

MINUTES
PARKS, TRAILS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Held at Saanich Municipal Hall Committee Room #2

Thursday, September 17, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Councillor Susan Brice (Chair), Daryl Dagneault, Stefanie Yao, Pamela Carroll, Terrance Berscheid, Martin Roberts

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

Absent: Jim Anderson, Tom Hatcher, Stefanie Barber

MINUTES

MOVED by P. Carroll and Seconded by D. Dagneault, "That the minutes of the Parks, Trails and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting held May 28, 2015 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED

WELCOME TO THE NEW SENIOR MANAGER, PARKS

The Director of Parks and Recreation introduced the Committee to the new Senior Manager, Parks, Eva Riccius. The Committee welcomed Ms. Riccius to Saanich.

REVIEW OF THE DRAFT 2015-2018 STRATEGIC PLAN-SOCIAL WELL-BEING

The Director of Parks and Recreation gave an overview of the strategic planning process and the following was noted:

- Following a series of facilitated workshops, Council has prepared their draft strategic plan for the period covering 2015-2018.
- The document high-lights intended areas of focus for Council across the three community themes of Environmental Integrity, Social Well-Being and Economic Vibrancy.
- Input from the Parks, Trails and Recreation Advisory Committee is being requested on the Council Priorities that have been identified under the Social Well-Being corporate theme of Healthy Community in the Plan.

Committee discussion occurred and the following was noted:

- Mid-range indicators are usually developed from feedback from the Citizen Satisfaction Survey that is undertaken every three years.
- Some of the indicators are from outside sources.

- The Strategic Plan helps Council remain focussed on issues of importance to the residents of Saanich.
- The implementation of the Strategic Plan initiatives is forwarded on and incorporated into departmental documents and the task of implementation is assigned to the appropriate department.

Motion: MOVED by T. Berscheid and Seconded by D. Dagneault, “That the Parks, Trails and Recreation Advisory Committee endorses the draft Strategic Plan 2015-2018 and support staff taking the Plan forward to Council for endorsement.”

CARRIED

GOVERNANCE REVIEW PROJECT

The Chair facilitated a discussion of the Governance Review Project, and the following was noted:

- The Governance Review Project was community driven.
- The CAO suggested that consultants and focus groups comprised of volunteers from Saanich Advisory Committees be utilized for this project.
- Reporting from the Governance Review Project will be coming.
- The project feels like “government from the ground up”.
- The focus committee should be continued for the duration of the Governance Review.
- The Project was a Saanich specific initiative with the Province also simultaneously reviewing the issue.

CADBORO GYRO PARK 2015 IMPROVEMENTS

Presentation by Manager, Parks Construction and Maintenance, and the following was noted:

- Repair of the drainage issue and entrance way improvements are well under way with a target completion date at the end of October 2015.
- A pump system has been installed to maintain the drainage in the parking lot.
- The entrance way has seen the installation of stamped concrete to enhance both the aesthetics and functionality of the entrance to the park.

Committee discussion occurred and the following was noted:

- The parking lot will be opened up from both ends and a turn-around will be in place at the park gate.
- Signage will be an on-going project, with placement likely to be near the waterfront.
- Dumping in the park continues to be a concern. Peaks in dumping are seen during certain times of the year. A future conversation with UVIC to explore the possibility of establishing a furniture depository to help curb furniture dumping should be considered.

The Committee thanked the Manager, Parks Construction and Maintenance for his presentation.

PARKS REPORT

The Manager, Parks Construction and Maintenance provided the Committee with the Parks Division Update September 2015. The Committee noted the two arson events that ultimately destroyed the Copley Park playground equipment. The Manager stated that the Copley Park playground equipment will be replaced with a target of early spring 2016. The Parks Division has welcomed community interest for help with fundraising.

Motion: MOVED by T. Berscheid and Seconded by S. Yao, "That the Parks, Trails and Recreation Advisory Committee receive the Parks Division Update- September 2015."

CARRIED

NATIONAL RECREATION FRAMEWORK FOR CANADA

The Director, Parks and Recreation provided an overview of the Recreation Framework for Canada document. The following was noted:

- The Recreation Framework for Canada document aims to provide an aligned and efficient focus of efforts across Canada and to identify concrete ways to work together to enable all people to enjoy recreation in supportive environments.
- The Parks and Recreation department will review their programming and compare with the information from the Recreation Framework document.
- The Recreation Framework for Canada document provides a concise reference for the Parks and Recreation department.

GREATER VICTORIA ACTIVE COMMUNITIES INITIATIVES

The Senior Manager, Recreation provided an overview of the Greater Victoria Active Communities Committee (GVACC). The GVACC is comprised of senior recreation managers from every Greater Victoria Parks and Recreation Department, as well as representatives for the Victoria YM-YWCA and the Pacific Institute of Sports Excellence. The mandate of the GVACC is to collaborate and initiate recreational opportunities for residents throughout the region. The report was circulated to the Parks, Trails and Recreation Advisory Committee members for a reference document.

RECREATION SERVICES UPDATE

The Senior Manager, Recreation provided a recreation services update. Committee discussion occurred and the following was noted:

- The floor that is peeling up at the Cedar Hill Arts Centre is being repaired and the cost is being covered by the warranty.
- The costs associated with the installation of solar cells on the library should be analyzed to ensure that this was a cost effective expenditure.
- The tennis court renovation at Majestic Park is excellent.
- The upgraded weir at Mount Douglas Park should be addressed as there appears to be a significant danger for falls.
- The newly installed playboxes should be evaluated to ensure that the uptake and value of the investment have sound metrics.
- A listing of programs that are offered in partnership with Saanich should be compiled.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Councillor Brice, Chair

I hereby certify these minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary