

**NOTES OF A COMMUNITY MEETING HELD AT BEACON HOUSE, PROTECTION ISLAND ON SUNDAY, THE 30<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2008, FROM THE HOURS OF 10:00 – 12:00 PST. BEACON HOUSE WAS FULL TO CAPACITY ON THIS SUNNY DAY OVERLOOKING THE OCEAN.**

**Thora Howell** welcomed the group, and outlined some of the history of community activity. PI is an absolutely remarkable place. Our artists, our builders, stoneworkers, this Hall, many involved community groups have come up with many community activities such as Junk Away, (periodic removal of waste from the Island). We thank Carol Matthews for kindly volunteering to facilitate. On each table is a copy of the drafts of work done by a prior Island committee (stemming from a questionnaire from PIRA, (Protection Island Ratepayers' Association)), around the Vision for Protection Island, and Community Values.

Also circulating was an album with pictures of the recent barge-on house on Pirates Lane.

**Carol Matthews:** It's an honour and challenge to facilitate this diverse and growing group. At your tables is an Agenda for this meeting, with some possible outcomes and a list of actions. Then perhaps we can move on to some long-term things to be proactive in future planning. By the end of this meeting today, perhaps we can lay out some kind of agreement, or some sort of community plan, a co-operative solution, some next steps?

Simon Fraser University's guides to community dialogue are photocopied for you at your tables.

Beacon House was arranged in groupings, numerous chairs around a table, to facilitate people working together in small groups

**PURPOSE: TO ENGAGE IN A COMMUNITY DIALOGUE ABOUT THE CHANGES THAT ARE TAKING PLACE ON THE ISLAND WITH INCREASED DEVELOPMENT AND TO IDENTIFY NEXT STEPS IN TEACHING SOME GOOD SOLUTIONS.**

**PRINCIPLES: EVERYONE WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE. WE STILL START AND END ON TIME.**

**PRESENT: ATTENDANCE LISTS, COMPLETED AT EACH TABLE, ARE ATTACHED HERETO.**

**V. Zehntner:** As a result of observations about the most recent barge-on to the Island, I was the instigator of a petition, the first time in my life. Fear of our values eroding; now in a development boom; 30 permits outstanding as far as I know, at this time. We need to have some plan; a formation that we can go to the City as to how we want to see the Island develop. The very thing that makes our microclimate unique, trees and the shelter they afford us from the direct elements; we're cooler in summer and warmer in winter; the damage and loss to those trees were the catalyzing things to begin this petition. And I was aware that last year we discussed, at an event called "Island Café" the mutually beneficial things to residents of this Island. Can we get together to have a common dialogue and some sort of plan for development? Pictures are circulating of the most recent barge-on. Many

barge houses are moved on, with no impact. The most recent one was different and had considerable environmental impact to trees.

**C. Matthews:** It's wonderful to see the amount of concern here. Evidently many people share your concern.

### **1<sup>ST</sup> SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY:**

**C. Matthews:** In small groups for the next ten minutes, please list one, immediate event:

- i) concerns and
  - ii) personal impact you have experienced as a result of the most recent barge-on.
- The recorder will then ensure that the points from each group will be collated into the notes of this meeting.

A general discussion voiced the following points of concern:

- Safety
- Time and Money
- Damage to private & public trees
- Possible damage to infrastructure, (90 tons driving over access ports, culverts)
- Lack of consultation re: hydro & Telus cut off for extended periods of time.
- Lack of communication between arms of the City, they spent 3 days fixing roads immediately prior to the damage caused by the barge-on.
- Private person hired to cut down limbs/tress, cut away the bank, leaving bank vulnerable to erosion.
- The roads are our sidewalks and have been damaged
- Sides of roads have wildflowers that have been damaged
- Loss of emergency back-up service.
- With all the private contracting on a piecemeal basis for each there is no collective responsibility for the individual little pieces;
- No co-ordination of all the permits and pieces and no way of contacting responsible parties if something goes wrong;

One positive thing: It has mobilized this group and development of a plan.

Following are points submitted in writing by small groups: (Asterisk denotes how many times this point was raised, i.e.: one asterisk for each table raising the point.) An attempt has been made by the recorder to summarize themes, for ease of the reader.

**DISRUPTION TO RESIDENTS, LIVES & PROPERTY:**

- ◇ Overall stress to community
- ◇ ◇ ◇◇ Disrupting our lives for one day regarding work, (people who conduct business from home cannot contact clients, resulting in loss of income.)
- ◇ Lack of respect for personal property and boundaries on part of contractor
- ◇ Damage to private property, (fence).
- ◇ Not well handled; people not notified in timely fashion;
- ◇ ◇ Loss of public access
- ◇ ◇◇◇ People without phone, hydro and cablevision for two days
- ◇ Loss of access and egress from own homes and property
- ◇ Changed form and character of neighbourhood

**SAFETY**

- ◇ ◇ Emergency Services and community compromised
- ◇ House that was moved was hazardous and not attended.
- ◇ Power pole downed in yard where children were playing
- ◇ Roads were left dangerous for walking traffic
- ◇ New house should be made safe for children's protection;

**ROADS:**

- ◇ Weight of 90-ton house/equipment driving over City service inspection ports.
- ◇ Roads were widened; deep grooves on mostly unique road allowance;
- ◇ ◇◇◇◇ Roads are our sidewalks; they are damaged
- ◇ ◇◇◇ Concern about ruts and debris left behind from branches and downed trees;
- ◇ ◇ Street sign was taken down and not replaced.
- ◇ Damage to bank that was removed to make room for barge-on; potential for erosion

**RESPONSIBILITY, REPAIR AND REMEDIATION:**

- ◇ ◇◇◇◇ No overall responsibility or coordination of activities of various work crews, services, the City and residents.  
For example, the City had just spent 3 days repairs and grading roads and City crew left the day this barge-on created more, significant damage.
- ◇ ◇◇ No attendance to notifying residents of impending disruptions or remediation., (repair and clean-up)
- ◇ ◇ Has anyone contacted Nickel Bros regarding permit and expectations;
- ◇ ◇◇◇◇ No plan by city to follow-up with cleaning up branches

**ENVIRONMENT:**

- ◇ ◇◇◇◇◇ Cutting of trees, arbutus, Garry Oak, a heritage apple tree; with no notice, no debate
- ◇ Damage to roadside wildflowers;
- ◇ Microcosm of lichen at Snowball Hill run over; only 1/2 remains
- ◇ Visual impact and loss of aesthetics
- ◇ ◇ Loss of green space
- ◇ ◇◇ No appreciation scale/proportion of house; should be a size restriction (max height 28')
- ◇ ◇ Blockage of light space to adjacent houses
- ◇ City property was damaged;
- ◇ Number of large vehicles needed
- ◇ Season weight allowances for heavy vehicles

**POSITIVE CONSIDERATIONS/OUTCOMES**

- ◇ Part of living together
- ◇ Mobilized discussions
- ◇ People benefited by access to free rock/boulders
- ◇ Wonderful spectator event
- ◇ Moving house in summer meant minimal inconvenience to residents re: heat
- ◇ If all their processes/plans/permits have passed, then they're entitled. What could we have done?

**NEWCOMERS TO PROTECTION ISLAND**

- ◇ How to handle this so newcomers feel welcome
- ◇ Perhaps send them a card of welcome

**C. Matthews:** It would be helpful for this meeting and I'd like to see a method developed; a clear way for communication with the community and the City. No one in the City in a position of authority or vested interest in the community has any interest or monitoring.

**2nd SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY:**

**What would you like to see happen for remediation for this situation: (community or personal remediation)?**

**PROCESS**

- ◇ PIRA representative involved with the City so they know these concerns
- ◇ City be more involved; permits, etc., or
- ◇ ◇ Have a specific contact person who supervises / oversees the whole situation

- ◇ City representative on site during prep and moving
- ◇ Size & weight of houses moved in could be considered so that the houses don't disturb the sides of our roads.
- ◇ BC Hydro & Telus communicate with residents prior to service interruptions in a timely manner
- ◇ ◇◇ Nickel Bros. need to be accountable; contractor should have one person as a contact with the Islands' wishes
- ◇ Why no protocol?
- ◇ ◇◇◇ Better communication; (a hand-delivered flyer?), or set up process so it won't happen again
- ◇ Back up system for emergency services
- ◇ ◇◇ Adequate notice to all affected
- ◇ Building inspectors, realtors, City could be educated about the uniqueness of PI before people decide to move here.
- ◇ A pamphlet that we could ask the City to give out; could inform the new homeowners; as a service to them as well
- ◇ We want an elite situation; a community who has rules in place, rules like: how many trees on a lot; boulevards; protecting natural environment; what kinds of vehicles and how many and how big are allowed; size of houses; protect the trees.

#### **REGULATION**

- ◇ A bylaw change; max size of house allowable, including heights, possible change to reflect TS-1 vs. TS-4.
- ◇ ◇ Should homeowner post a bond? (Suggest \$30k), Should be responsible.
- ◇ Posting damage deposit prior to moving to ensure funding for repair
- ◇ Size and weight limit
- ◇ What is GVW of boat ramp & roads? (If ramp is damaged, we have no other access or egress from Island.)

#### **REPAIR & REMEDIATION**

- ◇ ◇◇◇ Pick up branches
- ◇ ◇◇◇◇ Fix the boulevards & roads
- ◇ ◇◇ Plant 5 Garry Oaks and if possible, other trees
- ◇ Ensure movers have measured "real" road widths vs. "standard" road widths.
- ◇ ◇ Stabilize road bank
- ◇ If wire is removed, investigate and buried before reconnection
- ◇ ◇ Income loss compensation

**3rd SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY:**

**Are there ways of ensuring that future construction doesn't damage parks, roads, roadsides, etc?**

**PROCESS**

- ◇ ◇◇ Develop a flow chart for contractors / homeowners to ensure all steps are followed
- ◇ Planning, coordination, monitoring restoration
- ◇ Moratorium on house barging, pending environmental and impact review in consultation with the City and residents planning committee
- ◇ ◇ Island representative who is a liaison with City
- ◇ ◇ Have a Community Plan for PI; we need the “teeth” of neighbourhood plan
- ◇ Petition City to have Protection Island a Development Permit Area
- ◇ Contractors made aware of community plan/vision
- ◇ ◇ Coordination of services
- ◇ ◇◇◇ Accurate notification those affected of service disruptions; Written notification

**REGULATION**

- ◇ Bylaw changes to set backs and heights, ensures “rural” environment
- ◇ Seasonal road load limits
- ◇ Maximum load limits
- ◇ ◇◇◇ Damage deposits to City of Nanaimo associated with permit issuance
- ◇ Mats to distribute road loads, (under trees)
- ◇ ◇◇◇◇ Enforcement of existing bylaws for tree removal, or increasing penalties/species protection
- ◇ Recording species/flora/fauna existing
- ◇ Enforce existing bylaws, regulations, speed limits
- ◇ Planning the Ripanon Areas Regulation is enforced
- ◇ Coordination of the municipality
- ◇ Looking into “greening” or “green communities’ designation / grant /
- ◇ Preservation of green buffer zone between houses and from boulevard, or that will preserve aesthetics
- ◇ ◇◇◇◇ Limited sizes for houses moved on; (height, width and weight)

**REMEDIATION**

- ◇ Trees cut down must be replaced
- ◇ Fruit, nut trees everywhere- city trees, city maintained on road allowance
- ◇ Plant suitable, (easy care/drought resistance) trees along boulevards on PI

A general discussion voiced the following points of concern:

**D. Essig:** Tools available to us are official community plan and regulations. Now is a very good time to become involved with the redrafting of the 10-year plan of the City; revise input to City. Protection Island could have its own designation in official community plan; lead to separate designation under zoning by-law. The City won't change bylaw until change official community plan. The Province only provides one tool in toolbox: a DPA "development permit area". Islands Trust had great success taking a small area and getting designation. Key ingredient is a development permit area; ensures public process, which is, I hear over and over again, a main concern today. Talk more about what a development permit area looks like.

**V. Hennell:** Only thing we have at this point are the PIRA surveys. Pi is a unique rural environment of the city, (we're really part of downtown core). In 2001 – 89 people replied to the PIRA survey. The next survey was 2005 - 166 responses, in middle of building boom. As an Island, unique people who came here from different lives, different places, all joined by wanting to live here. We have more experts per square inch than anywhere else. We need to move forward as group. One problem we've encountered in the past is that we think we have consensus and go to the City with our proposal, then individuals also present, and erode the committee work. We've had some successes, e.g.: reassess wetlands. We've also had some notable failures. Results are still available on PIRA website.

**C. Matthews:** From the 2005 PIRA survey a committee developed the vision & mission of the residents of Protection Island, copies of which have been provided at your tables.

**F. Schloessinger:** Larry Wolf has written up a lot of community plans and has voiced willingness to assist this group. He is away in Belize at this time. Do we have input to survey and its wording?

**V. Hennell:** Every time we do we it, we put out a call of people to sit on committee, what issues, how to present them. Help is welcome.

In 2003, a PIRA survey about house size on the Island. What happened: PIRA lobbied city to downsize and limit houses to a maximum 3300 sq ft. When it was presented to City Council, private interests lobbied that the restriction compromised investments. We have been through this process before. It is a lot of work and takes a lot of energy to take into account every point, assenting and dissenting point of view. Every point of view is valid.

**C. Matthews:** We are collecting background to those points of view now, via this process. The relationships Liam with the City, Larry Wolf, the commitment of people here who presumably want to see something happen. This is a timely opportunity; a convergence of things that people might want to consider taking on a challenging task. Liam mentioned an upcoming meeting.

**L. Taylor:** Monday April 7, I've talked Chris Sholberg, Neighbourhood Liaison, City Planning Dept into coming over to give us some kind of overview of how the planning process works. Chris will give an overview of their 10 year plan. We also want him to talk about how this affects us? City doesn't know very much about us; in some ways an advantage because we get to tell them who we are. A draft proposal that has just been tabled and published in various places, online: PI gets, maybe 3 lines.

**C. Matthews:** Might it be helpful to include a report? Perhaps include vision and values as well as concerns; present what has been happening; what we'd like to see happen; present a place to start with discussions.

**S Taggart:** We need to start c a community plan. City will facilitate; not in their priority at this time. Our job to put political pressure on City to include us in formulation of the Official Communtiy Plan. Use tools available; maybe aspects of this change, not that onerous a position. A fairly well defined community values; now we need to move the City towards forming a plan? Several ways to get around funding issues....

**L. Taylor:** The City does encourage neighbourhoods to develop their own plan: Departure Bay plan may be even ratified by now. The Planning department uses the official community plan, to create a collection of guidelines that come directly from neighbourhood, to develop a model, a plan. In truth, City has neighbourhoods lined up. If we wanted them to recognize our neighbourhood plan, it would take 3-5 years down the road. In order to have that, we need to start the process now.

**S. Taggart:** We shouldn't let funding get in our way. We have to do it politically; to get the funding; to get us into the procedure.

**M. McColl:** What was the expedited process that Chris outlined where issues could be defined, that contain some of the ways to get into the OCP? (Official Community Plan.)

**L. Taylor:** Mini Action Plan, we can't wait 3-5 years to get things to happen, but we can put a mechanism in place, 1) this kind of meeting; 2) go to community to see if there is a majority once the issue has been defined; 3) work with Chris Sholberg to figure out who to talk to in the City; and 4) if necessary, go to Council. In the case of a by-law change, Council would check this against a community plan; find if the community is behind it; to be satisfied if the wording has been worked out. All this leads to the City listening and we get best possible outcome. We don't have to wait till end of ratified neighbourhood plan.

**C. Matthews:** Working on the kind of thing Stewart, (Taggart), is talking about and also working collectively within the process like Liam suggests.

**T. Howell:** It is wonderful to see this level of involvement

**MEETING: MONDAY, APRIL 7, MEETING AT BEACON HOUSE AT 7:00 PM.**

**C. Matthews:** Is this the kind of thing we can take to PIRA? Our immediate concern: This is what happened. What do we do? Our longer term concern, (requirements to post bonds, permits, etc.), could be part of larger committee work, taken to PIRA, ask them to take forward to the City on our behalf.

**L. Taylor:** PIRA is nine people. We need what Valley (Hennell) suggested, a larger committee. This is the kind of thing I'm hoping Chris (Sholberg) will help us with. He works with City Planning Dept he knows who we need to work with.

**D. McQueen:** Outlined the two activities today; just focussing on those things; this is a list of things for PIRA to call the City and ask for;

**C. Matthews:** Does this large gathering here, request that we take those first 2 items to PIRA and ask them to approach the City?

**S. Taggart:** PIRA in a conflict of interest: Can't have our hands out one minute and our fists pounding, asking for things the next. Why don't we delegate community groups to take things forward individually?

A discussion ensued regarding the role of PIRA as elected to represent the Protection Island ratepayers. Regarding the issues of PIRA being a group of nine people on Executive having time to take on a multitude of issues.

**L. Taylor:** The issues are complex: language, time, succinct.

**C. Matthews:** We are going to write up this report. It will be succinct. The question is, how do we go forward? Via PIRA? Or a delegation?

**F. Schloessinger:** If City thinks PIRA speaks for the Island, and it does, we need to go forward with that. In that sense, we don't have much of a choice.

**C. Matthews:** City Planners, don't concern themselves as to whether it speaks for majority; they just want a unified, simple voice.

**D. McQueen:** Items 1) and 2), who does it? Who takes phone calls?

**C. Matthews:** I propose to take this to PIRA, and ask PIRA to present to City.

**T. Howell:** Could we have a second group? The Ratepayers, but also a group of involved people, who live here, to represent everyone, renters and so on?

**V. Zehntner:** A group that goes to PIRA, then PIRA goes to Council?

Various discussions ensued about City individuals that people or committees could approach.

**L. Taylor:** We can't just take a list off stuff and hand over to PIRA. Can we make a list?

**J. Rygnestad:** B. McQuade and his group have been hired to fix roads and branches.

**D. McQueen:** City needs to oversee that process.

**J. Rygnestad:** There is another truck coming to Island to clean up.

**V. Hennell:** We want the City to see the damage; more impact than photos; to walk it. Who is responsible? City? Nickel Bros? Contractor? A number of people?

**D. Hay:** We have a loss of charity. This island was not particularly charitable to these people. They tried to make a green choice; might've thought they were making a green choice. That house is about 30,000 board feet; probably saves an acre or two of clear-cut of old growth. Give them the benefit of the doubt. It doesn't detract from legitimate concerns; just direct your antipathy to where it should go.

**V. Zehntner:** I don't think antipathy was at them personally; rather at places, processes groups, officials responsible, or not responsible.

**C. Matthews:** If you have vision, the ground you travel are your values. As a group, keep in mind our common vision and values. Keep those things foremost as something we own. We can find inclusive ways of doing things that are charitable.

**D. McQueen:** I agree. I agree with what you said about charitable. The issue is that no one talked to us about this: phone cut off the day before, then cable down, then all cables came down & shut down for hours, with no message, no apology; nobody has said a word; like these people live in outer space; it goes both ways; we can welcome them, but if we know these people; post a notice....

**C. Matthews:** People make mistakes.

**J. Metz:** In reference to your point that people were acting in what they thought were the right way; these people may not know the community to disseminate information. Since this has become a flash point, perhaps we could reach out to these people; it's not about them. We understand they were trying to act within the rules. This is not personal. They left

certain things up to contractors, etc. It's up to us to contact them; part of our process as a community to do things differently in future....

**S. Taggart:** Also go to Nickel Bros?

**V. Hennell:** Good point. People trying to be good neighbours. Petitions are double-edged swords.

**J. Sinclair:** I support Doug entirely. It's absolutely true the people did everything they thought. If there's somebody who has dropped the ball it's the City. A permit issued to permit moving on of the house; We've had this meeting; found branches going to be fixed; I don't think there is any immediate problem. This has nothing to do with people; their motivation and implementation was correct.

**C. Matthews:** I am hearing echoed an important point: We do not want this discontent taken out on the people themselves.

**L. Taylor:** I will have a telephone conversation re: post-mortem, if any, being undertaken by City? Let them know that this meeting has occurred; will put notice on ProIsle.

**F. Schloessinger:** This is a non-PIRA event, with PIRA being the liaison, conduit for this community group.

**L. Taylor:** In the case of the petition, I walked in with it and said, "I am a courier".

**C. Matthews:** Is there resolution to take this Questions/Activities 1&2 forward to the City?

**BY A SHOW OF HANDS, A LARGE MAJORITY INDICATED FAVOUR OF BRINGING FORWARD THESE QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS RAISED AND RECORDED BY ACTIVITIES 1&2 TO PIRA TO PRESENT TO CITY ON BEHALF OF THIS MEETING.**

**C. Matthews:** Do people want to establish some way of working together to present to the City, recommendations for development permits, attend meetings, develop a community plan?

**BY A SHOW OF HANDS, A LARGE MAJORITY INDICATED APPROVAL OF ESTABLISHING AVENUES FOR PI RESIDENTS TO WORK TOGETHER TO PRESENT TO THE CITY, TO ATTEND MEETINGS, TO DEVELOP AN OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN..**

**D. Essig:** Ultimately, City officials have to decide; they're under no compunction to weight the opinion of one group over another. If we establish one group, it's a nice convenience, but city is under no obligation to accept; when you ask, "Who speaks for community?" We all speak for community. Group should not preclude your ability to speak as an individual. Only stipulation under Municipal Act is that they shall take all opinions.

**D. McQueen:** When it comes time, a caveat: It really is incumbent upon us to make a presentation as a group. We should go, sit in the chairs, spend the boring two hours and make our point. Then we will win. If we don't do that, we won't.

**M. McColl:** It's those kinds of numbers, signatures, etc. that really make the differences. Please complete sign-in sheet.

**F. Schloessinger:** Is there a way to contact people who weren't here? And can they have a way to have their voice represented here?

**T. Howell:** We will put out info to everyone who isn't here. And we will ensure their opinion is recorded.

**J. Sinclair:** To support what David said, we are the community, 80 here of 400, suggestion that a delegation contact the owner....also back up David, and have each and everyone of us welcome this couple....we have 80 signatures and 80 individuals welcome this couple.

**J. Metz:** Could we have someone nominated to contact the individuals?

**VOLUNTEERS TO CONTACT THE OWNERS OF THE BARGE-ON TO WELCOME THEM TO PROTECTION ISLAND: V. HENNELL, J. RYGNESAD, FRASER, J. METZ, K. BJARNASON.**

Round of applause.

**C. MATTHEWS: VISION AND MISSION: GENERAL AGREEMENT TO ADOPT AND PRESENT TO CITY?**

**GENERAL ASSENT VOICED.**

**G. Craig:** Thank you for holding this.

**Announcements:**

**Trudy Chatwin** is putting a slide show of her 5-month travels around the world:

“Exploration of Culture and Critters in Nepal and Cambodia”.

**District Deputy Fire Chief, V. Zehntner:** Burning season starts on Friday. She reiterated the City burning regulations.

**Q:** How about lobbying for a mulcher?

**J. Sommerville:** Ross Sommerville will mulch debris with his private chipper, in return for a donation to the Museum.

**Q:** Could PIRA raise the issue with the City? Liam will bring to PIRA.

**Q:** One regulation is that burning must take place in own backyard, not public property.

**District Deputy Fire Chief, V. Zehntner:** City not pushing that issue over here, as so many private properties would endanger trees. Ensure safety when burning. Do not burn on road.

**F. Schloessinger:** Thank you to bakers and cookie-makers for providing refreshments for this meeting.

**V. Hennell:** On April 1 we lose 26 derelict cars with thanks to the City. A one-time only, clean up of derelict cars and the City is footing the bill to clean up Island. Also thanks to JunkAway who is coordinating the removal.

**To the Reader:** Notes respectfully recorded and compiled, by Dianne Glassen, and edited by others. (Please be aware that these notes have been edited for brevity and clarity and are not complete or direct quotations of speakers. Please accept apologies for any unintentional misquote or incomplete capture of full dialogue. E&O excepted.)

## **Addendum to Notes: Pro-Isle posting by L. Taylor, Chair of PIRA, Protection Island Ratepayers' Association:**

For those who were not able to make it to the discussion Sunday at Beacon House, I offered to find out what if anything was being done by the City to clean up any remnants of the house moving process of last week, and to check what might be under consideration by the City after the fact.

I had a conference call with Chris Sholberg of the planning department, and Tom Weinreich, Supervisor of Building Inspections. They had both received the petition that outlined Islander concern about the house move, although Tom had not had time to view it yet.

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Here in point form are the things Tom told Chris and I :

-The contractor had been contacted and (as Janet reported at the meeting) he was intending to finish cleaning up the branches remaining.

-Tom had informed the contractor that until the City Engineering division was satisfied that damage to the roads and boulevards were fixed, there would be no building permit issued for the house.

-Tom was going to put a call into Nickel Bros.

-Tom said he was considering proposing a policy change regarding moving houses. This would ultimately require Council approval. This might include width and/or length restrictions on houses being moved inland on the island, for example. Tom pointed out that other houses clearly narrower than this latest house, had been moved inland without incident.

-The rules for house moving are the same throughout the City. Here is a link to the Dwelling Relocation Permit-  
[http://www.nanaimo.ca/uploadedfiles/Site\\_Structure/Development\\_Services/Permits\\_Bylaws\\_and\\_Properties/Building\\_Inspection/RelocateDwelling.pdf](http://www.nanaimo.ca/uploadedfiles/Site_Structure/Development_Services/Permits_Bylaws_and_Properties/Building_Inspection/RelocateDwelling.pdf)

We did not discuss the interruptions of telephone and power.

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I reiterated the point made by Jim Pearce to the Nanaimo Bulletin that while our roads may be surveyed at 60' they are in reality closer to 20'. I had a strong sense that consideration for our concern about the preservation of the unique character of our roads and boulevards, while not necessarily widely understood amongst City staff, was clearly being appreciated throughout this conversation. Tom and Chris compared it to the perspective held by the residents of Stephenson Point regarding the protection of their natural settings and roadways.

I suggest that when possible, (no pressure Diane) a group of people peruse the lists of suggestions made at the meeting and come up with a pithy list of concerns and recommendations for house moving here, that can then be offered to Tom Weinreich in his deliberations about a policy change. It might also be useful to interview those people who have actually moved houses onto the island for their perspective about the process.

Liam