

THE NEW BAMFIELDER

Dolly Parton is sooo cool

Vaccine, Vaccine, vaccine

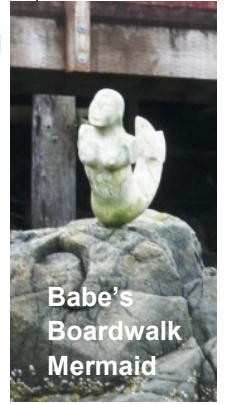
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In like a lamb, the March Affairs meeting was attended by 34. **Treasures Report:** Interest on Affairs savings = \$5.21 and "Thank you, **Marnie McAughtrie** of **Bamfield Mercantile Marine** for ordering, paying for and installing the COVID/ mask wearing signage for the west side boardwalk. Much appreciated by all who use these public spaces safely." **Jane Morrison**. **ACRD's Bamfield budget** and Fire Department issues was presented by **Teri Fong, Tricia Bryant** and **Doug Holmes**. Check ACRD online for budget estimates. Our fire equipment has aged and technically needs replacement. This is expensive. According to Fire Chief **Phil Lavoie**, adding to this, we must duplicate major equipment on both sides of Bamfield Inlet, which doubles the tax burden on a small population. **Bear Champion, Mandy Ross** has asked for \$3240 from our Grants-in-aid for 2021 for equipment and signage to advance Bamfield's Bear Friendly status. The request will receive further consideration in April, when the bears are out of hibernation. **Sally Mole, Community School Association**, noted that as now up to 10 people can meet outside and this could lead to new BCSA activities. **Sheryl Mass, Bamfield Parks**, welcomed new commissionaire **Katharine Jennings**, noted two positions posted for summer help, said the Smiley Rink wall will be redone and a swing set, constructed of Community Forest wood, will be installed in West Park. **Phil Lavoie, Bamfield Volunteer Fire department**, noted backyard burning is over 15 April. **Heather Peterson, Health Clinic**, announced a COVID clinic should be held in Bamfield by 7 April. Meeting adjourned after 1 hr and 55 minutes. *Abstracted from unofficial minutes prepared by Jan Teversham.*

A Class Act. Babe Gunn (Priscilla Comis) passed on in February at the age of 85. She operated a classic Bamfield crafts shop on the Boardwalk in the Net-loft for a couple of years. More enduring are her stone carvings of geoducks she donated to the Eileen Scott Centennial Park and the Boardwalk Mermaid. The christening of these massive pieces was celebrated by a pipe band brought in from Port Alberni. She had worked at the Beaufort Hotel and the Woodward's meat counter, before opening her own pizza restaurant. After upgrading her education, she became the first woman Fisheries Officer in Canada. Later she discovered sculpting in stone, creating many pieces. There will not be a public celebration of Babe's life due to covid restrictions. *L. Druehl photos from Bamfield History Soc.*



Rata-a-rata-rat-tat



Geoducks veiled



Babe & geoduck



Geoducks unveiled

Onward and Upward! Bamfield Huu-ay-aht Community Forest AGM will be April 22 at 6:30 pm, by zoom. Please email BHCFcontact@gmail.com for the invite. On the agenda will be updates, a few director elections, and a vote to name the new trail. *Amy McConnell*

Online, The New Bamfielder hits new high with 5850 visits during March.



Rebecca Waines Alaska-mills planks for the new BHCf trail. Photo Paul Denontigny

Letters and comments are welcome. Submissions will be edited for clarity and taste, and should be brief. Classifieds should not exceed 15 words (no commercial ads). All submissions must have the author's name and telephone number. Submit to ldruehl@island.net. *The New Bamfielder* is a free but we encourage readers to contribute to Bamfield Community School Assoc. youth programs. *Louis Druehl*

Pachena Bay Camping Increases. The Huu-ay-aht Nation has received a \$510,340 grant for Pachena Bay Campground expansion. This grant is part of B.C.'s \$10-billion COVID-19 response, with grants totalling \$20 million. The Rural Economic Recovery stream is designed to help people living in rural communities by supporting new jobs and economic opportunities to help them recover from the impacts of COVID-19. The new funds will provide for a new road access to the campsite, up to 40 new sites with increased RV spaces. *HFN Website*

West Park gets boost. At a recent meeting, the Bamfield Parks Commissionaires agreed to share Bamfield Parks ACRD annual grant of \$6000 with West Park. Providing WP \$3000/year for maintenance and developments. Further, they agreed to provide WP \$6000 covering the past years 2019-20.

Other Bamfield Parks News. Katharine Jennings and Jane Morrison join Bob Beckett (ACRD), Andrea Butler, Dane Dentoom, Louis Druehl and Sheryl Mass (Chair/Treasure) on the Commission. Major projects include new signage, refurbishing playground (\$5000 grant from Municipal Insurance Assoc. BC) and Smiley Rink, and advancing a Volunteers Hall, in honour of Eileen Scott and dedicated to Park Volunteers.



“Time to share what we have:
Natural Beauty in Parks!” Bob
Beckett.

Things are moving forward quickly on West Park's projects. Volunteer kudos for past, present and future work to Jan Teversham, Bonnie MacKay, Ian Wallace, Susan DeRasp, Leanne Baird and Christine Gruman, for Marnie McAughtrie, the queen of go-fund-me (asked for \$800, got \$2885) and John and Sheryl Mass for \$1500 donated work. We are looking for 4-5 volunteers to help organize for a big chipping project to surround the future swingset and reseeding the field in the coming weeks. There is talk of a pavilion and maybe a pickleball/multi-use court moving forward. We have Bonnie as next runner up with a go-fund-me for Rudolf and Bruinhilde's memorial benches. They will be set in Bruinhilde's favorite West Park, soon to be named the West Coast Magic Park (the parcel located under the fish sign on the way to Brady's Beach). The trails have been cleared to be more user-friendly including a viewpoint. There is still 1 plot available at the West Park Community Garden. Contact info: Andrea 728 1260. **Andrea Butler**

A Smiley Rink overhaul 'Work Bee'. Come be a part of the 'new puck board' coming soon! Saturday, April 10th 10 am till noon. Bring your braun, wrecking bars, hammers, wheelbarrows, and covid safety measures. Rain date Sunday 11th.

Like clock work. First seen, a Grappler black bear, 4:22 PST. 25 March.

Park Volunteer Saves West Park. In 1931 L.A. Hanna transferred the lot to the Trustees of The Bamfield Parent Teachers Association. In 1945 a solicitor transferred the lot to the Bamfield School Board that was incorporated into SD 70. Concern SD 70 might sell the lot, in 1995, led Roald Ostrom to prove the lot was for the citizens of Bamfield and SD 70 transferred the title to our Regional District as a park See bamfielder.ca for original correspondence, courtesy of the Bamfield Community Museum & Archives...fun sleuthing. L. Druehl

It's Trowelling Time Again. The Community Garden in Eileen Scott Centennial Park is springing up. Last year's harvests included various kales, peas, beans, squashes, potatoes, garlics, flowers, artichokes and tomatoes! If you are interested in cultivating a free garden bed please contact Rae Hopkins: rhopkins@island.net or 250-728-3297. Sign up now. R. Hopkins

Remembering: The Old Community Hall. The 'old' community hall was located on the hill above the Co-op store on the west side of Bamfield harbour when I grew up. It was the hub of the community, being the place where special events happened. My first recollection is going to daily vacation Sunday School with Mai Leemet (Case) when I was three. She convinced my mum that I was old enough. I only remember a circle of people standing and saying a Bible verse. My verse mystified the teacher—'be of good mush'. Eventually they figured out 'be of good courage' translated to 'be of good porridge' and in our family porridge was called 'mush'. Special events were held in the hall—the Community Hall Fall Fair, the Red Cross Carnival, Halloween costume parties and haunted houses, teen dances, adult dances for every occasion, May Pole dance lessons and practice, square dance lessons every Saturday afternoon, weekly evening whist card drives, (prizes and refreshments always). Derby prize givings, meetings, bake sales, and special events encouraged a social life. A band from out-of-town arrived including his young daughter, a tap dancer. A special hardwood mat was rolled out and we were stunned by the tap dancing but especially by the costume and hair-do! At sixteen we were allowed to attend the New Year's Dance until midnight. A new grown-up dress was required—no drinking allowed! Weddings and receptions were very fancy affairs. There was movie night. I remember seeing *How Green is My Valley!* When the 'old' hall became unrepairable the United Church was being built. Later the Community Hall and the Church worked out an agreement to share the Hall. All the community activities of the old hall transferred to the east side. As needs arose new community events were added (salmon derby dinners, church gatherings, meetings and classes) and now we are building a new community hall. Those of us who grew up in the pre-road era all came to value the opportunities we had to participate in community events and a learn social responsibility. *Suzanne Jennings, looking forward to new Hall doings*