

MINUTES
PARKS, TRAILS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held at the Saanich Municipal Hall Committee Room #2
Thursday, June 26, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Chair: Councillor Nichola Wade

Members: Jim Anderson, Terrance Berscheid, Tom Hatcher, Harry Lewis, Martin Roberts, Stefanie Barber, Daryl Dagneault, Jesse McClinton

Staff: Doug Henderson, Director of Parks and Recreation; Rae Roer, Senior Manager, Parks; Kelli-Ann Armstrong, Senior Manager, Recreation Services; Elizabeth van den Hengel, Committee Clerk

Guests: Bob Furber, Michael Tripp, Harriette Graham, Eric Dahl

MOTION

MOVED by M. Roberts and seconded by T. Berscheid, "That the minutes of the Parks, Trails and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting held May 22, 2014 be adopted as circulated."

SEPTEMBER MEETING UPDATE

The Chair advised that the regular meeting date, September 25, 2014 would conflict with the annual UBCM. The Committee agreed to move the meeting to September 18, 2014 in Committee Room #2.

CADBORO-GYRO PARK

The Chair introduced Mr. Bob Furber. Mr. Furber presented an overview of the Cadboro-Gyro Park planned update. The following was noted:

- Users of Cadboro Gyro Park enjoy the park as it currently exists.
- The only complaints were with respect to the swing play area being wet at times, dog regulations, and winter ponding which renders the central field and half the parking lot unusable.
- The flooding problems have been an on-going issue.
- Saanich has been developing a Park upgrade plan for the past five years. The Park Upgrade Plan has been developed by Saanich holding open houses. Additionally, Saanich hosted a facilitated Stakeholder's Workshop.
- Concern was expressed that public input was disregarded.

Committee discussion occurred and the following was noted:

- Saanich has gone well above the standard in public consultations to come up with the current work design related to the grant application.

- It was suggested that there will never be a Park plan that is universally acceptable.
- The cost to Saanich taxpayers for the ongoing consultative process is excessive.
- The current work is reflective of the of the public's inputs for the Park.
- The committee is satisfied with the Cadboro-Gyro Park update as presented.
- The Chair instructed the Senior Manager of Parks to forward Mr. Furber's concerns to appropriate staff.

CRD REGIONAL TRAILS MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Senior Manager, Parks presented the CRD Regional Trails Management Plan. The following was noted:

- The Capital Regional District is preparing a management plan for the regional trails system and is seeking public input.
- The Regional Trails Management Plan will guide decision making, priority setting and budget planning for the next 10 years.
- The CRD regional trails system is comprised of the Galloping Goose, the Lochside and the E & N Trail-Humpback Connector.
- The Regional Trails Management Plan process will include opportunities for input from municipalities, electoral areas, agencies that own land on which the trails are located, First Nations with lands adjacent to the trails and the public.
- Several public open houses are planned and an on-line survey available for comments and feedback.
- The on-line survey closes July 10, 2014.

DIVISION UPDATE PARKS

The Senior Manager, Parks provided a division update on Parks. The following was noted:

- Preparations are in progress at various fields for summer tournaments.
- Some basic clearing at Rithet's Bog has been completed.
- Calls for service on neighbourhood traffic circles are keeping the Department busy weeding the shrub beds and curbs.
- Staff are working on educational materials to be used with the new "Tree Protection Bylaw".
- The mayor and students for Colquitz Middle School unveiled all 40 interpretive signs that adorn the handrail of the two Colquitz River boardwalks.

DIVISION UPDATE RECREATION

The Senior Manager, Recreation provided a division update on Recreation services. The following was noted:

- Lambrick Park was host to two BC National Selection tennis events.
- "Gorge on Art" is again being offered as part of the Gorge Canada Day Picnic in collaboration with the Gorge-Tillicum Community Association.
- Lambrick School and the TASK Program donated a storage shed to the Gordon Head on site preschool programs. The shed was built by middle and high school students as part of the trades awareness program.

ADJOURNMENT

The Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday September 18, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Saanich Municipal Hall Committee Room #2.

Councillor Wade, Chair

I hereby certify these minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary