

**NOTES OF THE REGULAR PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD IN THE BOWEN PARK COMPLEX CONFERENCE ROOM,  
ON THURSDAY, 2010-MAR-11, COMMENCING AT 5:00 P.M.**

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PRESENT: Commissioner Fred Pattje, Acting Chair

Members: Commissioner Brian Dempsey  
Commissioner Maureen Young  
Commissioner Brent Meunier

Absent: Commissioner Barry Sparkes, Chair

Staff: Jeff Ritchie R. Tweed, Recording  
Alan Kemp

1. CALL THE OPEN MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 5:00 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 MEETING NOTES:

- (a) Meeting Notes of the Regular Parks Committee Meeting held Thursday, 2010-JAN-14, at 5:30 p.m. in the Bowen Park Complex Conference Room.

Amendment: Commissioner Meunier requested that the following sentence, "If there is no water source available, and to put one in would require a major financial expenditure, one would not be provided." be added to the Parks Committee meeting notes of 2010-JAN-14, Items. 6.(a), in the discussion portion, following the sentence, "Two Major Financial Issues of the installation of proposed new Dog Off-Leash Parks are water for the dogs and required fencing."

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

5. DELEGATIONS:

It was moved and seconded that the Delegation be permitted to address the Parks Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

- (a) Mr. Wayne Reis, 5721 Bayshore Drive, Nanaimo, BC V9V 1G9, to “present concerns regarding decisions that were made regarding the Bayshore Drive Tot Lot and a failure to honour commitments that were made to the residents in our community”.

Mr. Reis attended the meeting, bringing a neighbour, Mr. Frank Scarpino. Mr. Reis expressed his concerns regarding the Bayshore Drive Tot Lot and related the history of the Bayshore Drive Park from its inception to present day, detailing what he felt were the promises made in approximately 1980, commitments, and solutions that have been made by City staff, but not honoured. He gave his insight into meetings with staff over the years and his understanding of the discussions and meetings that have been held with staff.

The Committee asked a number of questions of Mr. Reis regarding the Park and the trees at issue. When asked if there was a preference to remove one tree or the other, Mr. Reis advised that the neighbours had not discussed this, and that, the Cedar may be the better tree to keep.

Mr. Reis was asked if he is asking that the cedar, the fir, or the ornamentals be removed, and his response was that the commitment be honoured, also noting that the ornamentals aren't very healthy. Staff have deferred action on the replacement of any trees in this Park until such time as the issue regarding the trees are resolved. Mr. Reis advised that the ornamentals are fine and doesn't think they are the major priority, but it sounded like a good idea. He is however, concerned that they won't be replaced with something as nice.

Staff advised that the ornamentals have some rot in the bottom, some dead branches; however the cedar and fir are healthy trees approximately 40 years old and were not planted, but were “volunteer” trees.

Committee noted that it appeared that other trees on neighbouring, private, property were blocking more view than these two trees, and Mr. Reis responded that there was no commitment made by the residents of those properties; however, there had been a commitment made by Harry Wipper.

6. CHAIR'S REPORT:

- (a) Request for Advertising Signage at May Bennett Park.

There was discussion regarding advertising signage and setting precedents as well as an acknowledgement that there are currently Parks within the City that have allowed advertising signage in the past and where the signage is still in place.

It was moved and seconded that Staff review the matter of advertising signage in City parks and return to the Parks Committee with a Report. The motion carried unanimously.

(b) Bayshore Drive Park Tree Removal Issue.

Further discussion on this matter resulted in the following motion:

It was moved and seconded that Staff contact Mr. Harry Wipper to see if he has any recollection of making the promise that there would never be trees in Bayshore Drive Park that would obstruct the views of residents. The motion carried unanimously.

7. REPORTS OF ADVISORY BODIES: (None.)

8. STAFF REPORTS: (None.)

9. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS (staff reports):

(a) Review Panel for Maffeo-Sutton Park  
RFP Concessionaire Proposals. – verbal report.

The RFP process has now closed and the Committee, Chair McNabb, and City Staff will meet as a Selection Panel to review the proposals. The meeting for this review will be held on Friday, 2010-MAR-19, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., with lunch provided.

(b) Buttertubs Marsh / Valley Oak Park – Dogs Issue – verbal report.

Buttertubs is designated as a “No Dogs” area due to sensitive wildlife issues; however, enforcement is an issue as it is private property owned by “Nature’s Trust”. Commissioner Pattje advised that there are a number of senior citizens that live in the Valley Oak Mobile Home Park that walk their dogs in the area and given their age and the proximity of the Park, there may be community issues that would result from designating the City-owned Valley Oak Park as a “No Dog” to assist the Buttertubs Marsh Liaison Committee in restricting dogs in Buttertubs Marsh. Valley Oak Park is currently designated as a “Dog on Leash” park.

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

10. CORRESPONDENCE: (Action) (None.)

CORRESPONDENCE: (Information) (None.)

11. NOTICE OF MOTION: (None.)

12. OTHER BUSINESS: (None.)

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- (a) Bowen Park Improvement Plan – update on the improvement plan to be brought to the Parks Committee.
- (b) Steps at Pipers Lagoon – staff to meet with Mr. Dean and return to the Parks Committee with recommendations.

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

14. QUESTION PERIOD: (No questions.)

15. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 6:30 p.m. that the meeting adjourn, with the next Meeting of the Parks Committee to be held, if required, Thursday, 2010-APR-08, commencing at 5:00 p.m. in the Bowen Park Complex Conference Room.

The motion carried unanimously.



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Commissioner Fred Pattje, Acting Chair  
Parks Committee

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



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Jeff Ritchie  
Senior Manager, Parks Operations

APPROVED FOR DISTRIBUTION:



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R. Harding, Director  
Parks, Recreation and Culture