

Meeting: BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Regular Board Meeting)
Date: February 27, 2009
Time: 10:15 pm
Location: TLC Head Office, 1195 Esquimalt Road, Victoria

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Action Items:

- (1) Staff will report back to the Board on issues raised in a letter from the Keating Co-Op.

In attendance: Alastair Craighead, Briony Penn, Carol Pickup, Cheryl Bryce, David Merner, Frances Pugh, Gary Holman, Ken Millard

Absent: Barry Glickman, Todd Wong

Staff: Bill Turner, Ian Fawcett, John Keller (by telephone)

1. CALL TO ORDER

At 1:45 pm, Alastair called the meeting to order. Alastair welcomed Barry Gates, Ken Farquharson, Ed Johnson and Don Caverley.

2. MINUTES

Moved (Carol Pickup) / Seconded (David Merner) that the Board approved the Minutes for the Board meetings held on November 28, December 19, January 11, January 23, February 13 meetings, as amended. The Motion carried.

3. CHAIR'S REPORT

Alastair reported that he sent a letter to Wildwood as noted in the last minutes. Alastair also appeared on CBC to discuss the resignation of Elspeth McVeigh.

4. AGRICULTURE WORKING GROUP REPORT

Fran reported on her working group's progress, including discussion with government on funding opportunities, and the possibility of working with partners on protecting watersheds for farmers who might be affected by the Western Forest Product TFLs.

Fran also reported that Keating Farm has a Board meeting coming up on March 9. Carol raised the issue of a letter from the Co-op at Keating addressing various concerns. Alastair suggested that staff report to the Board on the issues raised in that letter.

5. FUNDRAISING

John reported that fundraising is going as well as can be expected. Our fundraisers are contacting individuals who are donating to other organizations and who are interested in TLC.

On March 13, TLC is holding an event at the Victoria Salmon Kings hockey game. We are hoping to raise \$20,000 to \$25,000 at the event.

About ten weeks of canvassing has been completed in Victoria. Canvassers in the Lower Mainland have been working for a month, but most people are currently paying attention to the Olympics. We are at about 7,071 members now, but the renewal campaign for lapsed members is ongoing and we expect an 80 per cent renewal rate.

5. WILDWOOD

Jay Rastogi, TLC's site manager at Wildwood, provided the Board with a background briefing on Wildwood.

Chris Walter, the Chair of the Ecoforestry Institute, provided a briefing on the management plan at Wildwood. He circulated the plan and maps, describing how the Wildwood property is becoming an ecologically sustainable forestry. A key issue is the appropriate rate of cut on the land. Right now 30 cubic metres can come off the property, and that allows a build-up of volume over time. Now 11,500 cubic metres of timber volume exists on the property and 14,000 cubic metres is the goal. 85 per cent of that will eventually be old growth. An industrial program would see a steady decline in old growth forest to 5,000 cubic metres on the property.

Other questions addressed included the application of the precautionary principle (no cut was taken last year) and the Ecoforestry management plan on timber quality. (The plan increases quality and value substantially).

6. RETREAT PLANNING

Alastair indicated that a facilitator is being identified for March 28 is being identified and Alastair will be communicating with the Board with further information.

7. FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Finance and Audit Committee is finalizing its terms of reference. Cheryl, David and Gary are working on making it as concise and simple as possible.

The Board has reviewed a summary document on the current finances of TLC. The Finance and Audit Committee is working on clarifying financial reports to the Board, and the objective is to produce clear, public financial reports on a monthly basis.

The bottom line is that income continues to exceed expenses. We would all prefer that we were in a stronger financial position, but our fundraising work is keeping pace with expenses and also raising additional funds for Madrona. We are working down the debt. Our debt is \$1.1 million less than it was at the beginning of the fiscal year.

The Finance and Committee is looking into the issues that have been raised around designated funds. The donations policy is on the website, but there is a consensus that we need to be very clear on the protocol we use to track donations. We are expecting a sizable estate donation early in the new fiscal year.

Mr. Farquahrson has provided an excellent set of questions to the Board. The Finance and Audit Committee has reviewed the letter. TLC staff and Cheryl Bryce will be working on providing a response as soon as possible.

Moved (Briony Penn) / Seconded (David Merner) that the Board move into an *in camera* session. The Motion carried.

8. NEXT MEETINGS

The next HR Committee meeting is on Monday, March 22, at noon.

The next Finance and Audit Committee is meeting on Friday, March 26 at 3:00 pm.

The next Board meeting is on Saturday, March 27 at 10:00 am.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Moved (Frances Pugh) / Seconded (Carol Pickup) that the meeting be adjourned. The Motion carried at 4:15 pm.