

AGENDA
FOR THE REGULAR PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING
TO BE HELD IN THE BOWEN PARK COMPLEX CONFERENCE ROOM
THURSDAY, 2012-MAR-08, COMMENCING AT 5:00 P.M.

1. **CALL THE REGULAR PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING TO ORDER:**

2. **INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:**

(Note: if there is a late delegation, a motion must be made to allow the delegation to address the committee.)

3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

(Motion required to adopt the agenda.)

4. **ADOPTION OF MEETING NOTES:**

- (a) Notes of the Regular Parks Committee Meeting held Thursday, 2011-APR-14, at 5:00 p.m., in the Bowen Park Complex Conference Room. Pgs.
1-3

(Motion required to adopt the meeting notes of the above date(s) as circulated)

5. **DELEGATIONS: (10 MINUTES)**

6. **CHAIR'S REPORT:**

(Motion required to receive verbal report.)

7. **REPORTS OF PROJECT COMMITTEES: (None.)**

8. **STAFF REPORTS: (Action)**

- (a) **Italian Fountain Park Improvement Plan.** Pgs.
4-6

Staff Recommendation: That the Parks Committee recommend that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission recommend that Council approve the draft Italian Fountain improvement planning process.

(Motion required to adopt recommendation.)

- (b) **Mansfield Park Improvement Plan.** Pgs.
7-9

Staff Recommendation: That the Parks Committee recommend that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission recommend that Council approve the draft Mansfield Park improvement planning process.

(Motion required to adopt recommendation.)

9. **STAFF REPORTS:** (Information Only Items) (None.)

10. **CORRESPONDENCE:** (Action) (None.)

CORRESPONDENCE: (Information) (None.)

(Motion required to receive correspondence.)

11. **NOTICE OF MOTION:**

12. **OTHER BUSINESS:**

(Motion required if there is other business.)

13. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** (None.)

14. **QUESTION PERIOD:**

15. **ADJOURNMENT:**

(Motion required to adjourn with next meeting to be held, if required, on Thursday, 2012-APR-12, commencing at 5:00 p.m., in the Bowen Park Complex Conference Room.)

2012-MAR-01

File: A2-5

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**NOTES OF THE REGULAR PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN THE BOWEN PARK COMPLEX CONFERENCE ROOM,
ON THURSDAY, 2011-APR-14, COMMENCING AT 5:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Commissioner Fred Pattje, Acting Chair

Members: Commissioner Brian Dempsey
Commissioner Brent Meunier
Commissioner Maureen Young (at 5:06 p.m.)

Regrets: Commissioner Barry Sparkes, Chair

Staff: Jeff Ritchie R. Tweed, Recording

1. CALL THE OPEN MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

Three students enrolled in the Vancouver Island University, Business/Government Regulations course, attended to observe the meeting and were welcomed by the Chair with introductions of the Committee members and Staff to the group.

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 MEETING NOTES:

(a) Meeting notes of the Regular Parks Committee Meeting held Thursday, 2011-MAR-10, at 5:00 p.m., in the Bowen Park Complex Conference Room.

It was moved and seconded that the Meeting Notes of 2011-MAR-10 be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

5. DELEGATIONS:

6. CHAIR'S REPORT:

7. REPORTS OF ADVISORY BODIES:

8. STAFF REPORTS:

(a) OUTDOOR FACILITIES ADVERTISING SIGNAGE GUIDELINES.

Staff's Recommendation: That the Parks Committee recommend that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission adopt the attached Outdoor Facilities Advertising Signage Guidelines as revised.

Discussion occurred with regard to the Guidelines, prior to consideration of the motion. With the following change being requested by Commissioner Meunier:

- 1.b. Rewrite to read,
"Temporary signage attached to fences must be easily removed."

It was moved and seconded that the recommendation, with Guideline 1.b., as amended, be adopted.

Further discussion ensued, with the following addition to the Guidelines being requested by Commissioner Meunier:

- Under General Notes:
 - **Groups that have existing signage, which had been previously authorized by the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission, shall be exempt from these guidelines.**

It was moved and seconded that the recommendation, with the friendly amendments to the Guidelines 1.b., and General Notes, be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

9. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS (staff reports):

10. CORRESPONDENCE: (Action)

CORRESPONDENCE: (Information)

11. NOTICE OF MOTION: None.

12. OTHER BUSINESS: (None.)

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- (a) Request for Advertising Signage at May Bennett Park - staff to research and return to the Parks Committee with a Report (*referred from PRCC 2010-FEB-24*);
- (b) Bowen Wild Edible Garden - staff to prepared a Report to the Parks Committee for review (*referred from PRCC 2010-NOV-24*).

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

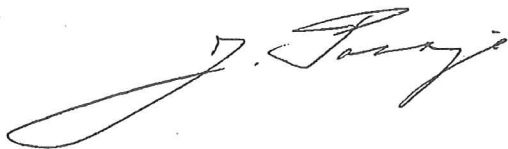
It was noted that Item 13.(b) should be removed further to the motion put forward on 2011-MAR-10.

14. QUESTION PERIOD: (No questions.)

15. ADJOURNMENT:

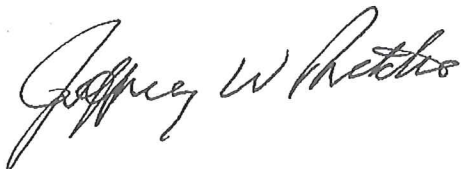
It was moved and seconded at 5:33 p.m. that the meeting adjourn, with the next regular meeting of the Parks Committee to be held, if required, Thursday, 2011-MAY-12, commencing at 5:00 p.m., in the Bowen Park Complex Conference Room.

The motion carried unanimously.



Commissioner Fred Pattie, Acting Chair
Parks Committee

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



Jeff Ritchie
Senior Manager, Parks & Civic Facilities

APPROVED FOR DISTRIBUTION:



R. Harding, Director
Parks, Recreation and Culture

REPORT TO: THE PARKS COMMITTEE
FROM: JEFF RITCHIE, SENIOR MANAGER, PARKS & CIVIC FACILITIES
AUTHORED BY: KIRSTY MACDONALD, PARKS AND OPEN SPACE PLANNER
RE: ITALIAN FOUNTAIN PARK IMPROVEMENT PLAN

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

That the Parks Committee recommend that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission recommend that Council approve the draft Italian Fountain improvement planning process.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Italian Fountain has been a landmark along the Island Highway and into downtown Nanaimo for the past fifty years. It is located at 626 Terminal Ave, a .1 ha (.3 acre) road right-of-way parcel held for park purposes. The fountain does not meet current health and safety codes and is posing several maintenance problems. In addition, the green space around the fountain is outdated, creates hiding spaces, and is causing complaints from merchants, the RCMP, and Parks Operation Staff.

BACKGROUND:

The Italian Fountain was built by Nanaimo's Italian community to celebrate BC's 100th anniversary. The fountain is constructed of local granite from Yellowpoint and reflects fountains commonly found in Italy. It depicts images of BC, such as the recurring life cycle of the salmon, in detailed mosaic tile designs and with the large jumping sculptures. Construction began in 1959 and ended in 1961.

Over the past fifty years, the context of this fountain has changed tremendously. The Island Highway has been regraded and realigned in relation to the fountain. Downtown revitalization is in full swing with the redevelopment of the Port Place Mall, Casino, and introduction of the Vancouver Island Conference Centre. In addition, social pressures on the green space are evident with shelters, drug paraphernalia, and litter frequently seen in the green space. For the most part, the site has become a drive-by site that is appreciated by the public from adjacent roadways.

As a result of an increasing number of complaints from merchants, the RCMP, and park operations staff working on this site, staff would like to begin a park improvement process to improve the Italian Fountain Park site.

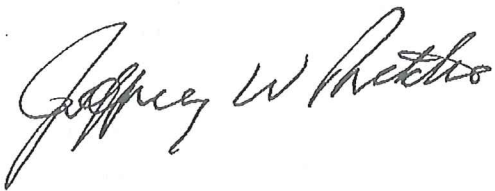
Suggested goals for this park improvement process are as follows:

- Update the fountain structure and mechanical and electrical components for optimal maintenance, aesthetics, safety, and cost effectiveness;
- Update the surrounding green space for optimal maintenance, aesthetics, safety, and cost effectiveness;
- Visually improve this historic gateway to downtown Nanaimo;
- Respect the Italian community's contribution to Nanaimo;
- Educate the public about this historic fountain and legacy; and,
- Ensure crime prevention through environmental design guidelines is followed.

The suggested process for this park improvement plan is as follows:

- March 2012—begin discussions with stakeholders about the strengths and weaknesses of the fountain and green space. Stakeholders would include the Italian community through the Cavalotti lodge; RCMP, DNBIA and adjacent businesses, MOTB, VIHA, parks operation staff;
- April 2012—develop a concept design and phasing plan to improve and update the fountain and green space;
- April 2012—present the draft improvement plan to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission;
- May 2012—begin a communications plan to draw attention to the fountain improvements and legacy; and,
- Work with stakeholders to seek out funding partners to assist in the improvements.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Ritchie". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jeff" being more prominent than the last name "Ritchie".

Jeff Ritchie, Senior Manager
Parks & Civic Facilities



REPORT TO: THE PARKS COMMITTEE

FROM: JEFF RITCHIE, SENIOR MANAGER, PARKS & CIVIC FACILITIES

AUTHORED BY: KIRSTY MACDONALD, PARKS AND OPEN SPACE PLANNER

RE: MANSFIELD PARK IMPROVEMENT PLAN

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

That the Parks Committee recommend that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission recommend that Council approve the draft Mansfield Park improvement planning process.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Mansfield Park has been a popular park in the hospital area for over 50 years. It is well-used by families in all seasons and is a popular parks and recreation day camp destination in summer months. Many of the existing park amenities are old and in need of updating.

BACKGROUND:

Mansfield Park, located at 800 St Andrew's Street, was purchased by the City of Nanaimo in 1954 and is .9 ha. It is an accessible site with many park amenities such as playground equipment, basketball court, soccer field, small baseball diamond, lighting for the field, murals, field house with washrooms, picnic facilities, and irrigation. A wading pool also exists on site but has only been used as a spray feature in recent years.

Parks, Recreation and Culture Staff held a neighborhood meeting on 2007-JUN-07 with the hope of removing the wading pool prior to the summer of 2008. The idea was not well received and since has only been used as a spray feature with no improvements to the park.

Staff has recently purchased some modern spray equipment from L'Ecole Ocean. The Francophone school had intended to install some spray features in the school playground, but was unable to overcome regulation difficulties. In addition, Mansfield Park has also been identified in our five-year playground capital plan as a site that needs upgraded equipment. Staff felt that this new spray equipment would enhance Mansfield Park and would like to revisit the idea of new spray features and overall playground and park improvements in 2012.

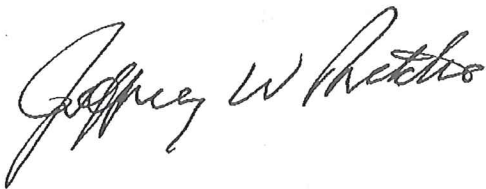
Suggested goals for this park improvement process are as follows:

- Remove the wading pool and add updated spray equipment in its place.
- Check in with the neighborhood about potential park improvements that would better meet current demographics.
- Update the park for optimal maintenance, aesthetics, safety, and cost effectiveness.

The suggested process for this park improvement plan is as follows:

- Summer 2012 — begin discussions with recreation staff and summer park users in conjunction with the summer playground programs. Survey could be available and information signs will be posted about upcoming park improvements.
- September 2012 — Host a neighborhood meeting in partnership with recreation staff, inviting input into park improvements and checking in with neighborhood needs.
- Discuss park strengths and weaknesses with Park Operations and Recreation staff.
- October, 2012 — present improvement plan to Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission.
- Spring 2013 — implement park improvement plan and complete improvements by 2013-MAY-31.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jeff Ritchie".

Jeff Ritchie, Senior Manager
Parks & Civic Facilities

Attachment

2012-FEB-29
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