SUNSHINE COAST BEAR ALLIANCE SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 4, 2021 130PM ERIC CARDINAL HALL

In attendance:

Directors: Irina Wirth, Diane Henley, Yvonne McLean, Kristy Lewis. Guests: Sue Coules, Ellen Burdett, Lorraine McEwan, Natalie Rose, Paul Wirth, Marlowe White, Trina Lindsell, Amanda Goheen, Shirley Samples

AGENDA Call to Order Introductions Year in Review Messages of Appreciation Financial Report Year Ahead Discussion

The meeting was called to order by Diane Henley and the agenda seconded by Irina Wirth.

Year in Review: Diane reported on the activities and accomplishments of 2021 including:

- Town of Gibsons adoption of a Wildlife Attractant Bylaw. District of Sechelt is currently working on their bylaw and the SCRD was presented with the bylaw draft package presented to the other jurisdictions.
- Joined British Columbia Bear Alliance.
- Corridor Study is ongoing. Looking for assistance from someone with a background in either: biology, conservation science, forest ecology or the like to do ground truthing work.
- Successful year appearing at local markets and malls with our educational display and bear photographs for purchase. This was a substantial fundraising initiative.
- Continue to canvas neighbourhoods and respond to requests from residents about bears and garbage issues.
- PowerPoint presentations to: Newcomers to the Coast and Halfmoon Bay neighbourhood group. Brochures to all visitors centres, and some local realtors.

- Irina has produced a variety of educational materials such as; bear deterrent and repellent information cards, brochures, 'we missed you,' door knockers, car decals, neighbourhood signs and a fabulous new banner. We thank her very much for all her work.
- Lobbied our Conservation Service to rescue and transport orphan cubs to Critter Care. Three of four orphan cubs have been rescued and one remains at large with a trap set to try to capture as of December 9, 2021.

<u>Messages of Appreciation</u>: Thanks was given to members Sue Coules, Tammy Trefry and Jeffery Martel for all their efforts during the past year.

<u>Financial Report</u>: Statement of Financial Position was made available to members. We were most fortunate to have had four significant donations from residents this year of which we are immensely grateful. Along with funds from our merchandise and photo sales we are in a good financial position with which to begin a new year.

Year Ahead: Diane reported on ideas for the coming year including the purchase of:

- Large vector signs (bear shape with messaging) for strategic placement.
- Two trail cameras.
- 'Scarecrow' garden hose attachment for loan to residents requiring a further bear repellent option.

Along with these purchases future goals include:

- Development of a school outreach program.
- Inservice development for future volunteers related to educational canvassing.
- Volunteer Recruitment. We are in need of volunteers for canvassing and events.
- Art Auction (we already have two stunning donations by artists in our group).

<u>Discussion</u>: a lively discussion followed about fundraising ideas and the social media presence to further educate and engage the community.

Meeting adjourned at 3pm by Diane Henley.