an emergency situation when they need to know sensitive areas needing protection, when they are planning capital projects, to show if a property is in a Streamside Development Permit Area, making recommendations with respect to erosion control and for real estate agents to present to buyers.
- The main goal of the Atlas is to provide information to the public.
- The Atlas has no legal bearing.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

Meeting Schedule

Due to COVID-19, meeting space is limited. Staff will work to secure dates and locations of future meetings.

Work Plan, Milestones & Schedule

The committee is working on Draft 10 of the Environmental Policy Framework and will circulate as soon as practicable.

5. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by T. Ennis and Seconded by B. Emmett: "That the meeting of the Resilient Saanich Technical Committee be adjourned."

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Brian Wilkes, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary