

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMISSION MEETING
HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM, OF THE BOWEN PARK COMPLEX,
ON WEDNESDAY, 2007-MAY-23, COMMENCING AT 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Commissioner L. McNabb, Chair

Members:

Commissioner D. Burnett
Commissioner J. Cameron
Commissioner P. Field
Commissioner D. Johnstone
Commissioner S. Lance
Commissioner L. Sherry

Absent:

Commissioner B. Dempsey
Commissioner L. Fraser
Commissioner B. Sperling
Commissioner M. Young

Staff:

T. Hickey
B. Meunier
J. Ritchie

R. Harding
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:

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-APR-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:

6. DELEGATIONS:

It was moved and seconded that the Delegations be permitted to address the Commission. The motion carried unanimously.

- (a) Ms. Nancy Falconer, Community Action Coordinator, Canadian Cancer Society Vancouver Island Region, is encouraging the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission to endorse the development and implementation of a plan to eliminate smoking in specific outdoor areas where the public, particularly children and youth, are likely to frequent such as playgrounds, sports fields, swim beaches and water parks.

Ms. Falconer advised that:

- 50% of cancer is preventable.
- tobacco related illness is the leading preventable cause of disease, disability, and death in Canada with some 6,000 deaths annually in BC attributable to smoking and smoking-related disease.
- cigarette smoking causes about 30% of cancer deaths in Canada and 85% of lung cancers.
- secondhand smoke (SHS) is a known human carcinogen (cancer-causing agent), and has a significant impact on the health of British Columbians.
- the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has officially labelled SHS as a Class A carcinogen, which is considered to be the most dangerous of cancer agents.
- exposure to SHS can cause heart disease, lung cancer, and respiratory ailments in adults, and sudden infant death syndrome, low birth weight, and asthma, among other things, in infants and children.
- in 2006, the US Surgeon General confirmed that there is no safe level of exposure to SHS; and non-smokers exposed to SHS increase their risk of heart disease by 25 to 30% and lung cancer by 20 to 30%.
- each year, up to 140 people in British Columbia die from exposure to SHS.
- scientific studies now show that outdoor SHS exposure can be just as harmful as indoor SHS.
- the California Environmental Protection Agency has classified SHS as a toxic air contaminant, and the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System recommends that people be at least 7.5 metres or 25 feet from the source before the air is free of carcinogens caused by SHS.
- 90% of smokers start smoking in their teens; therefore, smoke-free public places set healthy role models for children and youth and consequently decrease the number of young people taking up the habit.
- the municipalities of Salmon Arm, Castlegar, Cranbrook, Nelson, Kamloops and Williams Lake have implemented smoke-free zone signage in various outdoor areas; White Rock plans to ban smoking in public places including building entrances, playgrounds, and sports fields in 2007, outside bus stops and community events by 2008, and patios, sidewalks, parks and beaches in 2009; Abbotsford is

- drafting a bylaw to prohibit smoking in entrances to municipal facilities, playgrounds, and outdoor sporting venues; Vancouver City Council and the Capital Regional District are banning smoking on outdoor patios where food or beverage is served.
- the BC Government is implementing legislation regarding outdoor smoking in public entrance ways.
 - the City can take a leadership role in encouraging non-smoking by placing smoke free signage at municipally regulated outdoor locations.

Commissioner Cameron noted that even though she supports non-smoking, those choosing to smoke need a location outdoors in which it is permissible to smoke. She asked if smoking has been decreasing by age group over the past 5 years. Ms. Falconer replied she will provide this information.

Mr. R. Harding, Manager of Parks, advised that some playground areas are already signed for non-smoking but only where the playground areas are fenced or well defined.

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

It was moved and seconded that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission endorse the concept of establishing smoke free zones and request staff to assist in the implementation. The motion carried unanimously.

- (b) Mr. Mel Sheng and Mr. Graham Hill, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), 4166 Departure Bay Road, Nanaimo BC V9T 4B7 advising the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission of changes to the Millstone River Side Channel alignment.

Mr. Sheng and Mr. Hill advised that:

- it has been challenging to create a channel that the fish will find easy to navigate.
- the previous channel proposal had a 6% grade in some areas which would be difficult for the fish to navigate, whereas the new alignment has a maximum 4% grade.
- the new alignment will connect to the fishway downstream and create less impact to the park by routing from the lower falls through the existing parking lot and emptying into the duck pond which will become a staging area for the fish.
- the duck pond will have better water quality as a result of this realignment.
- the slightly longer channel will result in less bedrock blasting, thereby creating less of an impact to the park.
- costs to construct the revised channel will be similar to the previous alignment costs.

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

Commissioner Cameron asked for clarification about the future work in the park regarding parking. Chair McNabb confirmed that this topic would be brought before Commission at a later date and a report provided including costs.

Commissioner Lance suggested referring the potential future work regarding using the parking lot as an additional pond to the Parks Committee.

It was moved and seconded that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission support the revised alignment to the Millstone River side channel. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that staff prepare options for the long term use of the Duck Pond parking lot in relation to the new alignment of the Millstone Side Channel for review and recommendation by the Parks Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

7. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

- (a) Chair McNabb advised that Commissioner Linda Murray, has resigned because she has accepted a position as Risk Manager with the City of Nanaimo. The vacancy will be advertised with the application deadline 2007-JUN-04.

8. REPORTS OF ADVISORY BODIES:

- (a) Parks Committee. Commissioner Field reported on the meeting held 2007-MAY-10.

- 1. Broadway VIP.

- Parks Committee's Recommendation: That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission allocate \$20,000 to the Broadway Park VIP project.

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

- 2. DIGS Community Garden VIP.

- Parks Committee's Recommendation: That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission:

- 1. allocate up to \$15,000 to the development of the DIGS community garden VIP project.
 - 2. request staff work with the DIGS volunteers to establish a temporary park use agreement which would include a one-year trial period for community beds only.
 - 3. request staff to report back, after one year, on the garden's success and make recommendations on how to proceed with the allocation of personal plots.

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

3. Harbourfront Plaza Improvements.

Parks Committee's Recommendation: That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission:

1. receive the draft recommendations of the Harbourfront Plaza Design Plan.
2. forward the draft Harbourfront Plaza Design Plan to Council for information and comment.

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

- (b) Recreation Committee. Commissioner Lance reported on the meetings held 2007-MAY-09 and 16.

1. Tournament and Festival Fund Grants.

Recreation Committee's Recommendation: That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission approve the following 2007 Tournament and Festival Grant requests as listed:

		2007 Requested	2007 Recommended
1	Nanaimo & Area Land Trust	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,000
2	Nanaimo Art Gallery	\$ 3,000	\$ 1,000
3	Nanaimo Atom "B" Clippers	\$ 1,000	\$ 950
4	Nanaimo Blues Festival Society	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500
5	Nanaimo Dragon Boat Festival Society	\$ 15,000	\$ 1,500
6	Nanaimo Minor Hockey Juvenile Provincials	\$ 1,000	\$ 950
7	Nanaimo Motocross Association	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500
8	Nanaimo Skating Club	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,000
9	Nanaimo Swim Club	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,000
10	Runners of Compassion	\$ 1,500	\$ 850
11	Snuneymuxw First Nation Water Sports	\$ 2,000	\$ 950
12	Vancouver Island Exhibition	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,200
	TOTAL:	\$ 36,500	\$13,400

Funds Carried Forward from 2006:	\$ 3,500
Budgeted Funds in 2007:	<u>20,000</u>
Total Funds Available in 2007:	23,500

Grants Approved January 2007:	9,950
Grants Recommended May 2007:	<u>13,400</u>
Total Funds Allocated:	23,350

Balance – Unused Funds:	<u>\$150</u>
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It was moved and seconded that the recommendation of the Recreation Committee be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Travel Assistance Grants.

i) Angels Abreast Dragon Boat Team.

Recreation Committee's Recommendation: That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission not approve funding for this Travel Grant unless the Angels Abreast Dragon Boat Team attain the criteria of having won a provincial, regional, or national championship leading to this upcoming event, and if the Australian event was a regional, national, or international championship.

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

ii) Nanaimo Diamonds Synchronized Swim Club.

Recreation Committee's Recommendation: That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission award the Nanaimo Diamonds Synchronized Swim Club \$700 from the Travel Assistance Program to offset costs related to participating in the National Synchronized Swimming Championships scheduled to be held during May in New Brunswick.

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

iii) Nanaimo Jr. A. Clippers Hockey Club.

Recreation Committee's Recommendation: That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission request a copy of the Nanaimo Clipper's most recent financial statements, which would help to demonstrate their financial need, before a grant would be considered.

It was moved and seconded that the recommendation of the Recreation Committee be adopted. The motion carried.
Opposed: Commissioner Field.

3. 2007 – 2010 Fees and Rental Policy.

Recreation Committee's Recommendation: That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission recommends that Council:

approve the fees and rental adjustments which average a 3% increase annually for the period from 2007-SEP-01 to 2010-AUG-31, and further;

consider giving first three readings to the PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE REGULATION BYLAW 2007 NO. 7053.

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

- (c) Cultural Committee. No meeting held.
- (d) Athletic Commission. No meeting held.
- (e) Grants Advisory Committee. Commissioner Burnett reported that no meeting had been held.
- (f) Plan Nanaimo Advisory Committee. Commissioner Lance reported that three additional changes have been requested prior to proceeding with the revised Official Community Plan.
- (g) Social Planning Advisory Committee. Commissioner Johnstone advised there was nothing to report.
- (h) Port Theatre. Monthly report – April.
- (i) Nanaimo Art Gallery. Monthly report – April.
- (j) Nanaimo District Museum. Monthly report – April. Commissioner Lance encouraged the public to participate in the Adopt an Artefact program.
- (k) BC Seniors Games Committee. Commissioner Johnstone reported that the sport venue tours have been completed, a major progress report will be completed in two week; the torch lighting ceremony will be held 2007-JUN-03. She expressed appreciation to the Bowen Park Seniors who donated \$2,500 for the Games.

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

9. STAFF REPORTS:

- (a) Frank Crane Arena Elevator.

Staff's Recommendation: That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission budget an additional \$75,000 for the Frank Crane Arena Elevator in 2008 from the Facility Development Fund and re-tender the project next year.

In the 2007 Parks, Recreation and Culture Capital Budget \$140,000 is allocated for the installation of an elevator at the Frank Crane Arena. The project was tendered in March 2007 and one bid was received for \$248,929. While staff have been able to work with the supplier to reduce costs to \$212,000, the project price is well over the budget so an alternate plan needs to be considered. The primary purpose of the elevator is to make the upper concourse area more accessible to all customers.

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

10. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS (staff reports):

(a) Youth Program Update Staff Report (Chris Barfoot).

Mr. Barfoot advised that in 2006, 45 youth participated in the Jr. Leaders in Training program and 39 are already registered for 2007. In 2006, 83 youth participated in the Leaders in Training program and volunteered over 8,500 hours and 48 are registered for this year. In 2006, 18 youth participated in the Quest program and there are already 19 registered for 2007. Mr. Barfoot advised that he works with the various Student Councils to promote youth programs. The youthnanaimo.com website was developed in the past year and is proving popular with the teens. Mr. Barfoot reported on the Youth Nanaimo Week held 2007-MAY-01 to 04 which involved a skate boarding competition, beach volleyball and video game competition. The youth drop in program continues at 4 locations throughout the City and is well attended.

(b) Delegation Policy and Request Form.

As per Section 12 of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission's Procedure Bylaw, and as per Section 18 of the Council Procedure Bylaw, all delegations requesting permission to appear before the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission are required to submit a written request to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department, outlining the topic. The Commission's Delegation Policy and Request to Appear as a Delegation form will be made available on the City of Nanaimo's website in the same manner as the City Council Delegations Policy and Request form.

(c) Monthly Report from Mr. R. Harding, Manager of Parks.

Mr. Harding distributed the updated Explore our Parks brochure.

Commissioner Burnett expressed concern about the vandalism costs and asked if the vandals are ever caught and held accountable. Mr. Harding replied that some have been caught and are generally required to perform community service.

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

Mr. Meunier noted that more swim meets are being held in the aquatic facilities because of the realignment of rates. A Request for Proposals for the operation of the concession at the Frank Crane Arena is being advertised. Linda Avis is the new Bowen Park Seniors President.

It was moved and seconded that the Information Only Items (a) to (d) be received. The motion carried unanimously.

11. CORRESPONDENCE: (Action)

- (a) Email from Heidi Lydersen, to MLA's, expressing concern about the regulation barring parents from riding down the waterslides with their children.

Staff's Recommendation: That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission recommend to the BC Safety Authority that the regulation preventing parents and guardians from riding down waterslides with their young children be rescinded.

The BC Safety Association recently determined that the manufacturer's recommendations of only 1 person going down the slide at a time be enforced. The National Life Saving Society is requesting a variance to this ruling and is asking every community affected to do the same.

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

CORRESPONDENCE: (Information Only)

- (b) Letter received from Mr. Mike Leduc, President, Nanaimo Curling Club, to Mr. Larry McNabb, Chair, Nanaimo Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission, expressing regret that the Club was unable to host the BC Senior Games curling events and explaining why they referred the event to the Parksville Curling Club.
- (c) Letter received from Mr. Terry Ketteringham, Resource Development, Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Vancouver Island to Ms. Mary Smith, Nanaimo Parks, Recreation and Culture Department, expressing appreciation for the generous donation of the old Bowen Complex lobby furniture to be used in club facilities.
- (d) Letter to Ms. Anne Smith, President, Bowen Park Seniors, from Mr. Larry McNabb, Chair, Nanaimo Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission, expressing appreciation for the donation of \$10,000 of new furniture for the Bowen Complex lobby.
- (e) Letter from Mr. Derek Poteryko, M.D., Anchor Family Medicine, to Mr. Brent Meunier, Manager of Recreation and Culture Services, expressing appreciation to Elizabeth Williams for her assistance in helping deliver preventative medicine programs for Nanaimo residents.
- (f) Report to the Parks Committee from Mr. George Hanson, Managing Director, Downtown Nanaimo Partnership Society, regarding the Harbourfront Plaza Redesign Project.
- (g) Bowen Park Seniors Board of Director's meeting minutes of 2007-MAY-04.

It was moved and seconded that the Correspondence (a) to (g) be received. The motion carried unanimously.

12. NOTICE OF MOTION:

13. CONSIDERATION OF OTHER BUSINESS:

14. BUSINESS ARISING FROM DELEGATIONS:

Dealt with previously.

15. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

It was moved and seconded that Unfinished Business Items (c) Fees and Rental Policy Schedule C Update, (e) Broadway Park VIP request, (f) Harbourfront Plaza Improvement Site Planning and Redevelopment, and (g) DIS Community Garden VIP, be removed. The motion carried unanimously.

CURRENT UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- (a) Nanaimo Christian School Request for Joint Use of Holland Road Park – referred to Parks Committee for consideration in Spring 2007.
- (b) Departure Bay Centennial Park Improvement Process – report in June 2007.
- (c) Erosion Control at Eastern Edge of Gallows Point – staff report July 2007.
- (d) Long Term use of the Duck Pond parking lot in relation to the new alignment of the Millstone Side Channel – Staff report to Parks Committee.

16. QUESTION PERIOD:

17. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 8:21 p.m. that the meeting terminate, with the next Meeting of Commission to be held Wednesday, 2007-JUN-27, 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-JUN-06, 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-JUN-13, 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-JUN-14, 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