

**MINUTES OF THE FIFTH REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF NANAIMO
PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMISSION, HELD IN THE
CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE BOWEN PARK COMPLEX,
ON WEDNESDAY, 2005-MAY-25, AT 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT:

Members: Commissioner L. McNabb, Chair
Commissioner B. Holdom
Commissioner P. Field
Commissioner S. Lance
Commissioner D. Johnstone
Commissioner B. Lane
Commissioner C. Tang
Commissioner G. Baltzer

Absent: Commissioner A. Young
Commissioner D. Tyndall
Commissioner J. Whiteaker
Commissioner B. Sperling

Staff: T. Hickey
B. Meunier
R. Harding
C. Connett, Recording

PRESENTATION OF PROVINCIAL AWARDS:

Commissioners Holdom, Lance and Lane presented Provincial awards and certificates to the Nanaimo Ebttides Masters Swim Club (17) and the Senior Boys AA Basketball, Cedar Spartans (16).

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Motion

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the Fourth Regular Meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission held 2005-APR-27 be adopted as circulated.

Carried unanimously.

INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS: Nil.

RECEIVING OF DELEGATIONS:

(1) **Ms. Deborah Provencher, Administrator, Nanaimo Montessori School, 945 Waddington Road, Nanaimo BC V9S 4V1** requested Commission's support to refurbish the Community Gardens in Beaufort Park.

Ms. Provencher advised that the Nanaimo Montessori School, a non-profit society, has been in Nanaimo for 30 years and is proposing to take on a leadership role in the refurbishing of the Beaufort Gardens. The project might include garden plots, an orchard, re-establishing the creek bed, a butterfly garden, rock garden, healing trail and a rest area implemented through a phased approach.

The goal of the project, stated Ms. Provencher, is to revitalize Beaufort Park, to initiate a community development project that connects the generations in the community, to initiate a project that links the school children to the community and to provide an opportunity for the community members who live in multi-family units to have access to a garden plot.

Ms. Provencher noted that approximately eight years ago the neighbours were enthusiastic about cleaning up the park and developing a community garden. The garden operated for one year, but because of the lack of a water supply, the project did not meet with success.

Ms. Provencher noted that the Nanaimo Community Gardens Society and the Nanaimo Regional General Hospital Volunteer Resources and Spiritual Care Manager have written letters of support; and verbal support has been received from Dufferin Crescent Elementary School and the Nanaimo Youth Services. She advised that a neighbourhood meeting will be hosted if Commission's support is given.

Motion

It was moved and seconded that the presentation from Ms. D. Provencher, Administrator, Nanaimo Montessori School, be received.

Carried unanimously.

Motion

It was moved and seconded that the presentation from Ms. D. Provencher, Administrator, Nanaimo Montessori School, be referred to the Parks Committee for consideration and recommendation.

Carried unanimously.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Chair McNabb advised that he and the Director met recently with Nanaimo Minor Baseball Association (NMBA) representatives who indicated that they would like to initiate Phase 2 of the Third Street field development project with construction of a 90 foot baseball field and soccer pitch. NMBA believes that significant cost savings could be realized by constructing this field while equipment and machinery are currently on site.

Mr. T. Hickey, Director, noted that if Commission supports this request, they would need to recommend to Council the reprioritization of the Capital Plan because City funding for Phase 2 of this project is in place for 2008–2009.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. (1) Correspondence from Ms. Barbara Henoeh, Neighbours of Nob Hill, requesting that trees be planted on Victoria Road from Milton Street to Victoria Crescent.

Motion

It was moved and seconded that the request from Ms. B. Henoeh, Neighbours of Nob Hill, be referred to the Parks Committee for consideration and recommendation.

Carried unanimously.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

2. (1) **Parks Committee.** No meeting held.
2. (2) **Recreation Committee.** No meeting held.
2. (3) **Cultural Committee.** No meeting held.
2. (4) **Athletic Commission.** Meeting held 2005-MAY-19 regarding the final details of the Toughman Fight on Friday, 2005-MAY-27 at Frank Crane Arena. Ticket sales have been slow to date.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

3. (1) **Park Facility Maintenance and Construction staff presentation.** Mr. Ian Blackwood, Trades Foreman, advised that he supervises the utility crew, which is comprised of a Utility Sub Foreman, three full time Utility Workers, one Labourer and two Carpenters.

The four man utility crew undertakes a variety of tasks including the servicing and testing of 200 irrigation controllers and over 7,000 sprinkler heads (including the central control irrigation system) in 68 parks; 30 km of irrigated boulevards; the Kinsmen Outdoor Pool, 3 water parks and 4 wading/spray pools, Swy-a-Lana Lagoon water curtains, 19 washroom buildings and 22 civic buildings.

Mr. Blackwood stated that the utility crew is very knowledgeable, versatile and dedicated to keeping the equipment and systems functioning.

Commissioner Holdom asked if contractors are used. Mr. Blackwood replied that contractors are used for plumbing, electrical, roofing, painting, welding, garbage collection and graffiti removal.

Motion

It was moved and seconded that the presentation from Mr. I. Blackwood, be received.

Carried unanimously.

3. (2) **Manager of Parks Monthly Report.** Mr. R. Harding, Manager of Parks, provided a visual presentation on the upgrade to McGregor Park and reviewed some of the April trail use data.
3. (3) **Manager of Recreation and Culture Services Monthly Report.** Mr. B. Meunier, Manager of Recreation and Culture Services, circulated several summer program promotional flyers. Mr. Meunier circulated letters from Grade 1 students who enjoyed Healthamongus. He also noted that the 4H Club will operate the Bowen Barnyard this summer.

Motion

It was moved and seconded that the Director's report be received.

Carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE/COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

4. (1) **Port Theatre** – monthly activity report.

Motion

It was moved and seconded that the Port Theatre report be received.

Carried unanimously.

4. (2) **BC Disability Games Committee** - monthly activity report. Commissioner Johnston advised that volunteers are still needed and that she will be looking into utilizing the Leaders In Training program participants.

Motion

It was moved and seconded that the BC Disability Games Committee report be received.

Carried unanimously.

ITEMS OF GENERAL INFORMATION:

5. (1) Copy of correspondence to Ms. Maurya Tatler, Aquatic Programmer, from Ms. Trish Smith, Nanaimo Gymnastics School, expressing appreciation for her assistance with the athlete pool party held in conjunction with the 2005 BC Gymnastics Championships.
5. (2) Copy of correspondence to Ms. Tara Fedosoff, Recreation Programmer, from the staff of Rutherford Elementary School, expressing congratulations on the excellent Healthamongus event.
5. (3) Copy of correspondence to Mr. Tom Hickey, Director, Parks, Recreation and Culture, from Ms. Annette Noble, Vice Principal, Mountain View Elementary School, expressing appreciation for the wonderful Healthamongus program.
5. (4) Copy of sampling of correspondence from students expressing their appreciation for the Healthamongus program.
5. (5) Copy of minutes from the Bowen Park Seniors Board Meeting held Friday, 2005-MAY-06

Motion

It was moved and seconded that the Items of General Information be received.

Carried unanimously.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM DELEGATIONS:

- (1) **Ms. Debbie Provencher.** Dealt with previously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- (3) Saroya Subdivision Sign Removal – Mayor and Council advised the Saroyas that staff will be removing the sign in 60 days.

Motion

It was moved and seconded that Item #3 – Saroya Subdivision Sign Removal, be removed from Unfinished Business.

Carried unanimously.

CURRENT UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- (1) Community Paddling/Auxiliary Coast Guard dock at the Brechin Boat Ramp – referred to staff to work with groups to develop plans and feasibility.
- (2) Memorial Bench Program – staff report.
- (3) Palm Tree Lined Drive Along Departure Bay Road – staff report requested (June).
- (4) Location for Horticultural Society's 60th Anniversary Monument – referred to staff to work with group to identify suitable location.
- (5) Community Gardens in Beaufort Park – referred to Parks Committee.
- (6) Neighbours of Nob Hill requesting trees on Victoria Road – referred to Parks Committee.

ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS:

Chair McNabb noted that a Commission seminar will be scheduled after the middle of June. A date will be established and Commissioner members advised.

MEDIA QUESTION PERIOD. Nil.

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD. Nil.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

Cultural Committee

Wednesday, 2005-JUN-01, 4:15 p.m.

Recreation Committee *(if required)*

Wednesday, 2005-JUN-08, 4:45 p.m.

Parks Committee

Thursday, 2005-JUN-09, 5:00 p.m.

COMMISSION

Wednesday, 2005-JUN-22; 7:00 p.m.

Motion

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

Carried unanimously.

ADJOURNED: 7:58 p.m.