

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMISSION MEETING
HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM, OF THE BOWEN PARK COMPLEX,
ON WEDNESDAY, 2007-OCT-03, COMMENCING AT 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Commissioner L. McNabb, Chair

Members:

Commissioner L. Avis
Commissioner D. Burnett
Commissioner J. Cameron
Commissioner B. Dempsey
Commissioner P. Field
Commissioner L. Fraser
Commissioner D. Johnstone
Commissioner S. Lance
Commissioner L. Sherry
Commissioner B. Sperling
Commissioner A. Young

Staff:

R. Harding
B. Meunier

J. Ritchie
C. Connett, recording

1. CALL THE OPEN MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:

- (a) Commission Burnett regarding Electoral Area A.
- (b) Commissioner Dempsey regarding School District No. 68's Healthy Food in Vending Machines Initiative.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

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

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

- (a) Minutes of the Regular Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission Meeting held Wednesday, 2007-JUL-25 at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Bowen Park Complex.

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

5. PRESENTATIONS:

On behalf of the City of Nanaimo, the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission presented certificates and medallions to the Provincial Champion Nanaimo Track and Field Club members Miryam Bassett, Alex Bonnetplume, Alexandra Fontaine, Marissa Kingzett, Anthony Serban and Jade Richardson; and to the Western Canadian Champion Track and Field Club member Paul Little.

6. DELEGATIONS:

7. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

- (a) Chairman McNabb circulated letters from Fairview School students regarding the benefits of the viewing platform in Jingle Pot Marsh.
- (b) Chair McNabb reviewed the upcoming Management staffing changes.

8. REPORTS OF ADVISORY BODIES:

- (a) Parks Committee. Commissioner Field advised that no meeting was held.
- (b) Recreation Committee. Commissioner Lance advised that no meeting was held.
- (c) Cultural Committee. Commissioner Lance reported on the meeting held 2007-SEP-05

E. J. Hughes Mural.

The City is moving forward with plans to restore and display the 1938 E. J. Hughes mural that was removed from the old Malaspina Hotel. The mural will be on display in a pre-function area of the Vancouver Island Conference Centre.

Cultural Committee's Recommendation: That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission recommend that Council allocate up to \$200,000 from the 2007 - 2008 Parks, Recreation and Culture Department's Five Year Capital Public Art budget for restoration and display of the E.J. Hughes mural at the Vancouver Island Conference Centre.

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

Commissioner Lance invited Commissioners to attend the Cultural Awards ceremony to be held on Friday, 2007-DEC-14 at Beban Park at 7:00 p.m.

- (d) Athletic Commission. Commissioner McNabb advised that no meeting was held.
- (e) Grants Advisory Committee. Commissioner Burnett advised that a meeting was held but there was nothing to report.
- (f) Plan Nanaimo Advisory Committee. Commissioner Lance reported that a meeting was held and the Park Zoning report was discussed.
- (g) Social Planning Advisory Committee. Commissioner Johnstone reported that the meeting was cancelled.
- (h) Port Theatre. Monthly report – July and August.
- (i) Nanaimo Art Gallery. Monthly report – July and August.
- (j) Nanaimo District Museum. Monthly report – July and August. Commissioner Lance invited Commission to attend the Closing Social on 2007-NOV-03.
- (k) BC Seniors Games Committee. Commissioner Johnstone reported that the Games were a great success and that working on the Committee was a very rewarding experience. She informed Commission that a legacy of approximately \$100,000 will be shared with the BC Seniors Games Society; and that a final report will be provided at a future Commission meeting. Commissioner Johnstone expressed sincere appreciation to Bill France, City Liaison, who was a marvellous asset to the Committee and willingly served in any and every capacity. She also extended thanks to all the liaisons and supporters that made hosting the Games possible, especially Malaspina University College, School District No. 68 and City of Nanaimo. Commissioner Johnstone expressed immense appreciation to the Board of Directors for their dedication and hard work as well as to the many volunteers.

It was moved and seconded that the Advisory Body Reports be received. The motion carried unanimously.

9. STAFF REPORTS:

- (a) Knowles Estate Statutory Reserve Fund Allocation Guidelines.

Staff's Recommendation: That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission allocate the interest from the Knowles Estate Statutory Reserve Fund for 2008 - 2012 to add, replace or improve playground equipment to south end parks as described in Schedule "A".

In September 2007, approximately \$500,000 from the estate of Mr. Knowles was forwarded to the City of Nanaimo. This Fall, \$100,000 of the \$500,000 has been allocated for improvements to Knowles Park and a meeting to discuss these improvements with area residents was held on 2007-SEP-27.

At their 2007-JUL-25 meeting, Commission directed staff to develop Knowles Estate Statutory Reserve Fund Allocation Guidelines. The annual interest is recommended to be directed to Department initiated playground improvements in the south end until 2012 and projects will be reviewed by the Commission each year. Guidelines will be prepared for Commission's consideration for years exceeding the existing Five Year Capital Plan.

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

(b) Parks and Facilities Naming Conventions.

Staff's Recommendation: That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission's direction is sought.

At the 2007-JUL-25 In Camera Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission meeting, staff were directed to seek information and clarification regarding the City of Nanaimo's policy for the naming of parks and facilities. Currently, there is not a formal policy with respect to the naming of City of Nanaimo parks and facilities; rather, the standard practice has been for the City to "reserve the naming of parks and facilities for individuals who have made special contributions to the community, or for clubs and organizations to recognize their contributions in the development of facilities."

The types of policies established by other municipalities, although limited, vary from the naming of municipal assets through corporate sponsorship, to limiting the naming of parks and facilities for commemorative purposes. In addition, naming rights policies often recognize items of community or historical significance.

Should the City of Nanaimo pursue a Municipal Naming Convention Policy options for consideration are:

1. Maintain Status Quo – In the past, the City has reserved the right to name parks and facilities based on contributions, either financial or otherwise to the community, individuals or non-profit societies and organizations. Requests for naming are presented to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission and deliberated based on several factors including community impact, investment in public facilities or commemorative naming; and then forwarded to Council for consideration.
2. Establish a Naming Convention Policy - Conduct a community based process to develop a formal Naming Convention Policy for the City of Nanaimo (a model similar to the City of Vancouver) and forward to Council for consideration.

Commissioners agreed that the status quo should be maintained and noted that a history of how parks and facilities have been named in the past; and a terms of reference or more extensive policy/procedure would be useful. Commissioners felt that this information would also be useful for the community when making naming requests.

Commissioner Burnett suggested that the policy/procedure could address not only parks and facilities, but the placing/naming of plaques, benches, fountains, artwork, sections of sidewalks, etc.

Chair McNabb stated that he believes the status quo is working well and that plaques can still be purchased at the Lions Pavilion in Maffeo Sutton Park.

It was moved and seconded that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission request staff to prepare a report recommending a general naming policy statement for their consideration; and further, that a list be prepared of existing park and facility names and the rationale used by Commission in the naming. The motion carried unanimously.

10. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS (staff reports):

(a) BC Lions 2009 Training Camp Bid.

Community members and Parks, Recreation and Culture staff liaison are involved in preparing a bid to host the BC Lions Training Camp in Nanaimo in 2009. A Steering Committee was formed to work on community support/commitment and develop a bid proposal. The Steering Committee is currently working on completing the bid proposal to meet the December 2007 submission deadline.

(b) Monthly Report from Mr. J. Ritchie, Manager of Parks.

Mr. J. Ritchie, Manager of Parks, invited Commission to attend the Park Zoning Open House Wednesday, 2007-OCT-10 from 5 – 8 p.m. at Bowen Activity Room #1 and the Sod Turning ceremony for Rotary Field House scheduled for 2007-OCT-16 at 10:00 a.m. He advised that the Knowles Park residents are pleased with the proposed improvements and that he has had discussions with the Departure Bay Neighbourhood Association regarding Wardropper Park. Mr. Ritchie reported that a draft Third Street Vegetation Plan has been prepared and will be presented to interested stakeholders and a summary will be provided to Commission.

(c) Monthly Report from Mr. B. Meunier, Manager of Recreation and Culture Services.

Mr. B. Meunier, Manager of Recreation and Culture, advised that summer programming was extremely successful with high participation numbers; the Canadian Tire Jump Start program continues to assist with the LEAP program; Cultural Committee and Recreation Committee grant meetings will be scheduled at the beginning of November. He also circulated Cultural Capitals information.

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

11. CORRESPONDENCE: (Information)

- (a) Letter dated 2007-AUG-17, to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission from Mr. I. Howat, Director, Legislative Services, expressing appreciation to Commission for their adherence to Council policy regarding travel assistance grants.
- (b) Letter dated 2007-JUL-23, to Sandy Raddysh, Aquatics Supervisor, from Mr. Dave Looney, Passenger Ropeway/Amusement Ride Safety Officer, BC Safety Authority, rejecting the City's application for variance regarding the waterslide regulations.
- (c) Letter dated 2007-AUG-08, to the Editor, from Mr. H. J. Pat Barron, requesting various agencies of the City to Help Save Mt. Benson and that the City allocate \$150,000 annually for the retention of this area until it is in the public domain.
- (d) Letter dated 2007-AUG-29, to Kathy Kitchen and Maurya Tatler, from Dale Miller, Executive Director, Lifesaving Society, expressing appreciation for their assistance in the hosting of the 2007 Barnsley Lifeguard Championships at the Nanaimo Aquatic Centre.
- (e) Letter dated 2007-AUG-26, to Chair McNabb, Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission, from Samantha Letourneau, TheatreOne Administrator, expressing appreciation for the Arts and Cultural Event Grant.
- (f) Letter dated 2007-AUG-22, to Mr. Richard Harding, Director, from Harvey Hurd, Double H Holdings Ltd, regarding Golf Teaching Academy and Practice Facility implementation.

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

12. NOTICE OF MOTION:

13. CONSIDERATION OF OTHER BUSINESS:

(a) Regional District A.

Commissioner Burnett noted that the Regional District has struck a Recreation and Culture Commission for Area A.

(b) Healthy Food in Vending Machines.

Commissioner Dempsey suggested that the City should support School District No. 68's initiative for healthy food in vending machines by putting healthier food in the Nanaimo Aquatic Centre (NAC) vending machines, as well as in other recreation facilities.

Commissioner Fraser recommended that the City needs to make a strong statement for healthy living by removing junk food from recreation facilities.

It was moved and seconded that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission direct staff to support School District No. 68's initiative for healthy food in vending machines by having healthy food choices in the Nanaimo Aquatic Centre's vending machines, as well as all other vending machines in City facilities; and further, that staff prepare a report advising of actions taken regarding implementing healthy food choices in department facilities. The motion carried unanimously.

(c) Port Theatre attendance report.

Commissioner Lance noted that the Port Theatre attendance report appears to have errors and asked Mr. Harding to check with the Port Theatre General Manager.

It was moved and seconded that Other Business Items be received. The motion carried unanimously.

14. BUSINESS ARISING FROM DELEGATIONS:

15. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

(a) Nanaimo Christian School Request for Joint Use of Holland Road Park – referred to Parks Committee for consideration in Spring 2008.

(b) Bowen Side Channel Interpretive Plan – staff report requested (January 2008).

16. QUESTION PERIOD:

17. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 8:05 p.m. that the meeting terminate, with the next Meeting of Commission to be held Wednesday, 2007-OCT-24, commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Bowen Park Complex; and,

With the next meeting of the Cultural Committee to be held Wednesday, 2007-NOV-07, commencing at 4:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Bowen Park Complex; and,

With the next meeting of the Recreation Committee to be held, if required, Wednesday, 2007-NOV-14, commencing at 4:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Bowen Park Complex; and,

With the next meeting of the Parks Committee to be held, if required, Thursday, 2007-NOV-15, commencing at 4:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Bowen Park Complex.

The motion carried unanimously.

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L. McNabb, Chair
Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

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R. Harding, Director
Parks, Recreation and Culture