

MINUTES
PARKS, TRAILS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held in Council Chambers, Saanich Municipal Hall
November 24, 2016 at 7:00 PM

Chair: Susan Brice

Members: Ted Austin; Pamela Carroll; Daryl Dagneault; Dave Marecek; Stefanie Yao, Tom Hatcher, Dex Owen (Student Liaison)

Staff: Suzanne Samborski, Director of Parks and Recreation; Kelli-Ann Armstrong, Senior Manager, Recreation Services; Eva Riccius, Senior Manager Parks; Troy McKay, Senior Transportation Technologist; Elizabeth van den Hengel, Committee Clerk

Regrets: Terrance Berscheid, Rick Paynter (SD 61 representative)

Guests: Ted Xueng, UVIC visiting scholar

MINUTES

MOVED by P. Carroll and Seconded by D. Marecek “That the minutes of the Parks, Trails and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting October 27, 2016 be adopted.”

CARRIED

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF LONG SERVICE

The Chair, staff and the PTR Committee members thanked Terrence Berscheid for his 19 years of service to Saanich as a member of the PTR Advisory Committee. The Committee presented Terrance with a framed photograph of a Saanich landscape on behalf of the PTR Advisory Committee and the citizens of Saanich.

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE

The Senior Transportation Technologist, was in attendance to present an update on the Active Transportation Plan status which has been renamed “#movingsaanichfwd”.

- The previously completed Pedestrian Priorities Implementation (PPIP) plan only looks at major and collector roads, it does not look at local roads. The Active Transportation Plan will consider all types of roadways and integrate the results of the PPIP.
- In response to the question whether the Shelbourne Valley Action Plan would be a priority versus this plan, it was noted that this plan looks at the next five years and considers ongoing work in Saanich. Final adoption of the Active Transportation Plan will be in 2018. Work will potentially be underway on the Shelbourne Valley Action Plan by that time.
- This is a policy-based document; it won't be specific to each roadway but it will set priorities for implementation.
- A survey will be made available where the public can place pins on certain areas of

the map to identify problem areas.

Committee Discussion occurred and the following was noted:

- Educating the public to understand what is encompassed by “active” transportation should be a component of the information gathering phase of the Plan.
- The four way stop with the bike path at the Monkey Tree Pub may not be the most efficient traffic control measure. Thought could be given to improving the efficiency of managing traffic at this intersection.

The Committee thanked the speaker for the update.

PARKS AND RECREATION FEES AND CHARGES REPORT

The Senior Manager Parks presented the Committee with the 2017-2018 Fees and Charges Report and the highlights are noted:

- Improving the appeal of Saanich recreation centres to youth by incentives such as free weight room orientations and reducing admission fees could be explored.
- YCAT is an advisory committee that reaches out to Saanich youth.
- Slowly adjusting admission rates to have one “youth” rate covering the ages of 5-18 years.

MOTION: **Moved by T. Hatcher and Seconded by D. Dagneault “That the Parks, Trails and Recreation Advisory Committee supports a 0% increase for Parks fees and Option #2 for Recreation fees, and recommends that Council approve the flowing changes to the Parks and Recreation fees and charges policy:**
1. The newly created youth and student categories,
2. The proposed youth and child rate strategy and corresponding fees.”

CARRIED

DIVISION UPDATE, PARKS

The Senior Manager of Parks, provided a Division update the following was noted:

- There were reports late last week about possible blue-green algae in Elk/Beaver Lake. Saanich working with the CRD to test the water. Caution signs have been posted.
- The hawthorn thicket close to Silver City in Cuthbert-Holmes Park, must be removed by March 1st, 2017 as part of the Cuthbert-Holmes Park Management Plan.
- Strong response to the National Fund Raising opportunity for a forest park at Commonwealth Place. Saanich did not win the funding, but will seek other similar opportunities.

DIVISION UPDATE, RECREATION

The Senior Manager, Recreation Services, presented the Committee with the Recreation Report and the following was noted:

- The Older Adults Strategy has hosted over 50 public engagement sessions.

- Two themes are appearing:
 - Transportation to and from recreation centres
 - Communicating to older adults about programs that are available for them.
- Looking at data to determine why the older adult demographic are not accessing recreation programs more frequently.
- New families from Syria have been able to participate in recreation due to both the LIFE program and a specific grant of \$3700 to support newly arrived Syrian families.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2017.

Chair

I hereby certify these minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary