

**MINUTES**  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
BOWEN COMPLEX CONFERENCE ROOM  
500 BOWEN ROAD  
WEDNESDAY, 2015-JUL-22, AT 6:00 P.M.

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PRESENT: Commissioner Ian Thorpe, Chair

Members: Commissioner Karen Alden  
Commissioner Mercedes Beaudoin-Lobb  
Commissioner Mike Horn  
Commissioner Alec McPherson  
Commissioner Wendy Pratt  
Commissioner Barry Sparkes

Staff: R. Harding, Director, Parks, Recreation and Environment  
M. Smith, Manager of Recreation Services  
R. Tweed, Recording Secretary  
M. Lum, Recreation Coordinator

REGRETS: Commissioner Marsha Down  
Commissioner Gordon Fuller  
Commissioner Denise Haime  
Commissioner Howard Houle  
Commissioner Maureen Young

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1. CALL THE OPEN MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:

- Add Item 9.(a) Staff Presentation – Summer Programs and Camp Sunsation – An Overview – Megan Lum. (Replaces “Explore Nanaimo with Team Horticulture”)
- Add Item 9.(c)(i) PowerPoint Presentation – 3699 Rock City Road – Nancy Skeels and Bill Corsan.
- Add Item 9.(c)(ii) Delegation Request – Joy Rudd.
- Add Item 13.(a) Brief review of Westwood Lake e-coli closure – Commissioner Horn
- Add Item 13.(b) Discussion of closure of Cable Bay Trail – Commissioner McPherson.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

It was moved and seconded that the amended Agenda be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the regular Parks and Recreation Commission meeting held Wednesday, 2015-MAY-27, at 6:01 p.m., in the Bowen Complex Conference Room be adopted as circulated.

5. APPOINTMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

(a) **PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION - PARKS SUB-COMMITTEE:**

It was moved and seconded that Commissioner Howard Houle be selected to serve on the Parks Committee for the period of his current term of appointment to the Parks and Recreation Commission. The motion carried unanimously.

6. PRESENTATIONS: (None.)

7. CHAIR'S REPORT:

- (a) Attended the VIP meeting for Lakeview Park. There was a large group in attendance with the desire to undertake improvement to the natural parkland area.
- (b) Update - Memorial Viewing Platform at Jack Point Park – the project is moving ahead – approvals have been received and Council has been advised – there will be a press release issued possibly this week. Western Forest Products has been linking with the family and will be notifying them prior to the press release.

8. REPORTS OF ADVISORY BODIES: (None.)

9. STAFF REPORTS:

(a) **Staff Presentation – Summer Programs and Camp Sunsation – An Overview - Megan Lum.**

Ms. Lum provided a PowerPoint presentation on the summer programs and Camp Sunsation.

It was moved and seconded that the presentation be received. The motion carried unanimously.

(b) **Nanaimo Community Gardens Society – Approval in Principle – Richard Harding.**

(i) Delegation – Pat Wells.

It was moved and seconded that the delegation be received. The motion carried unanimously.

(ii) Correspondence:

- 1. Letter dated 2015-JUN-09 from William Farris, President, Nanaimo Community Gardens Society, formally requesting that a lease be drawn up between the City of Nanaimo and the Nanaimo Community Gardens Society for a parcel of land in Beban Park for a Greenhouse Growing Program.

It was moved and seconded that the correspondence be received. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that Parks and Recreation Commission request that Council:

1. approve in principle the disposition of a 10-year lease to the Nanaimo Community Gardens Society (as referenced in Schedule A); and,
2. direct Staff to present the lease agreement at a future Council meeting for review and consideration.

The motion carried unanimously.

(c) **Proposed Parkland Exchange Between 3669 and 3699 Rock City Road - Richard Harding.**

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(i) Presentation: 3699 Rock City Road – Nancy Skeels.

Ms. Skeels provided a PowerPoint presentation on the history of the land, and options available with regard to the encroachment onto the parkland area.

1. Option 1 – Parkland Exchange:
  - This option would realize and equal amount of land being exchanged;
  - Would provide the following benefits:
    - Least impact on both the City of Nanaimo and the property owners;
    - Would preserve trees on the north side of the property as park; and,
    - Would preserve the creek.
  - Would present the following challenges:
    - Requiring Alternate Approval Process; and,
    - Will be a considerable process.
2. Option 2 – Removal of Encroachment:
  - Commission direct staff to notify owner to remove encroachment;
  - Would provide the following benefits:
    - Less process; and,
    - Sets a strong precedent.
  - Would present the following challenges:
    - Expensive for the owner (creates hardship); and,
    - Would likely involve clearing the property near the lake for a new paddock.
3. Option 3 – Do Nothing:
  - Commission would direct staff to ignore the issue;
  - Would provide the following benefits:
    - Low impact on resources.
  - Would present the following challenges:
    - Sets a precedent that other owners may follow;
    - Potential impact on neighbouring stream; and,
    - Poor property management.

Ms. Skeels advised that staff recommended Option 1 and if approved it would result in the property owners, at their expense, relocating their paddock fence in order to an appropriate stream setback. Should this option be approved, the next steps would be:

- Council approval (August)
- Alternative Approval Process (September)
- Approved/Disapproved (October)
- Complete survey work (November)
- Updated property boundaries (December)

It was moved and seconded that the presentation be received. The motion carried unanimously.

(ii) Delegation - Joy Rudd.

Ms. Rudd spoke to the history surrounding the property and the inadvertent encroachment.

It was moved and seconded that the delegation be received. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that Parks and Recreation Commission recommend that Council proceed with Option 1, Parkland Exchange. The motion carried unanimously.

(d) Renaming of the Volunteers in Parks (VIP) Program – Kirsty Macdonald.

It was moved and seconded that the Parks and Recreation Commission approve the renaming of the Volunteers in Parks program (VIP) to "Partners in Parks" (PIP). The motion carried unanimously.

*Commissioner Beaudoin-Lobb left the meeting at 7:10 p.m.*

(e) Travel Assistance Grant – Nanaimo & District Minor Fastball Association - Mary Smith.

It was moved and seconded that the Parks and Recreation Commission recommend that Council approve the application for a Travel Assistance Grant to the Nanaimo & District Minor Fastball Association in the amount of \$600 for 12 players to attend the U14B Provincial Softball Championships, being held in Maple Ridge, B.C. The motion carried unanimously.

(f) Travel Assistance Grant – Nanaimo Track & Field Club - Mary Smith.

It was moved and seconded that the Parks and Recreation Commission recommend that Council approve the application for a Travel Assistance Grant to the Nanaimo Track & Field Club in the amount of \$100 for one athlete to attend the Canadian Track & Field Championships, being held in Edmonton, Alberta. The motion carried unanimously.

*Commissioner Beaudoin-Lobb returned to the meeting at 7:16 p.m.*



10. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS:

*Commissioner Horn left the meeting at 7:16 p.m.*

(a) **Glow in the Park Christmas Event – Verbal Update - Richard Harding.**

*Commissioner Horn returned to the meeting at 7:17 p.m.*

It was moved and seconded that the verbal update be received. The motion carried unanimously.

11. CORRESPONDENCE: (not related to a Report to Commission)

(a) Minutes of the Nanaimo Harbour City Seniors Board of Directors meetings, held 2015-MAY-01 and 2015-JUN-12.

It was moved and seconded that the correspondence be received. The motion carried unanimously.

12. NOTICE OF MOTION: (None.)

13. OTHER BUSINESS:

(a) **Westwood Lake Closure due to E-Coli Issues.**

Commissioner Horn wished to know if it is anticipated that the e-coli / goose problem at Westwood Lake will this affect the triathlon next year.

Staff advised that it was an unusual combination of factors with the drought, the extreme temperatures, and a number of geese at the lake. The geese have been relocated and the lake is again open for swimming. Staff will also be checking for sources of e-coli, other than from the geese.

(b) **Cable Bay Trail**

Commissioner McPherson raised a concern about people walking their dogs at Cable Bay and smoking on the trails.

Staff recommended that if individuals are seen going into the park and smoking that licence plate numbers are recorded and also if individuals appear to follow a pattern, that the fire department and bylaws are notified so that they can attend and deal with them.

14. DELEGATIONS (not related to a Report to Commission): (10 MINUTES)

(a) Tania Pastl – Inflatable Water Park in the City of Nanaimo.

Ms. Pastl provided a brief overview on her concept of having an inflatable water park in the City of Nanaimo. She also provided a video related to a commercial supplier of the equipment and a video showing the Harrison Hot Springs Water Park.

It was moved and seconded that the delegation be received. The motion carried unanimously.

15. QUESTION PERIOD: *(No questions.)*

16. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS:

(a) Tania Pastl – Inflatable Water Park in the City of Nanaimo.

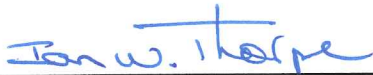
Commission felt that there is still a great deal of work to be done, including having a business plan, with the concept of an inflatable water park in the City of Nanaimo and requested that staff meeting with Ms. Pastl to provide advice to her on next steps.

17. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 7:46 p.m. that the meeting adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVED AS READ:

APPROVED FOR DISTRIBUTION:



Ian W. Thorpe, Chair  
Parks and Recreation Commission



Richard Harding, Director  
Parks, Recreation and Environment

CERTIFIED BY:

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Corporate Officer  
City of Nanaimo