

**AGENDA
FOR THE REGULAR PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING
TO BE HELD IN THE BOWEN PARK COMPLEX CONFERENCE ROOM
THURSDAY, 2010-JUN-10, 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, 2010-MAY-13 at 5:00 p.m. in the Bowen Park Complex Conference Room.

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

5. **DELEGATIONS: (10 MINUTES) (None.)**

6. **CHAIR'S REPORT:**

(Motion required to receive verbal report.)

7. **REPORTS OF PROJECT COMMITTEES:**

(Motion required to receive project committee reports.)

8. **STAFF REPORTS:**

- (a) **RFP FOR DOG WASTE BAG DISPENSERS AND BIODEGRADABLE BAGS**

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Staff's Recommendation: That the Parks Committee recommend that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission approve the issuing of a RFP to provide dog waste bags and dispensers based on allowing advertising to be placed on both the bags and dispensers.

(Motion required to adopt recommendation.)

9. **INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS** (Staff reports): **(None.)**

(Motion required to receive information only items.)

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:**

- (a) Request for Advertising Signage at May Bennett Park – Staff to review and return to the Parks Committee with a Report.

14. **QUESTION PERIOD:**

15. **ADJOURNMENT:**

(Motion required to adjourn with next meeting to be held, if required, on Thursday, 2010-JUL-08, commencing at 5:00 p.m., in the Bowen Park Complex Conference Room.)

**NOTES OF THE REGULAR PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN THE BOWEN PARK COMPLEX CONFERENCE ROOM,
ON THURSDAY, 2010-MAY-13, COMMENCING AT 5:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Commissioner Barry Sparkes, Chair

Members: Commissioner Fred Pattje
Commissioner Brian Dempsey
Commissioner Maureen Young

Absent: Commissioner Brent Meunier

Staff: Jeff Ritchie
Bill Corsan

R. Tweed, Recording

1. CALL THE OPEN MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 5:02 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 MEETING NOTES:

- (a) Meeting Notes of the Regular Parks Committee Meeting held Thursday, 2010-MAY-11 at 5:00 p.m. in the Bowen Park Complex Conference Room.

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

5. DELEGATIONS: (None.)

6. CHAIR'S REPORT:

(a) Ms. Ros Davies & Ms. Kate Lowe – Parkland in Cinnabar Valley.

Ms. Ros Davies, and,
Ms. Kate Lowe,
appeared as a delegation before the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission requesting that the Commission designate the 100 acre parcel overlooking Cinnabar Valley as parkland.

The Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission, at their meeting of 2010-APR-28, moved and seconded that this matter be referred to the Parks Committee for review and reporting back to Commission.

Staff introduced Bill Corsan, Manager, Real Estate Division, who provided some history on the subject property. This 98-acre property was purchased 1955-APR-25, for \$4,000.00 as a future landfill site. Although a number of ideas have been brought forward for the uses of this property and requests for purchase of same, the land has been held ever since in its natural state (notwithstanding some illegal logging occurring over the years). Current assessment is at \$569,000.00. There are no current identified uses for this property; however, the Real Estate Division would like to do more research on this property prior to making recommendations to the Committee.

Committee requested that Staff set up a site tour of this property for Committee members and Staff, including Bill Corsan, prior to making a recommendation to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission.

It was moved and seconded that the matter be referred to Staff for review, consultation with the Regional District of Nanaimo, and reporting back to the Parks Committee with recommendations. The motion carried unanimously.

(b) Costs Incurred for Dog Pickup Bags – Commissioner Lance.

Commissioner Lance advised the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission that as it is costing approximately \$40,000 per year for bags and pickup of dog deposits, and raised the idea of whether Council could be approached to consider adding \$5.00 to dog licensing for 2011, and have this money go into an account to offset the dog bags and pick up. Commissioner Lance provided some comparisons from other municipalities.

Discussion ensued, with some options such as advertising on dog bags (ex. dog stores, veterinary offices, suppliers) proposed.

During the question period, Mr. Fred Taylor spoke regarding this matter with specific reference to the suggestion that dog licensing fees be increased by \$5.00/year. He advised that there are many people who, while they may license their dogs, do not take their dogs off their property and as such do not use the bags or park facilities. As this can be the case, it is unfair to expect everyone to pay increased license fees.

The Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission, at their meeting of 2010-APR-28, moved and seconded that this matter be referred to the Parks Committee for review and reporting back to Commission.

Staff advised the Parks Committee that there is a company that would like to put dog dispensers into the parks and put advertising on the dispensers and the bags - this

would potentially result in an overall reduction in the cost of dog bags. As the City does not have an obligation or commitment with the current supplier, Staff would like to explore these possibilities further prior to a recommendation that the cost of license fees be raised.

It was moved and seconded that Staff explore the potential for reducing the cost of dog pick up bags in order to maintain license fees at the current level and report back to the Parks Committee at their next meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

7. REPORTS OF ADVISORY BODIES: (None.)

8. STAFF REPORTS:

(a) Bayshore Park Drive Tree Removal Request.

Staff's Recommendation: That the Parks Committee recommend that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission do not amend their original motion of 2010-NOV-25.

Note: The Staff Recommendation should read: That the Parks Committee recommend that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission do not amend their original motion of 2009-NOV-25.

Discussion was held.

It was moved and seconded that the recommendation, as amended, be adopted. The motion carried. **Opposed:** Commissioner Dempsey.

9. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS (staff reports): (None.)

10. CORRESPONDENCE: (Action) (None.)

CORRESPONDENCE: (Information) (None.)

11. NOTICE OF MOTION:

12. OTHER BUSINESS:

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- (a) Steps at Pipers Lagoon – Staff to meet with Mr. Dean and return to the Parks Committee with recommendations. Staff provided an update, noted that a letter would be sent to Mr. Dean advising him that steps would not be built in Pipers Lagoon Park as requested, and recommended that that Item 13.(a) be removed.
- (b) Request for Advertising Signage at May Bennett Park – Staff to review and return to the Parks Committee with a Report.
- (c) Bayshore Drive Park Tree Removal Issue – Staff to contact Mr. Harry Wipper and return to the Parks Committee with information.

- (d) RFP Maffeo Sutton Park – update.

It was moved and seconded that Item 13.(a) "Steps at Pipers Lagoon", Item 13.(c) "Bayshore Drive Park Tree Removal Issue", and Item 13.(d) "RFP Maffeo Sutton Park", be removed from Unfinished Business. The motion carried unanimously.

14. QUESTION PERIOD:

- (a) Mr. Fred Taylor – advised that Helen Roberts the past Manager of the Nanaimo Animal Shelter did an area assessment (in a target neighbourhood only) of actual count of dogs and found that only one-third of the dogs in the target neighbourhood were licensed.

15. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 5:34 p.m. that the meeting adjourn, with the next Meeting of the Parks Committee to be held, if required, Thursday, 2010-JUN-10, commencing at 5:00 p.m. in the Bowen Park Complex Conference Room.

The motion carried unanimously.

BR Sparkes.

Commissioner Barry Sparkes, Chair
Parks Committee

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Julia Little

Jeff Ritchie
Senior Manager, Parks Operations

APPROVED FOR DISTRIBUTION:

R. Harding

R. Harding, Director
Parks, Recreation and Culture

REPORT TO: THE PARKS COMMITTEE

FROM: JEFF RITCHIE, SENIOR MANAGER, PARKS

**AUTHORED BY: IAN BLACKWOOD, MANAGER,
PARKS MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION**

RE: RFP FOR DOG WASTE BAG DISPENSERS AND BIODEGRADABLE BAGS

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Parks Committee recommend that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission approve the issuing of a RFP to provide dog waste bags and dispensers based on allowing advertising to be placed on both the bags and dispensers.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Nanaimo presently has 35 Dog Waste Bag Dispensers and purchases 500,000 biodegradable dog bags per year on average. With over 10,000 dogs in the City of Nanaimo there is a need for public spaces to allow owners to walk or exercise their dogs. With the majority of the available public areas being parks, trails, or green spaces, the responsibility of providing waste services falls on Parks, Recreation and Culture. Providing this service reduces the risk to the public as dog feces can pose a serious health hazard if not picked up but comes at a cost of approximately \$25,000.00 per year.

There is an opportunity to reduce the cost of this service by allowing suppliers to sell advertising space on the dispensers as well as the bags. The City of Victoria has recently put out an invitation to provide Dog Waste Bags and Dispensers for a three-year program. Included in the invitation is that suppliers can offer joint ventures for advertising on the dog waste bag dispensers. They hope to significantly reduce the cost of providing the service as they purchase a total of 1.5 million dog bags annually.

A proposal to provide dog bags and dispensers would include the following:

- An initial lower cost to provide bags.
- Assurance that bags are 100% biodegradable or certified compostable.
- Bags must be available for delivery to the City with two days notice.
- The City would receive a percentage of sponsorship revenues on dispensers and bags.
- The right of refusal on any advertising deemed inappropriate.
- Dispensers to be able to contain two rolls of bags and supplied at no cost.
- Restocking of the dog waste bags to be done by City Staff.

It is proposed that entering into a dog waste bag program that permits advertising will allow the City to provide a higher level of dog waste service to the public while reducing costs below what is presently incurred.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeff Ritchie
Senior Manager, Parks

2010-JUN-04

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