

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMISSION  
HELD IN THE BOWEN PARK COMPLEX CONFERENCE ROOM  
ON WEDNESDAY, 2012-MAY-23, COMMENCING AT 7:00 P.M.**

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PRESENT: Commissioner D. Johnstone, Chair

Members: Commissioner T. Greves  
Commissioner F. Pattje  
Commissioner L. Avis  
Commissioner M. Beaudoin-Lobb (arrived at 7:02 p.m.)  
Commissioner H. Houle  
Commissioner A. McPherson  
Commissioner D. Rinald  
Commissioner G. Savage  
Commissioner I. Thorpe  
Commissioner M. Young

Regrets: Commissioner K. Alden

Staff:	R. Harding	J. Ritchie
	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:

- Add Item 6.(c) – Late Delegation Request – Christel Martin – WiFi.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

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

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

- (a) Minutes of the Regular Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission Meeting held Wednesday, 2012-APR-25, at 7:00 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. DELEGATIONS:

It was moved and seconded that the Delegations be permitted to address the Commission. The motion carried unanimously.

- (a) Yvonne Vander Kooi and Heather Dean, Nanaimo Family Life Association, 1070 Townsite Road, Nanaimo, BC, V9S 1M6, regarding the "Life Works – Youth in Motion" project requesting approval from the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission for the installation of life-sized, youth cut-outs either in the downtown or Harewood area.

Ms. Vander Kooi advised that they have about 15 figures in total that could be used and felt that they could be installed for 3-5 years with the primary location identified by the group as being Robin's Park as there would be room for all of them there. The location is prominent, and close to road which would result in less vandalism. As washroom walls are generally blank and unadorned and are constructed in a way that is hard to decorate or adorn and tend to be places that youth gather, they would be an ideal backdrop for installation of the figures. Graffiti has not been much of a problem, and while there has been the odd tag, the anti-graffiti sealant used makes graffiti easy to remove. This would be viewed as a community legacy piece that involved youth in the opportunity and it would be wonderful for the youth to see their art in public. Some pieces were collaborative with a number of students working on a piece. Ms. Vander Kooi requests that if approved, the City install the pieces. The program is generally working with youth that are not as integrated into the mainstream alternative programs. There could be odd numbered groupings placed in north end locations if that was the wish of Commission. The cut-outs are finished and will be ready as soon as the anti-graffiti sealant is applied.

- (b) Robert Stevenson, Nate Stevenson and Larry Cooper, appeared on behalf of the South-Side Minor Football Association, 696 Second Street, Nanaimo, BC, V9R 1X9, requesting funds from the Knowles Estate for the purchase of equipment for the youth football program.

Mr. Rob Stevenson advised that they began in 1996 with the high school program at John Barsby, in 1998 they added the junior varsity program, and in 2001 the Nanaimo District with 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders. In 2002 the John Barsby program started a project – spring flag football (touch football – for Grades 4-6). The second group was for Grades 7-8, with kids coming from Nanaimo District. They play flag football in spring, and tackle football in the fall. The Association was formed in 2006 to promote amateur football for youth 7-18 in the immediate area around John Barsby. It continued to grow and they now have about 120 youth (both girls and boys) in spring flag and about 90-100 in the fall tackle. They supply everything but the shoes, but have a used cleat bank that youth who need shoes can access. They also share the high school equipment. The Association has become multi-generational, and is completely grass roots. The programs are very successful in the south end due to the local socio-economics. They have never turned anyone away that cannot afford to be involved – if needed, they will also buy shoes for them – they promote "Ball for All". About 20% in the schools are participating. Equipment is stored in the "dog house" at John Barsby and in the "bunker": at Nanaimo District Secondary School. The Association's philosophy is, "Try your hardest, get better each day, and do the right thing." They help students build a plan and schedule for their week at school. The equipment would serve a dual purpose and would be shared with the High School as required. 90% of the youth involved are

within walking distance and about 10% from other areas. Additional information on the Association and registration fees is available at: <http://south-sideminiorfootball.blogspot.ca/>

**LATE DELEGATION:**

It was moved and seconded that the Late Delegation be permitted to address the Commission. The motion carried. ***Opposed: Commissioner Greves.***

- (c) Christel Martin, 641 Stirling Avenue, Nanaimo, BC, V9R 4C8, regarding WiFi in publicly-funded community centers and electro-hyper-sensitivity, and requesting that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission have the WiFi turned off at Oliver Woods on 2012-MAY-26 and at the Nanaimo Aquatic Centre every Thursday from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. during Tai Chi classes.

Ms. Martin spoke regarding WiFi in community centres. She is teaching Tai Chi to at-risk youth, at NDSS in the dance room and believes that WiFi comes into NDSS from NAC. Ms. Martin advised that she feels ill from this as she states she suffers from EHS (electro-hyper-sensitivity), which she advises affects 5% of population and that some individuals can experience headaches, nausea, lack of focus, heart arrhythmias, and muscle spasms. Ms. Martin is requesting a WiFi free area to teach Tai Chi - possibly at no cost. She had provided by e-mail an 86 page document; however, will provide a two-page summary. Ms. Martin would like the WiFi at Oliver Woods Community Centre turned off on 2012-MAY-26, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., in order that she can attend the Canadian Tai Chi Academy Workshop, and also turned off at the Nanaimo Aquatic Center every Thursday from 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

7. **CHAIR'S REPORT:**

- (a) Congratulations to Commissioner Rinald and his wife on the birth of their daughter.
- (b) BCRPA Conference – Commissioner Beaudoin-Lobb enjoyed it and found it of interest.

8. **REPORTS OF ADVISORY BODIES:**

- (a) **Parks Committee.** Commissioner Thorpe to report on the meeting held 2012-MAY-10.

**Odd Fellows Clock Donation.**

***Parks Committee's Recommendation: That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission approve the donation of a clock from the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Black Diamond Lodge #5, to be sited at McGregor Park.***

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

- (b) **Recreation Committee.** Commissioner Greves to report on the meeting held 2012-MAY-16.

**2012 Sport Tournament Grant Requests – Final Intake.**

*Recreation Committee's Recommendation: That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission approve and recommend that Council approve the expenditure of \$11,626.00 in funding for the final intake of the 2012 Sport Tournament Grants as follows:*

<b>Sport Tournament Grant Applications 2010 - 2012</b>					
<b>GROUP</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012 FIRST INTAKE</b>	<b>2012 FINAL INTAKE</b>	<b>2012</b>
	<b>GRANT</b>	<b>GRANT</b>	<b>GRANT</b>	<b>REQUESTED</b>	<b>RECOMMENDED</b>
Agility Association of Canada	-	-	-	5000	1826
Mid-Island Velo Association (cycling)	-	-	-	4500	3000
Nanaimo Senior Men's Fastball League	1200	-	-	1350	725
Nan. Minor Hockey Association	2000	4500	500	1000	750
Nanaimo Riptide Swim Team – Fall Invitational	900	2150	500	1,000	750
Nanaimo Ultimate Association	-	-	-	1000	500
Nanaimo White Rapids Swim Club – Nanaimo Invitational Swim Meet	1,000	2,000	2500	1500	1175
V.I.E.X. – Skateboard Competition and Roller Derby Demonstration	2600	1100	-	2500	1200
Water Ski Wakeboard British Columbia	-	-	-	500	500
Wheatsheaf Fastball Club	400	500	-	700	0
Youth Sticking Together (ball hockey)	-	-	-	1600	1200
<b>TOTALS:</b>				<b>20,650</b>	<b>11,626</b>

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

Commission requested that in the future, more explanatory summary information be added to the report.

- (c) **Cultural Committee.** No meeting held.

- (d) Grants Advisory Committee. Commissioner Avis reported that no meeting was held.
- (e) Port Theatre. Monthly report for April, 2012.

Commission asked if the amounts in the Monthly Event Report could be isolated for audiences attending paid performances - it would be a better overview of the actual activity and provide information as to where and when the Theatre is being utilized.

- (f) Nanaimo Art Gallery. Monthly report for April, 2012.
- (g) Nanaimo District Museum. Monthly report for April/May, 2012.

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

9. STAFF REPORTS (Action):

- (a) **Travel Assistance Grant – Wellington Secondary School Band Program.**

*Staff's Recommendation: That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission recommend that Council approve the application for a Travel Assistance Grant to the Wellington Secondary School Band Program in the amount of \$2,000.00 for 20 members to attend the Music Fest Canada Nationals being held in Ottawa, Ontario.*

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

- (b) **Travel Assistance Grant – Nanaimo Diamonds Synchronized Swim Club.**

*Staff's Recommendation: That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission recommend that Council approve the application for a Travel Assistance Grant to the Nanaimo Diamonds Synchronized Swim Club in the amount of \$200.00 for two competitors to attend the Fina World Master's Synchronized Swimming Competition being held in Riccione, Italy.*

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

- (c) **Travel Assistance Grant – Skwthe's Storm Basketball.**

*Staff's Recommendation: That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission recommend that Council approve the application for a Travel Assistance Grant to the Skwthe's Storm Basketball in the amount of \$900.00 for nine players to attend the Northwest High School Nationals being held in Tulalip, Washington.*

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

(d) **Knowles Estate - South-Side Minor Football Association.**

*Staff's Recommendation: That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission recommend that Council allocate \$10,754.48 from the Arthur Knowles Estate to the South-Side Minor Football Association for the purchase of equipment for the youth football program.*

There was some discussion with regard to the purposes and portion of the Arthur Knowles Estate that could be utilized for youth sport facility improvements. Staff confirmed that discussions had been held with the Executor of the Estate who supported the request from the South-Side Minor Football Association. Staff advised that only the interest is available for these purposes and that, to date, no requests other than the one from South-Side Minor Football Association had been received.

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

10. **STAFF REPORTS (Information Only):**

(a) **Senior Manager of Parks & Civic Facilities.** Monthly report for April, 2012.

- Temporary public art has now been installed throughout the City.
- Dog off leash pilot sites now open.
- Forest Drive Park construction underway.
- Two VIP meetings – Planta and Monashee Parks – very interesting. Commissioner Avis congratulated both Jeff and Kirsty in doing a great job in handling and responding to the questions and concerns at the Planta Park meeting.
- Horticulture section – annual plantings were received today.
- A lot of invasive species in bloom right now with a lot of community assistance in dealing with them.
- Tourism centre being moved into Northfield Rotary Lookout – there is a temporary trailer there and the building should be finished in August. Had to bring power in. Parking will be moved over to the far side.

(b) **Senior Manager of Recreation and Culture Services.** Monthly report for April, 2012.

- WiFi – looking at improving customer service as the expectation is growing that reliable WiFi will be available for facility rentals.
- Facebook – “City of Nanaimo” is too generic and communications are continuing to establish a new Facebook name – until there is a resolution there is no access.
- Positive ticketing program – gift certificates for free swim, skate including gear, and drop-ins will be given to youth for good behaviour.
- Use of the “Mosquitoes” – there are some human rights/civil liberties issues with using the “Mosquitoes”. They produce a high-pitched sound that affects 12-18 years to prevent loitering and smoking in no access areas. Ours are not much in use anymore.
- Cumberland to Nanaimo bicycle ride – met with Cumberland Mayor – bicycle people to organize – usually a multi-day event. There will be “celebration

stations” along the way. This event is being realistically targeted to occur in 2013. It can potentially attract thousands of people.

- Cliff McNabb update – on time. In good weather they are working into the evenings. A flood over the weekend affected the electrical room; however, no lasting damage. Looking and the end of July for completion.
- Junior B Hockey has received its approvals. The “Buccaneers” will start up this fall. The contract for board advertising comes up for review in October. It has been mirrored with what happens at NIC. Ice time has been identified and teed up. Old timers currently have the bulk of the ice time and don’t use all of it. The market will decide how successful this will be
- Bowen Park Science Centre – continue to work on their concepts – partnered up with architectural firm in Vancouver on pro bono basis. Meeting with Staff in the next week or so. Will be doing some programs in the park this summer. Volunteers will be going from playground to playground to increase awareness of a Science Centre in Bowen Park. Most likely looking at a building near the Horseshoe Pit at Bowen.
- Staff to organize a spring tour of facilities – possibly in the evening with a BBQ. Possible dates to be sent out to Commission members.

It was moved and seconded that the Information Only Items be received. The motion carried unanimously.

11. CORRESPONDENCE: (Action Required.) (None.)

CORRESPONDENCE: (Information)

- (a) Minutes of the Nanaimo Harbour City Seniors Board of Directors Meeting held 2012-MAY-04. Commissioner Avis advised that she is now the Past President.

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

12. NOTICE OF MOTION:

13. CONSIDERATION OF OTHER BUSINESS:

14. BUSINESS ARISING FROM DELEGATIONS:

- (a) Yvonne Vander Kooi & Heather Dean - “Life Works – Youth in Motion” Project.

It was moved and seconded that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission approve the installation of the youth artwork in the community at locations and for a time frame at Staff’s discretion. The motion carried unanimously.

- (b) Robert Stevenson - South-Side Minor Football Association.

*[Dealt with under Item 9.(d).]*

(c) Christel Martin – WiFi.

It was moved and seconded that WiFi not be switched off in any of the City facilities, but that Staff assist Ms. Martin in identifying alternate locations that may be suitable under the Fees & Charges Bylaw rate structure. The motion carried unanimously.

15. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

(a) Independent Order of Odd Fellows – Black Diamond Lodge #5 - Clock Donation. (*referred to Parks Committee on 2012-APR-25*)

It was moved and seconded that Item 15.(a) be removed from Unfinished Business. The motion carried unanimously.

16. QUESTION PERIOD: (No questions.)

17. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 8:48 p.m. that the meeting adjourn, with the next regular meetings as follows:

COMMISSION	Wednesday, 2012-JUN-27; 7:00 p.m. Bowen Park Complex Conference Room
Cultural Committee	Wednesday, 2012-JUN-06; 4:15 p.m. – if required Bowen Park Complex Conference Room
Recreation Committee	Wednesday, 2012-JUN-13; 3:00 p.m. – if required Bowen Park Complex Conference Room
Parks Committee	Thursday, 2012-JUN-14; 5:00 p.m. – if required Bowen Park Complex Conference Room

The motion carried unanimously.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



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D. Johnstone, Chair  
Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission



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R. Harding, Director  
Parks, Recreation and Culture