

MINUTES
HEALTHY SAANICH ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held at the Saanich Recreation Annex, Learning Centre
April 27, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.

Present: Chair: Councillor Colin Plant

Members: Merie Beauchamp, Philip He, Marlene Bergstrom, Nadia Rajan, Dorthy Rosenberg, Peg Orcherton, School District #61 Representative, Shawn Newby (SCAN)

Staff: Suzanne Samborski, Director, Parks and Recreation; Kelli-Ann Armstrong, Senior Manager, Recreation Services; Jane Evans, Planner; Cameron Scott, Planner; Elizabeth van den Hengel, Committee Clerk.

Absent: Marsha Henderson (SCAN), Marlene Bergstrom, Jasmindra Jawanda, Jean Hodgson

MINUTES

MOVED by J. Hodgson and Seconded by D. Hodgson: "That the Minutes of the Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee meeting held February 24, 2016, be adopted."

CARRIED

INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION

The Senior Manager of Recreation introduced Suzanne Samborski, the new Director of Parks and Recreation. The Committee extended a warm welcome to the new Director.

HOMELESSNESS IN SAANICH

Item tabled

AGRICULTURAL TASK FORCE

The Planner provided the Committee with an overview of the Agricultural Task Force. A discussion occurred and the following was noted:

- The Healthy Saanich Community Workshop November 2013, identified food security as an issue of importance to Saanich residents.
- The task force has identified seven themes of strengths and challenges:
 - Education
 - Affordability
 - Land conservation
 - Public resources
 - Urban/rural issues
 - Infrastructure
 - Climate adaptation

- Wildlife management (deer and geese) will need to be addressed within a food security plan.
- Saanich has the land base to significantly increase local food production.
- Underutilization of rural land for food production.
- Protection of larger urban lots to preserve the ability of these lots to produce food could be considered.
- The OCP outlines the placement of a community garden in each of the local areas.
- Revisiting the roadside stand culture of the past to connect the public with the local farmers.
- Partnerships with stakeholders will be vital for food security.
- Gardens for students, farm to forks programs in schools and offering recreation programming around gardening could be offered.
- Access to local foods often require the use of a car. Local produce/farm stand “Pop Ups” along the Galloping Goose/Lochside Trails should be explored.
- An Agriculture and Food Security open house is schedule for May 26, 2016 at Saanich Commonwealth Place from 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm.

UPDATES FROM THE CHAIR

The Chair provided updates to the Committee and the following was noted:

- The LGBTQ motions went before Council. Council requested more information and asked staff to report back with financial and long term impacts of the LGBTQ motions.
- A Needs Assessment is being developed by the LGBTQ Committee and will produce a list of needs to help support the LGBTQ Community in Saanich.
- Saanich participation in the 2016 Pride Parade was discussed.

FARMERS MARKET AT RENYOLDS SCHOOL

Shawn Newby gave an update on a Farmers Market to be held during the summer of 2016 at Reynolds Secondary School and following was noted:

- Strong local interest and support for a Farmers Market at Reynolds Secondary School.
- Coast Capital Savings and Island Savings have a youth team that could be approached to provide entertainment during the Farmers Market.
- Emphasis on local produce.
- Limited local artisans/crafts will be included at the market.
- Currently there are no Farmers Markets in Saanich.

SCAN

Shawn Newby gave an update from SCAN and the following was noted:

- The Saanich Youth Development Strategy was the topic at the last SCAN meeting.

RECREATION HIGHLIGHTS

A report dated April 19, 2016, from the Senior Manager of Recreation Services, was circulated to committee members.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for May 25, 2016.

Chair

I hereby certify these minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary