

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMISSION
HELD IN THE BOWEN PARK COMPLEX CONFERENCE ROOM
ON WEDNESDAY, 2012-SEP-19, COMMENCING AT 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Commissioner D. Johnstone, Chair

Members: Commissioner T. Greves
Commissioner F. Pattje
Commissioner K. Alden
Commissioner L. Avis
Commissioner M. Beaudoin-Lobb
Commissioner H. Houle
Commissioner D. Rinald
Commissioner I. Thorpe
Commissioner M. Young

Regrets: Commissioner A. McPherson
Commissioner G. Savage

Staff: R. Harding M. Demecha
S. Samborski R. Tweed, recording

1. CALL THE OPEN MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS: NONE.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

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

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

(a) Minutes of the Regular Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission Meeting held Wednesday, 2012-JUL-25, at 7:01 p.m., in the Bowen Park Complex Conference Room.

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

5. PRESENTATIONS: NONE.

6. CHAIR'S REPORT:

No report; however, the Chair wished to remind everyone that the official naming of Sherry Fields, in recognition of the Sherry family's contributions to Nanaimo, will be held on Thursday, 2012-SEP-20, at 5:00 p.m. at Harewood Centennial Park.

7. REPORTS OF ADVISORY BODIES:

(a) Parks Committee. No meeting held.

(b) Recreation Committee. Commissioner Greves reported on the Recreation Committee meeting held 2012-SEP-12.

(i) 2012 Parks, Recreation and Culture Regulation Bylaw 2008
No.7073 Review Process.

Delegations: (None.)

Correspondence: (None.)

Recreation Committee's Recommendation: That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission approve the proposed 2012 Parks, Recreation and Culture Regulation Bylaw 2008 No.7073 Parks Bylaw #7073 review process as outlined in the report.

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

(c) Cultural Committee. Commissioner Pattje reported on the Cultural Committee meeting held 2012-SEP-05, and also advised that nominations had now closed for the Excellence in Culture Award and the Honour in Culture Award. The Committee received 6 nominations in the "Excellence" category, and 15 nominations in the "Honour" category.

(a) New Nanaimo Cultural Plan and Proposed Gord Hume Workshop.

Delegations: (None.)

Correspondence: (None.)

Cultural Committee's Recommendation: That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission approve the City Council, Commissions and staff workshop with Gord Hume on 2013-FEB-12 on "Integrating Cultural Planning Into All Aspects of Municipal Planning and Decision Making".

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

For benefit of new Commissioners, Commissioner Pattje provided some background and recent information on the Poet Laureate.

- (d) **Grants Advisory Committee.** Commissioner Beaudoin-Lobb reported on the meetings held since 2012-JUL-25. The Committee met at 3:00 p.m., 2012-SEP-19, and approved the John Howard Society and the Island Corridor Foundation for addition to the 2013 Permissive Tax Exemption bylaw list. The Nanaimo Community Hospice Society was placed on the 2013 Permissive Tax Exemption bylaw list, but denied a 2012 cash grant. The Nanaimo Arts Alive Summer School of the Fine Arts Society was approved for reimbursement of their security checks. The Nanaimo 7-10 Club Society's request for a 50% rent reduction was recommended; however, it is to come from Council contingency funds and must go through Council. All recommendations must still be approved by Council. At a previous meeting, the Nanaimo Racquet Club permissive tax exemption had been recommended by the Committee; however, it was subsequently denied by Council as it was felt that as a private club, it was not open to the community and therefore should not be funded by the community.
- (e) **Port Theatre.** Monthly report for July / August, 2012.
- (f) **Nanaimo Art Gallery.** Monthly report for July / August, 2012.
- (g) **Nanaimo District Museum.** Monthly report for July / August, 2012. In relation to the Museum report, Commissioner Thorpe advised that the Sports Hall of Fame induction ceremony will take place this Saturday, 2012-SEP-22, at the Nanaimo Museum. Refreshments will be served from 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m., and the Ceremony will start at 1:00 p.m. There will be four inductees this year, one is B.C.'s first woman to win an Olympic medal, Mary Thomasson (nee Frizzell), one is in the builder category – Jim Gold, and there are two athletes Don Ashbee – 1956 Timbermen Lacrosse, and Alison Forsyth - Olympic skier.

It was moved and seconded that the Advisory Body reports be received. The motion carried unanimously.

8. **STAFF REPORTS:**

- (a) **Interactive Special Events at Maffeo Sutton Park – Update.**

Delegations: (None.)

Correspondence: (None.)

Staff's Recommendation: *That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission receive the Report.*

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

- (b) Senior Manager of Parks & Civic Facilities. Monthly report for July / August, 2012. *(Provided by Mark Demecha, Manager, Civic Facilities in Jeff Ritchie's absence.)*

- The new Vancouver Island Military Museum will be opening on Friday, 2012-SEP-28, at 5:00 p.m.
- Staff advised that there have been many upgrades at the new Vancouver Island Military Museum and that they have been a pleasure to work with. They are a very dedicated group.
- Commissioner Houle asked, what happens to the bottles that are collected in the parks, and the money from them? Staff advised that they are bagged and put outside and they are removed. Commissioner Houle suggested that the Department consider finding an organization that will pick them up and put the money towards community needs.
- Commissioner Pattje asked what the City would be doing in recognition of National Tree Day on 2012-SEP-26. Staff advised that there will be some enhancement planting at Departure Bay Creek. (Additionally, there will be workshops, bike tours, and children's activities throughout the day from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at Kin Hut/Woodstream Park.)
- Commissioner Avis wanted to send her congratulations to the maintenance staff for all the painting that has been taking place – everything looks great!
- Commissioner Johnstone wished to give her congratulations to staff on the Bowen West Field project, and on the very successful Provincial Swim Championships – it was an amazing event, and the participants look forward to returning to Nanaimo.

It was moved and seconded that a letter be sent to the Nanaimo White Rapids congratulating them on the Provincial Swimming Championships. The motion carried unanimously.

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

- (c) Senior Manager of Recreation & Culture Services. Monthly report for July / August, 2012.

- The Nanaimo Science and Sustainability Society (Ns³) held a successful open house on the Science Centre Project on Saturday, 2012-SEP-08. The Survey closed on 2012-SEP-15. The results will be tabulated and Staff will return them to Commission in October.
- Working with VIHA on a joint project around a healthy weight program for 6-18 year olds. This will include a photo shoot. There is a possibility of full funding through VIHA. The program will be rolling out in January with target groups. Individuals in the program will work with a counsellor. The family physician prescribes the program, and we provide leisure counselling.
- Looking at a physical literacy / movement program in conjunction with BC Sport and Pacific Sport and forming a community and sport alliance. Staff will be meeting with sport and community councils and looking forward to an education opportunity around sport for life. One of the goals will be getting

children and youth active again. Staff will be coming to Commission with questions around balancing needs and economics - how will it be delivered and funded.

- Commissioner Pattje asked, with the recent hiring of a Communications Manager for the City, will PRC handle communications differently? Staff advised that the realization of the City needing a Communications Manager was based on how well the PRC Department communicates and it was used as a model. The Department has a market and promotes our services. In the last year or so the Department has been assisting in corporate communications, with a new City Communications Manager, the Department can return to the promotion of PRC programs and facilities. Staff met with Philip Cooper, the new Communications Manager. He will be responsible for all City communications.

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

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

- (a) Letter dated 2012-JUL-04 from Mr. Dirk Heydemann, Executive Member, Nanaimo Ultimate Association, 3531 Monterey Drive, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6T2, expressing thanks for the Sport Tournament Grant monies received for the "Udderbowl XVI" event and providing their evaluation form.
- (b) Letter dated 2012-JUL-05 from Ms. Sharyn Andruski-Collins, President, Friends of Nanaimo Jazz Society, c/o Band Room, Wellington Secondary School, 3135 Mexicana Road, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 2W8, thanking the City for the Arts, Cultural and Festival Events grant funds and providing their final report on "Jazz Affair Nanaimo".
- (c) Letter dated 2012-JUN-11 from Ms. Deidre Bjornson and Ms. Paige Fisher, Co Coordinators, Vancouver Island Children's Book Festival, expressing thanks for the Arts, Cultural and Festival Events grant monies received and providing their final report on "BookFest 2012".
- (d) Letter dated 2012-JUL-12 from Ms. Carmella Luvisotto, Band Teacher, Wellington Secondary School, on behalf of the Wellington Secondary Band, expressing thanks for the Travel Assistance Grant funding received which helped to support the Band's expenses for travel to the 2012 MusicFest Canada Competition in Ottawa.
- (e) E-mail dated 2012-AUG-13 from Ms. Judy Robertson on behalf of the Nanaimo Kennel Club expressing thanks for the generous support through the Sport Tournament Grant funds for the 2012 Nanaimo Kennel Club Show and providing their evaluation form.
- (f) Letter dated 2012-AUG-07 from Commodore W.M. (Bill) McGuire, Loyal Nanaimo Bathtub Society, 373 Franklyn Street, Nanaimo, BC, V9R 2X5, thanking Parks, Recreation and Culture Staff for their involvement and

cooperation for the staging of the 2012 "Great" International World Championship Bathtub Race and the Nanaimo Marine Festival.

- (g) Letter dated 2012-AUG-15 from Ms. Jeanette Pongratz-Doyle, and Mr. Brian Doyle, thanking the City of Nanaimo for developing the Leaders in Training program for children and providing some personal insights into how the program has assisted in the development of skills and abilities in their daughter.
- (h) E-mail dated 2012-AUG-19 from Ms. Lindsey Conover, PRC Staff, passing on thanks to all PRC staff from Mr. Don Boyd, Main Stage Director for the VIEX for making this year's musical performances at the exhibition a great hit.
- (i) Letter dated 2012-AUG-20 from Ms. Christy Clark, Premier, Province of British Columbia, and Board Member, British Columbia Achievement Foundation, announcing the tenth annual British Columbia Achievement Awards and inviting the Commission to nominate individuals who inspire them for the award.
- (j) Minutes of the Nanaimo Harbour City Seniors, Board of Directors meeting, held 2012-SEP-07.
- (k) Copy of a letter dated 2012-SEP-09 to Mayor and Council from Ms. Janice McAllan, CGA (and member of the Nanaimo Kennel Club), 2315 Rosstown Road, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 3R4, referencing the Nanaimo Daily News Article of 2012-AUG-02 regarding camping at Beban Park during events and providing her support for event camping at City facilities. (Note: this letter will go to the Recreation Committee for review with the Fees & Charges.)
- (l) Letter dated 2012-SEP-10 from Mr. Michael Wright, Arts Alive, P.O. Box 2085, Station A, Nanaimo, BC, V9R 6X5, reporting on their Summer School, which ran from 2012-JUL-09 to 2012-JUL-27, made possible in part by the City of Nanaimo, Cultural Operating Grant.

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

10. NOTICE OF MOTION: NONE.

11. OTHER BUSINESS:

- (a) Staff advised Commission of the action on the part of the Provincial government that will bring into effect a new Provincial Athletic Commissioner (PAC). The Province has proposed criminal code changes and new legislation for establishment of the PAC. The Nanaimo Athletic Commission will be in place until the Criminal Code amendments are approved and the Provincial legislation is passed.
- (b) A date for the PRCC Fall Tour has not yet been set.

- (c) The PRCC Budget Seminar is scheduled for Thursday, 2012-OCT-18, 5:00 p.m. A light dinner will be provided. Please check your calendars and confirm your availability.

12. DELEGATIONS (not related to a Report to Commission):

- (a) Ms. Judy Rozsas, 2229 Northfield Road, Nanaimo, BC, V9S 3C3, appeared with Ms. Bonnie Hussell and Mrs. Julie MacTire - Dog N Suds, Ms. Kathy Reilly and Ms. Marilyn Fisher – Miss Behaviour, and Ms. Keeran Sims, asking that the Commission address the safety issues that come with the use of any choke or half choke collar in enclosed off-leash parks and consider implementing a bylaw to have training collars banned in the enclosed part of off-leash dog parks in the City of Nanaimo.

Ms. Rozsas advised that she was appearing before Commission to address the dangers of training collars at enclosed dog parks, ask for a bylaw that would ban training collars in enclosed, off-leash dog parks. and described the event with her dog, at the dog park, that brought her before the Commission.

Ms. Reilly advised that all are agreed on training collars, and that they have their place in training - with key being that they are strictly for training. This issue was overlooked when the dog parks were established. Ms. Reilly felt that many people do not have the education to understand the dangers involved. She would like to see a ban on training collars in all dog off-leash parks, not just enclosed parks.

Commissioner Pattje asked if her expertise is strictly with small dogs. Ms. Reilly responded that no, she has expertise with all dogs. The prong collars are used mostly on large dogs. In the information submitted – The City of Calgary has several bylaws – not necessarily related to the training collars – they do not address the training collars directly. They would like to see the bylaws changed to be more in the direction of the Calgary bylaws. Our bylaws are more geared towards the protection of people and society. The Somenos Creek Dog Park “etiquette” includes, “Choke, prong, pinch and spike collars must be removed inside the park area”.

Ms. Hussell and Ms. MacTire advised that there have been a number of incidents where dogs have been playing and gotten caught together – in all instances they have been able to remove the collars. There was however, an instance where a dog has broken its leg getting entangled its collar.

Commissioner Avis asked how the group proposed to have this enforced. Ms. Rozsas advised that they have laminated a poster advising of the dangers of training collars and have posted this at the entrances to dog parks. They are trying to raise awareness. If they asked someone who refused to remove the collar they would call animal control. They are prepared to take a photograph of the person, the dog, and license plate of their vehicle and provide to animal control.

Ms. Sims of www.nanaimodogparks.ca advised that the site is a basic site of what people can expect when they go to dog parks. They are to be friendly and non-aggressive. If they don't comply, witnesses are to encouraged to take pictures,

witness names, license plate numbers. They empower ordinary citizens to safely follow the bylaws and protect themselves and band together to tell people when they are endangering others.

Ms. Rozsas was asked if she was just promoting a ban of training collars in enclosed dog parks. She responded, absolutely, in the Beban dog off-leash park and at the Northfield dog off-leash park. Ms. Sims takes her beagle to an enclosed park as the breed is inclined to follow its nose and must be on leash or contained. Dogs that are taken to enclosed parks are there to play and socialize. Ms. Rozsas advised that the Cowichan Valley Bylaw Enforcement Officer has advised that repeat offenders are asked by the City to not return to the dog park, and that the City of Nanaimo Animal Control have advised that it is a great idea, but they cannot enforce it until it is a bylaw.

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

It was moved and seconded that the issue be referred to the Parks Committee for further review and report back to Commission. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Rozsas wished to thank everyone that came out to speak to this issue, Ms. Joan Havers for the petition signature collection, and Ms. Sims, for showing up and assisting with the incident. Her end goal is to have a safe place for canines to meet and to return home uninjured. She felt that, particularly with the Northfield Visitors Centre dog off-leash park, it would be tragic for visitors to Nanaimo to have an incident with their dogs that could ruin their holiday.

Staff advised that dog off leash parks are a learning process – and continue to evolve. There has been a good process over the past 5-7 years, and dog owners' participation is appreciated.

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- (a) Renaming of Forest Drive Park. *(Referred to Staff on 2012-JUN-27 for report back to PRCC ~ will be brought forward for "In Camera" discussion.)*
- (b) Overnight Camping in the Parks. *(Referred to the Recreation Committee on 2012-JUN-27 for review and report back to PRCC with recommendations.)*
- (c) Vancouver Island Military Museum – Veteran's Wall of Honour. *(Referred to Staff on 2012-JUL-25 for a Report to Commission and a Draft Memorandum of Agreement for review and consideration.)*

It was moved and seconded that Item 13.(a) be removed from Unfinished Business. The motion carried unanimously.

14. QUESTION PERIOD: *(Agenda Items Only)* NO QUESTIONS.

15. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 8:04 p.m. that the meeting adjourn, with the next regular meetings as follows:

Motion to adjourn with next regular meetings as follows:

COMMISSION	Wednesday, 2012-OCT-24; 7:00 p.m. Bowen Park Complex Conference Room
Cultural Committee	Wednesday, 2012-OCT-03; 4:00 p.m. – if required Bowen Park Complex Conference Room
Recreation Committee	Wednesday, 2012-OCT-10; 3:00 p.m. – if required Bowen Park Complex Conference Room
Parks Committee	Thursday, 2012-OCT-11; 5:00 p.m. – if required Bowen Park Complex Conference Room

The motion carried unanimously.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



D. Johnstone, Chair
Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission



R. Harding, Director
Parks, Recreation and Culture