

MINUTES
PARKS, TRAILS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held in Council Chambers, Saanich Municipal Hall
April 27, 2017 at 7:00 PM

Chair: Dean Murdock

Members: Mayor Atwell, Pamela Carroll; Stefanie Yao, Tom Hatcher, Graham Hill, Chris Spicer, Dex Owen (Student Liaison),

Staff: Suzanne Samborski, Director of Parks and Recreation; Kelli-Ann Armstrong, Senior Manager, Recreation Services; Eva Riccius, Senior Manager Parks; Julie Lommerse, Park Planner Designer; Elizabeth van den Hengel, Committee Clerk

Regrets: Ted Austin, Dave Marecek, Tom Hatcher, Daryl Dagneault, Anne Whiteaker, SD 61 Trustee

Guests: Tom Bryce, Manager Saanich Commonwealth Place

MINUTES

MOVED by G. Hill and Seconded by S. Yao “That the minutes of the Parks, Trails and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting February 23, 2017 be adopted.”

CARRIED

FEES AND CHARGES

Mayor Atwell gave the Committee an overview of a procedural change with respect to fees and charges. Committee discussion occurred and the highlights are noted:

- Current procedure has staff updating the PTR Advisory Committee periodically through the year, and the Committee has ongoing discussions regarding Fees and Charges. The Committee then considers all discussions when weighing the three options with respect to Fee and Charges and then a recommendation is made to Council.
- A structural change to the Finance and Audit Standing committee will see to branches that consider different topics:
 - Personal issues
 - Finance issues
- The procedural changes will allow more opportunity for discussion.
- The procedural change will appear as follows:
 - The Finance Standing Committee will discuss Fees and Charges and present PTR Committee with information.
 - The PTR Advisory Committee will discuss and return a recommendation to the Finance Standing Committee.
 - The Finance Standing Committee will make a recommendation to Council after input from the PTR Advisory Committee.

SAANICH COMMONWEALTH PLACE HIGH PERFORMANCE SPORT

The Manager of Saanich Commonwealth Place (SCP) gave the Committee an update on high performance sport at SCP, the following was noted:

- In 1994, The District of Saanich, entered into a 25-year commitment to support high performance sport as part of the region-wide responsibility to build on the 1994 Commonwealth Games legacy.
- The District of Saanich entered into a multi-party arrangement with the Province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada with the formation of the 4 million trust fund to help underwrite the operational costs of the competitive zones-50 metre and the dive tank.
- The fund provides \$330,000 per year to Saanich. The agreement expires August 31, 2019.
- Since SCP opened in 1993, it hosts more than 800,000 annual visitors and is home for 5 high performance aquatic sports which supports approximately 700 athletes.
- Many of the athletes have represented Canada at various international meets.
- The clubs host between 45-50 competitions at SCP annually. These competitions bring provincial, national and international visitors to Greater Victoria.
- The operating agreement gives the clubs priority access to the competitive zone areas at below market rental rates.
- Canada Sport Centre Victoria occupies 4,800 square foot office space with is used to support numerous High Performance Sport organizations.
- The upcoming expiry of the Operating Agreement allows the District the opportunity to have a fresh look at the role of High Performance Sports building a healthy community and the role that Saanich wants to play in supporting High Performance Sport.
- Saanich should identify the potential of High Performance Sport to generate economic, social and cultural benefits so that a High Performance investment strategy can be developed.
- There are multiple options to consider such as:
 - Partner Model-Saanich works with partners to provide necessary financial and other resources to High Performance Sports as agreed to from time to time.
 - District Model-Saanich alone would provide all necessary financial and other resources to High Performance Sports as agreed to from time to time.
 - Sponsor Model-Saanich would solicit corporate sponsors to provide necessary financial and other resources to High Performance Sports as agreed to from time to time.
 - Community Model-Saanich would re-assign SCP's competitive components for general community use, responding to the evolving demand for aquatics programs and services. Saanich would provide the operational resources as required.
- The current low interest rates do not support a fund of \$4 million, consideration of a larger amount for the fund should be considered.
- Of the \$330,000 funds Saanich accesses yearly, \$40,000 are ear marked for High Performance Sport issues.
- Efforts should be made to continue funding High Performance Sport, as these Sports benefit the community economically, socially and culturally.
- Philanthropy should be explored as a funding avenue.
- Lifecycle of the facility is approximately 50 years.

The Park Planner presented the Committee with an update on the development of the Cedar Hill Park Plan. The following comments were noted:

- Initiative to have the Park Plan was from the local community.
- A Management Plan for Cedar Hill Park would be a valuable document.
- The recent clay court issue and the 2012 golf course decision may have influenced the public's desire to have the creation of a formal Management Plan for the Park.
- Public will want to participate in the direction the Park is headed.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO COUNCIL POLICY (99/550)-COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERSHIPS AND COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING

The Senior Manager, Recreation presented the Committee with a report on Community Health Partnerships and Commercial Advertising and the following was noted:

- In 1999 Saanich Council directed that within Community Health partnerships no commercial advertising was permitted at any of the Community Recreation Centres.
- This restriction was initially added to mitigate the market advantage to health services business operating within the recreation centre over community based businesses.
- Saanich has had a long, thorough and transparent tender process and sixteen years later, in 2017 it may not be necessary to restrict advertising within the recreation centres.
- Community based businesses continue to thrive within the market place even within a single block from many Saanich facilities.
- Service providers provide fair market value of rental space and access to the facility through rental agreements or revenue sharing.
- Revenue generated through health services contributes significantly to a centre's bottom line.
- These service partnerships are now fully integrated components of service within the three recreation centres and these services are a vital part of the continuum of services Saanich offers its citizens.

MOTION: Moved by P. Carroll and Seconded by C. Spicer "That the Parks, Trails and Recreation Advisory Committee endorses the proposed changes to Council Policy (Reference 99/550); Recreation Centres – Community Health Partnerships and Commercial Advertising to allow contracted health service providers to advertise within the recreation centres."

CARRIED

BUSINESS SYSTEM ENTERPRISE REPLACEMENT

The Senior Manager, Recreation updated the Committee with the replacement of the business enterprise system and the following was noted:

- The current platform will not be supported by the vendor in 2018.
- New system will go live in the fall of 2017 and run on existing Saanich hardware.
- The vendor has arranged to support the existing platform until early 2018 to help with the transition to the new software.

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. It was noted that Council will present an overarching report on May 15, 2017 with respect to the MacKenzie Road Interchange and the proposed berm.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for June 22, 2017.

Chair

I hereby certify these minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary