

MINUTES
PARKS, TRAILS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held at the Cedar Hill Golf Course, Activity Room
September 21, 2017 at 7:00 PM

Chair: Dean Murdock

Members: Pamela Carroll; Chris Spicer, Dex Owen (Student Liaison), Dave Marecek, Tom Hatcher, Anne Whiteaker, SD 61 Trustee

Staff: Suzanne Samborski, Director of Parks and Recreation; Kelli-Ann Armstrong, Senior Manager, Recreation Services; Eva Riccius, Manager Parks; Adam Richards, Programmer II; Chris Filler, Programmer II; Becky Goodall, Park Planner Designer; Elizabeth van den Hengel, Committee Clerk

Regrets: Ted Austin, Stefanie Yao, Daryl Dagneault

Guests: Ray Travers; Bart Armstrong; Mary Jane Shaw; Sylvia and Ron Samborski; Everett and Elsa Mcurty; Bill Dancer; Sheila Linder

MINUTES

MOVED by P. Carroll and Seconded by D. Marecek "That the minutes of the Parks, Trails and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting June 22, 2017 be adopted."

CARRIED

PHYLLIS PARK TRAILS

Sheila Linder updated the Committee on the condition of the Phyllis Park Trails. Highlights of the discussion are noted:

- Currently there are no marked trails on the west side of Phyllis Park.
- Consideration to completing the Lockehaven Trail should be given.
- Route identified by the Phyllis Park volunteers is the "easiest" route and likely the most cost sensitive.
- Lockehaven Trail is a priority to provide important east-west trail /park connection.
- Completing the Lockehaven Trail will assist in alleviating lost hikers, trespassing and use of unsafe "crude" trails.
- Over the last year over 600 volunteer hours have been spent in the Park clearing invasives and clearing the Lockehaven Trail.
- Existing trails in Phyllis Park are in need of maintenance.
- The volunteers state that they have good community support for the completion of Lockehaven Trail.

Committee discussion occurred and the following was noted:

- Who developed Wedgewood Estates and what is the required support if any of Phyllis Park?

- Overall costs of trail building and maintenance dependent of the level of trail development.
- Saanich Parks should tour the site and consider ways to make improvements if necessary.

Accordingly the Committee resolved as follows:

MOTION: Moved by C. Spicer and Seconded by G. Hill “That the Parks, Trails and Recreation Advisory Committee requests staff to provide further information regarding the proposal around the Lockhaven Trail.”

CARRIED

SHELBOURNE MEMORIAL TREES

The Chair of the Memorial Avenue Committee present the Committee with an overview of the “Street of Unfinished dreams” project. Highlights of the discussion are noted:

- The Shelbourne Memorial Trees in both Saanich and The City of Victoria are a significant part of the local cultural landscape.
- The trees planted are London Plane Trees which are long lived and well suited to stand as memorial trees.
- The original dedication of the Memorial Trees was on October 2, 1021 as part of the Roads of Remembrance project.
- The Memorial Avenue Committee has identified the gap which exists in 2017 and the initial intent for the Memorial Avenue post World War I and as much as possible, strives to complete the original vision of Shelbourne Street as a Memorial Avenue.
- Six key objectives have been identified:
 - New plantings of London Plane Trees from Pear Street to North Dairy approved with street widening as per the Shelbourne Valley Action Plan;
 - Evaluation, improvement and possible future placements of existing stone memorials;
 - Support the 2017 Saanich Parks improvements of Gore Memorial Peace Park;
 - Introduce interpretative commemorative panels in people friendly locations;
 - Restoration/modification to the name of Shelbourne Street to include “Memorial Avenue”;
 - Reaffirm Shelbourne Memorial Avenue trees on November 11, 2018 to 100th anniversary of the end of World War I.

Committee discussion occurred and the following was noted:

- The stone memorials need to be made more visible. Perhaps “wrapping” the memorials would lead to greater visibility.
- New signage could be developed to target tourist, pedestrians and vehicle traffic.
- Efforts need to be made to support the vision of the Roads of Remembrance.

SUMMER PLAYGROUND REPORT

The Programmer II’s presented the Committee with the Summer Playground Report, and the following comments were noted:

- Adjustments to leader:child ratio were made this year to address behavioural challenges.

- Another successful summer of Saanich child/youth camps and activities was realized.

UPDATE ON HARO WOODS DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Park Planner presented the Committees with an update on the Haro Woods Management Plan, and the following comments were noted:

- The Draft Haro Woods Management Plan is currently being reviewed and edited by the Parks Department.
- Biking activities, specifically off trail biking activities are a source of conflict between park users.
- Saanich has asked to have discussions with the CRD regarding the possibility of using some of the CRD land that is already heavily impacted as a potential biking site.
- Little success to date with engaging the biking stakeholders that are using Haro Woods.

Committee discussion occurred and the following was noted:

- Difficult to accommodate Mountain/BMX biking into a natural park as they are not compatible activities.
- Creativity is needed when attempting to engage the youth population.
- Consideration should be given to the potential to rehabilitate Finnerty Creek.

THIRD PARTY ADVERTISING IN RECREATION FACILITIES

The Director of Parks and Recreation lead a discussion of third party advertising in Saanich recreation facilities. Accordingly the Committee resolved as follows:

MOTION: **Moved by D. Marecek and Seconded by D. Daugnault “That the Parks, Trails and Recreation Advisory Committee recommends that Council rescind the current Policy #99/550 Recreation Centres-Community Health Partnership and Commercial Advertising, and replace with the Parks and Recreation Department Third-party Advertising in Municipal Recreation Facilities/Property #55.”**

CARRIED

DIVISION UPDATE, PARKS

The Senior Manager of Parks, provided a Division update to the Committee.

DIVISION UPDATE, RECREATION

The Senior Manager, Recreation Services, provided the Committee with the Recreation update.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for November 30, 2017.

Chair

I hereby certify these minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary