

MINUTES
PARKS, TRAILS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room #2
MARCH 26, 2015

Present: Chair: Councillor Brice

Members: Jim Anderson, Daryl Dagneault, Tom Hatcher, Stefanie Yao, Pamela Carroll, Terrance Berscheid, Martin Roberts, Natalie Ross, Saanich Youth Council Representative

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

Absent: Stefanie Barber

Guest: Dr. Neil Smith, Pacific Leadership Design

MINUTES

MOVED by S. Yao and seconded by D. Dagneault, "That the minutes of the Parks, Trails and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting held February 26, 2015 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

The Senior Manager, Recreation Services introduced Dr. Neil Smith, Pacific Leadership Design. The consultant hired to develop the youth strategy for Saanich. The Senior Manager, Recreation Services updated the Committee with the background of the current Youth Development Strategy and the following was noted:

- The current Youth Development Strategy is from 2003.
- The 2003 Youth Development Strategy was created for Recreation. The current update will encompass Parks in addition to Recreation.
- Implementation planning for a five year time frame.
- The target youth are 11-18 years of age.
- In 2013 the Parks and Recreation Master Plan identified the need for a Youth Development Strategy.
- Phase 1 is currently underway with systems in place, teams together and research on the current status of youth needs being done.
- Phase 2 will involve the engagement process. Phase 2 will reach out to Saanich youth via sports groups, schools and invitations to community consultations.
- Phase 2 will help identify what youth wants are and what are the barriers for youth participation.
- Phase 3 will involve the analysis of all the data collected from Phase 2 and creation of the draft Youth Development Strategy document.

Dr. Smith discussed the development process of the Youth Development Strategy. Committee discussion occurred and the following was noted:

- Appreciative Inquiry (AI) is the research methodology chosen for the project.
- The AI process is an effective method of “brainstorming” with focus on what is working well and what is working as intended.
- The AI process will gather information from interviews, focus groups and world cafes.
- A URL address will be provided to the participants.
- Consultants were asked to submit a 5 year implementation plan, research methodology to be utilized, community engagement processes and submission of a report at the conclusion of the project. Pacific Leadership Design was the successful proponent.
- Pacific Leadership Design recently successfully created a Youth Development Strategy for the City of Nanaimo.
- Often abundant energy in the planning stages but a realistic, detailed implementation plan is also required to ensure successful strategy roll-out.
- Question as to how to get youth engaged in self efficacy.
- Parks primarily outdoor spaces.
- Recreation primarily indoor spaces.
- There are four project teams:
 - Core Team
 - Project Team
 - Research Team
 - Consultant

Dr. Smith led the Committee through an Appreciative Inquiry exercise to explore youth programs, groups and other Saanich initiatives that Committee members felt are working well for youth. The comments were collected and will be placed on a website. The URL will be provided to participants allowing for participants to continue the process on-line.

The Chair thanked Dr. Smith for his presentation.

PARKS UPDATE

The Director of Parks, Trails and Recreation circulated an update from the Parks Division and the following was noted:

- Ground preparation for the improvements at Layritz Park have begun.
- Cuthbert Holmes Park Management Plan has had favourable feedback.
- Key objectives for Cadboro-Gyro Park this year will be to reduce standing water in the winter months, improve drainage patterns, reduce parking lot maintenance and improve the functionality and aesthetics of the main park entrance.

RECREATION SERVICES UPDATE

The Senior Manager of Recreation Services provided an update from the Recreation Division, and the following was noted:

- Saanich Cycling Festival is scheduled for April 19, 2015.
- February saw SCP host a synchronized swimming event that was attended by 200 participants.
- The next session of Mind, Exercise, Nutrition, Do It (M.E.N.D) will start in April.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for April 23, 2015.

Chair

I hereby certify these minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary