

MINUTES
RESILIENT SAANICH TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
Via MS Teams
Thursday, June 17, 2021

Present: Councillor Rebecca Mersereau (Council Liaison) (8:13 p.m.), Kevin Brown, Tim Ennis, Purnima Govindarajulu, Stewart Guy (Chair), Jeremy Gye, Tory Stevens, Brian Wilkes, Bev Windjack

Staff: Thomas Munson, Senior Environmental Planner; Eva Riccius, Senior Manager, Parks; Adriane Pollard, Manager of Environmental Services; and Lynn Merry, Senior Committee Clerk

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

2. **TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION STATEMENT**

The Chair read the Territorial Acknowledgement and the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Statement.

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOVED by B. Wilkes and Seconded by K. Brown: "That the Agenda for the June 17, 2021 Resilient Saanich Technical Committee be approved."

CARRIED

4. **CONSERVATION MEASURES PARTNERSHIP**

T. Ennis presented "The Open Standards for Practice of Conservation" (PowerPoint on file) and answered questions from the committee:

- Human Wellbeing Targets could be considered.
- Indicators should be quantitative looking to the scientific literature whenever possible.
- A target may have a lower viability or ecological integrity if there has been impacts/threats to it; some impacts may have been historical and are no longer taking place.
- Threats, such as invasive species, are most often ongoing and active.
- A consultant driven process, in collaboration with staff and the RSTC, should be considered.
- The framework is adaptable to different projects and could be applied to areas with suburban, urban and rural areas.

Committee members made the following comments:

- Review of a case study from Vancouver Island may be helpful.
- It will be important that targets are chosen thoughtfully to ensure the targets remain viable in the long term.
- It will also be important to ensure common species remain common rather than dropping in abundance.

MOVED by J. Gye and Seconded by T. Stevens: “That T. Ennis provide a case study for the committee to review at a future meeting.”

CARRIED

5. RSTC INPUT INTO WORKPLAN AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

Committee members reviewed the Workplan and Terms of Reference and made the following comments:

- There is a difference between the Environmental Policy Framework and Resilient Saanich; the framework, which will be a living document, will be a road map to a more resilient Saanich.
- The Workplan has been updated to include the work that the RSTC is already doing.
- Milestone 2 includes a line item to create the Workplan for Milestone 3.
- The timeline for Milestone 2 has been changed to be completed at the end of Q3 2022; the project should be complete before the end of the Council term in October 2022.
- The Stewardship Committee will provide details on what has been done.
- A preliminary evaluation tool has been created.
- Existing policies will be evaluated to ensure that are consistent with the framework.
- The committee will review the Terms of Reference for a consultant to create the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy.
- The level of public consultation has not changed.

Action:

T. Stevens will update the document and provide it to staff for feedback.

MOVED by T. Stevens and Seconded by B. Wilkes: “That staff be requested to review the Draft Workplan and Terms of Reference and provide feedback to the RSTC in a week or more.”

CARRIED

6. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by T. Stevens and Seconded by J. Gye: “That the meeting of the Resilient Saanich Technical Committee be adjourned.”

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

June 29, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. via Teams.

Stewart Guy, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary