

**NOTES OF THE REGULAR PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN THE BOWEN PARK COMPLEX CONFERENCE ROOM,
ON THURSDAY, 2009-MAY-14, COMMENCING AT 5:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Commissioner Barry Sparkes, Chair

Members: Commissioner Fred Pattje
Commissioner Brian Dempsey

Regrets: Commissioner Brent Meunier
Commissioner Maureen Young

Staff: Jeff Ritchie Robin 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:

(a) Raines Cottage – Verbal Report – Jeff Ritchie

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

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

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

4. ADOPTION OF MEETING NOTES:

(a) Meeting Notes of the Regular Parks Committee Meeting held Thursday, 2009-MAR-12, at 4:00 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: (None.)

7. REPORTS OF PROJECT COMMITTEES: (None.)

8. STAFF REPORTS:

(a) Potential Dog Off-Leash Parks In Nanaimo

Staff's Recommendation: That the Parks Committee recommend that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission proceed with a public review and input process to consider dog off-leash sites at various locations.

The matter was reviewed and the various locations and options discussed. A hand out which showed the Parks that may be part of the consideration process was provided. Commissioner Pattje requested that Beach Estates, Departure Bay, be added to the list of potential sites and the following motion was subsequently made:

It was moved and seconded that the Parks Committee recommend that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission proceed with a public review and input process to consider dog off-leash sites at various locations, including Beach Estates, Departure Bay. The motion carried unanimously.

9. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS (staff reports):

(a) Raines Cottage – Verbal Report – Jeff Ritchie.

Staff provided an information-only verbal report on the status of Raines Cottage, which had been relocated to Bowen Park and restored by the Raines family and the Nanaimo District Museum in 1984. Raines Cottage is deteriorating and a decision will need to be made with regard to its removal and/or disposition. The matter is being brought forward by the Development Services Division in a Report to Council.

It was moved and seconded that the information-only item be received. The motion carried unanimously.

10. CORRESPONDENCE: (Action) (None.)

CORRESPONDENCE: (Information) (None.)

11. NOTICE OF MOTION:

12. OTHER BUSINESS:

(a) Petition For Dog Off-Leash Area In North Nanaimo

Staff Recommendation: That the Parks Committee direction is sought following review of Item 8.(a) Staff Report "Potential Dog Off-Leash Parks In Nanaimo".

At their meeting of 2009-APR-22, the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission received and reviewed correspondence from Ms. Marion Brom, 3562 Monterey Drive, Nanaimo, BC V9T 6T2, dated 2009-APR-14 to Chair Larry McNabb,

regarding a Petition for Dog Off-Leash Area in North Nanaimo (correspondence and petition attached). At the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission meeting, additional information was provided by Commissioner Pattje with regard to discussions held with Ms. Brom who is concerned that a delay will result by having this matter go through the usual review and approval process. Staff advised that the public needs to be informed prior to action being taken to ensure that issues do not arise as a result of not following due process. The Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission forwarded the matter of a dog off-leash area in North Nanaimo to the Parks Committee.

Motion to receive the letter and petition as an information item. (Note: Motion regarding dog-off-leash parks made under Item 8.(a) above.)

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- (a) Urban Forestry – this matter will be coming to Commission in April;
- (b) Concessionaires in Maffeo Sutton Park – staff would like to bring a Report to the Parks Committee in April to be forwarded for the 2009-APR-22 Commission meeting;
- (c) Bowen Park Improvement Plan – update on the improvement plan to be brought to the Parks Committee;
- (d) Community Gardens Policy – currently being worked on – to be available to anyone in the City – this policy will hopefully include the Urban Farming issue;
- (e) Loudon Park Improvement Plan – Boathouse Update – there is a new concept plan under review with staff. The draft plan will be presented to the Parks Committee in June.
- (f) Steps at Pipers Lagoon – staff to meet with Mr. Dean and return to the Parks Committee with recommendations.
- (g) Dog Off-Leash Project – staff to identify potential sites and report back to the Parks Committee.

Discussion of the “Unfinished Business” items resulted in Item 13.(e), being retained and the following motion being made.

It was moved and seconded that Items 13.(a), 13.(b), and 13.(g) be removed from “Unfinished Business”. The motion carried unanimously.

14. QUESTION PERIOD:

- (a) Plinth and Plaque – Commissioner Pattje asked who would be responsible for the follow up and was advised that it was the responsibility of Jeff Ritchie.

15. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 5:40 p.m. that the meeting adjourn, with the next Meeting of the Parks Committee to be held, if required, Thursday, 2009-JUN-11, commencing at 5:00 p.m., in the Bowen Park Complex Conference Room.

The motion carried unanimously.



Commissioner Fred Pattje,
Alternate Chair, on behalf of:
Commissioner Barry Sparkes, Chair
Parks Committee

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



Jeff Ritchie, Senior Manager
Parks Operations

APPROVED FOR DISTRIBUTION:



Richard Harding, Director
Parks, Recreation and Culture