

**NOTES OF THE REGULAR PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN THE BOWEN PARK COMPLEX CONFERENCE ROOM,
ON THURSDAY, 2009-OCT-15, COMMENCING AT 5:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Commissioner Barry Sparkes, Chair
Commissioner Brent Meunier
Commissioner Brian Dempsey
Commissioner Maureen Young
Commissioner Fred Pattje

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.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

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

4. ADOPTION OF MEETING NOTES:

(a) Notes of the Regular Parks Committee Meeting held Thursday, 2009-JUL-09 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:

7. REPORTS OF PROJECT COMMITTEES: (None.)

8. STAFF REPORTS:

- (a) Amendment to Schedule "A" of Bylaw 2008 No. 7073 – Hours of Operation - Parks

Staff's Recommendation: *That the Parks Committee recommend that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission approve the proposed amendment to Schedule "A" of Bylaw 2008 No. 7073 – Hours of Operation – Parks; and recommend that Council amend Schedule "A" of Bylaw 2008 No. 7073 as follows:*

PARK	HOURS OF OPERATION	
	Current Hours	Proposed Amendment to Hours
Diana Krall Plaza E&N Trail Georgia Park McGregor Park Maffeo Sutton Park Parkway Trail Queen Elizabeth Promenade	24 hours/day	No change
Loudon Park	6:00 am – 6:00 pm October 1 - March 1 6:00 am – 10:00 pm March 1 – September 30	No change
All other Parks	6:00 am – 6:00 pm November 1 – March 31 6:00 am – 11:00 pm April 1 – October 31	6:00 am – 9:00 pm November 1 – March 1 6:00 am – 11:00 pm March 1 – October 31

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

9. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS (staff reports):

- (a) Dog Off-Leash Parks – verbal update – Jeff Ritchie.

An Open House was held on 2009-JUL-29 at the Beban Off-Leash Park. Next one is scheduled for 2009-OCT-22 at Rotary Field House. The Open House is truly an open house and invites everyone. The point of the Open House is to get a broad selection of feedback from the public – including both small-dog owners, big-dog owners, and people who do not own dogs, and the public's comfort level with unfenced areas being off-leash. We can upgrade existing fencing areas if required – funds have been budgeted in Capital for next year. There is a lot of support for Groveland Park, but there are still some concerns from the neighbourhood. There are some issues being raised regarding why dogs on leash cannot be walked around some of our sports fields. At the next Open House, specific areas will be outlined with an updated map identifying locations on the map. Colliery, Beaufort, and Divers will be mapped and other areas (Groveland and Neck Point Park) need to have neighbourhood meetings. It is expected that a Report will go to Commission in November, but it is unlikely that a

park will be identified and open prior to the New Year. Areas that are not currently being identified can be revisited. Seabold is still a possibility; however, parking is a major concern.

Commissioner Pattje asked that the petition from Beach Estates be reviewed for the addresses of those people who are opposed to having a Dog-Off Leash area. He would like to PRC staff to ensure that there is an area that has access to water.

(b) Loudon Park Open House – verbal update – Jeff Ritchie.

An Open House was held 2009-OCT-06 and about 75 people attended. The main reason was to have the Canoe Kayak and Rowing Clubs present the conceptual plans of their boathouse. A second option for a location is where the centennial building and current washroom are – this would result in a reduced impact on trees and does not impact the fishing dock. The Open House was very successful. The Clubs will now start their fund-raising. They have applied for the RiNC grant and they also have some gaming funds. The boathouse is a good concept and has a lot of support; however, it will all hinge on the funding. Our involvement would be the public washroom and possibility a concession.

(c) Neck Point Update – verbal update – Jeff Ritchie

With the Committee's permission to proceed, Mr. Ritchie provided a verbal update on the Neck Point property. Buildings are now down – accessibility to water and safety issues are being addressed and hopefully this will be complete by the end of November. If the site is safe, and there are some natural trails, it may be opened to the public at that time. The boathouse will stay; however, there will be an upgrade to the stairs and safety railings will be installed. There is now approximately a 4:1 slope down to the water where the main building once stood.

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:

12. OTHER BUSINESS:

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

(a) Bowen Park Improvement Plan – update on the improvement plan to be brought to the Parks Committee. This matter is still ongoing.

(b) Steps at Pipers Lagoon – staff to meet with Mr. Dean and return to the Parks Committee with recommendations. Staff have and will continue to follow up with Mr. Dean.

- (c) Buttertubs Marsh Liaison Committee – recommended that Commission recommend that Council direct staff to write a letter to BCTFA. Mr. Ritchie advised that the issue of “no dogs” at Buttertubs remains the same, and that the letter to BCTFA has been sent out.

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

14. QUESTION PERIOD:

- (a) Mr. Rolf Schild has been in contact with Commissioner Pattje regarding the Christmas Tree Sales. Commissioner Young advised that there is a sign at Beban Park advising that there will be Christmas Tree Sales at Beban. Staff advised that this matter rests with Mr. Gogo and VIEX; however, they will confirm that there is a sign and what is recorded on it. Commissioner Meunier requested that this matter be returned to the 2009-OCT-28 PRCC meeting with an update.

15. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 5:28 p.m. that the meeting adjourn, with the next meeting of the Parks Committee to be held, if required, on Thursday, 2009-NOV-12, commencing at 5:00 p.m. in the Bowen Park Complex Conference Room.

The motion carried unanimously.



Commissioner Barry Sparkes, Chair
Parks Committee

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



Jeff Ritchie
Senior Manager, Parks Operations

APPROVED FOR DISTRIBUTION:



R. Harding, Director
Parks, Recreation and Culture