

**MINUTES OF THE SIXTH REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF NANAIMO  
PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMISSION, HELD IN THE  
CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE BOWEN PARK COMPLEX,  
ON WEDNESDAY, 2004-JUL-07, AT 7:00 P.M.**

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**PRESENT:**

**Members:** Commissioner L. McNabb, Chair  
Commissioner P. Field  
Commissioner D. Johnstone  
Commissioner B. Lane  
Commissioner C. Tang  
Commissioner A. Young

**Absent:** Commissioner B. Holdom  
Commissioner B. Sperling  
Commissioner D. Tyndall  
Commissioner S. Lance  
Commissioner J. Whiteaker  
Commissioner G. Baltzer

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

**PRESENTATION OF PROVINCIAL AWARDS:**

Commissioner Johnstone and Commissioner Lane presented Provincial awards and certificates to the Masters Swim Club Provincial Champions (3) and to the Wellington Senior Jazz Band Provincial Champions who went on to win at a national level (23).

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

**Motion**

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the Fifth Regular Meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission held 2004-MAY-26 be adopted as circulated.

**Carried unanimously.**

**INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:** Nil.

**RECEIVING OF LATE CORRESPONDENCE AGENDA:**

**Motion**

It was moved and seconded that the Late Correspondence Agenda be received.

**Carried unanimously.**

**RECEIVING OF DELEGATIONS:**

(1) **Mr. Steve Jackson and Mr. Curtis Bolton, Nanaimo Marine Rescue Society, Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary, and Mr. Chris Breakey and Ms. Ashley Rowe, Paddling Group representatives**, presented background information about their groups and spoke to the proposed boathouse and dock at Brechin Boat Ramp. Mr. Bolton noted that staff have been working with the Coast Guard Auxiliary and the various paddling groups over the past 6 months in developing this concept.

Mr. Jackson advised that the Coast Guard Auxiliary operated successfully from the Brechin Boat Ramp for 15 years prior to having to move. Mr. Bolton stated that because of the increased marine activities in the Nanaimo area, the Nanaimo Coast Guard Auxiliary has an immediate need to expand its operation and the Brechin Boat launch would be an excellent location. He noted that the Nanaimo Auxiliary responds to more calls per year than any other unit across Canada and that the call volume has nearly doubled in the past three years. An updated operations centre at Brechin Boat Ramp would provide quick access for marine rescues and would also provide a higher profile area for delivery of their safe boating message.

Ms. Rowe advised that aquatic sporting opportunities have been available in Nanaimo since the early 1980's and have grown from one club, the White Ravens Canoe Club, to include the Canoe and Kayak Club, the Rowing Club, the Nanaimo Paddlers and several Dragon Boat groups. Youth and adult members of these recreational clubs have represented Nanaimo at various multi-sport games including the BC Summer Games, Western Canada Summer Games, Canada Summer Games, World Championships and the Pan-American Games.

Ms. Rowe stated that there are over 3,000 local paddlers and the sport is continuing to grow. Club representatives believe that a paddling centre is needed and that locating a dock and boathouse/storage area at Brechin Boat Ramp would be a significant community asset. She further noted that this facility would enable Clubs to host national events, which would be an excellent tourism attraction and economic generator for Nanaimo.

### **Motion**

It was moved and seconded that the presentation from Mr. S. Jackson and Mr. C. Bolton, Auxiliary Coast Guard and Mr. C. Breakey and Ms. A. Rowe, Paddling Representatives, be received.

**Carried unanimously.**

- (2) **Ms. Donna Hais, Nanaimo Christian School, 198 Holland Road, Nanaimo BC V9R 6W2**, requested \$12,000 from Volunteer In Park funding to complete their school playground. She noted that although the playground is on private property (Nanaimo Christian School) it would be available to the Cathers Lake neighbourhood to use. She stated that the neighbourhood already uses the existing playground and field area on a regular basis and that this playground is the only one in the Cathers Lake area.

Ms. Hais advised that Phase One involved the School spending \$10,000 for playground equipment with all the labour, machines, concrete, railings, etc. being donated. The School has raised an additional \$4,000 - \$5,000 and would like to complete the play area for September.

Chair McNabb stated that the playground is located in a safe area and that he is pleased that the public is permitted to use it.

Commissioner Johnstone suggested that because this is a play area located on private property, but used by the general public, service clubs such as Rotary may be interested in providing funds. Ms. Hais advised that a professional fundraiser hired last year sent letters of request to the local service clubs but did not receive any positive responses.

### **Motion**

It was moved and seconded that the presentation from Ms. D. Hais, Nanaimo Christian School, be received.

**Carried unanimously.**

- (3) **Ms. Sandra Thomson, General Manager, and Ms. Lila Tanner, Vice President, Port Theatre, 125 Front Street, Nanaimo BC V9R 6Z4** requested that the City install air conditioning in the Port Theatre Harmac Pacific Room at a cost of approximately \$34,000. Air conditioning was not installed when the theatre was constructed and has been a serious operational issue ever since opening night.

The Harmac Pacific room is very popular for meetings because of the magnificent view; however, it is too hot to use between June and October. Ms. Thomson advised that every time an event is held in the room, temperature complaints are received. The under utilization of this room is resulting in lost rental revenue to the theatre.

Ms. Thomson noted that Councillor Cantelon and Commissioner Whiteaker suggested that the Commission should be approached for funding for this project.

**Motion**

It was moved and seconded that the presentation from Ms. S. Thomson, General Manager, Port Theatre, be received.

**Carried unanimously.**

- (4) **Ms. Laara Clarkson, Ms. Cheryl Krytor, Mr. Dick Jung, Recreation Programmers, Parks, Recreation and Culture** updated Commission on 2004 Summer Daycamp and Playground Programs. Ms. Clarkson advised that she is coordinating the playground program and Nanaimo is celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of free playground programs. Playgrounds operate at 10 locations throughout the City using 12 paid staff and many volunteer leaders. This year the Department is working co-operatively with the Healthy Food Share program in providing lunches to some of the playground children. 7,200 children participated in the 8 week program during 2003.

Ms. Krytor advised that the Department is offering 3 summer daycamp program locations this year - Camp Holiday at Beban Park, Camp Kaleidoscope at Bowen Park and Camp Seaside at the Kin Hut. She noted that Camp Holiday and Kaleidoscope are licenced to receive Ministry of Human Resources children. There are 9 full time leaders and 3 Junior Leaders assisted by Leaders in Training and Quest volunteers. The camps accommodate 100 children per week at a cost of \$100/child and include activities, games, out-trips to various City locations including water parks and the Nanaimo Aquatic Centre. Camp Seaside's 9 weeks each have an individual theme and are already booked to capacity.

Mr. Jung advised that he supervises the Adventure Sport Camp for 9 – 13 year olds and the Island Survivor program for 11 – 14 year olds. He noted that the department has co-operative programming throughout the community such as with the McGirr Sport Society. He noted that there are over 60 paid staff involved in summer programs.

**Motion**

It was moved and seconded that the presentation from Ms. L. Clarkson, Ms. C. Krytor, Mr. D. Jung, Recreation Programmers, be received.

**Carried unanimously.**

- (5) **Mr. Fred Taylor, 204 Emery Way, Nanaimo BC V9R 5Z8**, spoke against the proposed boathouse and float at Brechin Boat Ramp. He stated that on many occasions this facility is used beyond capacity and he is concerned about encouraging more non-powered craft to utilize the same water space as powered craft.

Mr. Taylor stated that because the Coast Guard Auxiliary is a federal program, the Port Authority should be providing space for this essential service. He stated that the limited recreational water access should not be used. He also discussed the realignment of the north boat ramps in order to recognize riparian rights of the private property owner on the north side of the ramp.

Mr. Taylor stated that more water access for the boating public is needed and suggested the City exercises their right to acquire the Sealand property at a \$1/year. He urged Commission to not mix non-powered and powered water activities.

Chair McNabb asked if it was staff's opinion that the ramps would require realignment.

Mr. T. Hickey, Director, replied that there is very minimal risk that the Brechin Boat Ramps would need to be realigned to provide riparian rights to the property owner to the north.

**Motion**

It was moved and seconded that the presentation from Mr. F. Taylor, be received.

**Carried unanimously.**

- (6) **Mr. Fred Taylor, 204 Emery Way, Nanaimo BC V9R 5Z8**, spoke against the Parks Committee recommendation regarding cost sharing of a fence between residences at 2231 Fern Road and 2162 Lang Crescent and parkland at 2235 Fern Road. Mr. Taylor noted that over the years there has been many cost sharing requests from private property owners whose property adjoins public lands, and they have always been refused. He requested that the long established fencing policy of no cost sharing be continued.

**Motion**

It was moved and seconded that the presentation from Mr. F. Taylor, be received.

**Carried unanimously.**

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

**Master Plan Update.** The Master Plan Consultant team is planning a session with the Commission Master Plan Committee for 2 hours on 2004-JUL-21, 22 or 23. A date will be confirmed next week and members will be advised.

**Canada Day celebrations.**

**Motion**

It was moved and seconded that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission write a letter of thanks to the staff involved; and further, that a notice be included on the City page expressing appreciation to all the volunteers for their involvement in making the Canada Day celebrations such a success.

**Carried unanimously.**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. (1) Correspondence from Ms. Anne Smith, President, Bowen Park Seniors, requesting that the age limit for members revert to the previous arrangement that if one spouse or partner is age 60 then both are entitled to become members.

**Motion**

It was moved and seconded that the request from Ms. A. Smith, President, Bowen Park Seniors, be considered under the Director's Report, Item 3. (4).

**Carried unanimously.**

1. (2) The Society for Children and Youth of BC is requesting nominations for groups or organizations that deserve special recognition for their efforts in making their community more child and youth friendly.

**Motion**

It was moved and seconded that the City of Nanaimo be nominated as a child and youth friendly community.

**Carried unanimously.**

1. (3) Correspondence from Mr. and Mrs. D. Wytinck, 2243 Fern Road, Nanaimo BC V9S 2W8 requesting a public meeting regarding parkland located at 2235 Fern Road.

Mr. R. Harding, Manager of Parks, advised that costs are being obtained but no commitment has been given. He noted that there are a number of issues still to be resolved regarding the Wytinck's former use of the parkland. Mr. Harding informed Commission that children are now using the park but some debris remains to be removed. Chair McNabb asked for a staff report prior to a decision being made regarding cost sharing of the fence.

**Motion**

It was moved and seconded that the request from Mr. and Mrs. D. Wytinck, be received.

**Carried unanimously.**

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

2. (1) **Parks Committee.** Commissioner Lane reported on the meeting held 2004-JUN-10.

- 2.(1.1) **Proposed wedding arch in Maffeo Sutton Park.** Mr. R. Rowledge attended the meeting on-site at Maffeo-Sutton Park and reviewed the proposed location and detailed design for the arch.

**Motion**

It was moved and seconded that the Commission approve the request from the Lions Club to proceed with the proposed wedding arch project at the location discussed; and that staff work with the Lions Club on the installation of the wedding arch.

**Carried unanimously.**

- 2.(1.2) **Application for coffee concessionaire at Maffeo Sutton Park – Mr. Mike deRuiter.**

**Motion**

It was moved and seconded that the Commission approve the request from Mr. M. deRuiter to operate a coffee concession at Maffeo Sutton Park.

**Carried unanimously.**

- 2.(1.3) **Cost sharing of fence between residences at 2231 Fern Road and 2162 Lang Crescent and parkland at 2235 Fern Road.**

**Motion**

It was moved and seconded that the Commission direct staff to work with the residents to find an amicable solution regarding cost sharing of a fence between residences at 2231 Fern Road and 2162 Lang Crescent and parkland at 2235 Fern Road and report back to Commission.

**Carried unanimously.**

- 2.(1.4) **Sunset Ceremony Flag Pole at Maffeo Sutton Park.**

**Motion**

It was moved and seconded that the Commission request staff to prepare a report to find a new location for a Sunset Ceremony Flag Pole and the costs of a temporary versus permanent pole.

**Carried unanimously.**

**Motion**

It was moved and seconded that the Parks Committee report be received.

**Carried unanimously.**

2. (2) **Recreation Committee.** No meeting held.

2. (3) **Cultural Committee.** Commissioner Field reported on the meeting held 2004-JUN-02.

2.(3.1) **Downtown Cultural Event Grant Submissions.** Commissioner Field advised that because of the cancellation of the Adventure Games for this year, \$2,000 remains in the Downtown Event fund. Three applications submitted to the Recreation Committee for the Tournament and Festival Fund from Beat of the Street, Kirkwood Production and Musicians Co-operative, were redirected to the Cultural Committee as it was felt the Downtown Event Grant would be more applicable to them. Two late applications from the Snuneymuxw First Nation and Applause Show Chorus, were also considered.

Chair McNabb asked about the Snuneymuxw First Nations application. Commissioner Field reviewed pages C167 and C170 from the Cultural Committee agenda noting that the goal of the Aboriginal Day Celebration was to raise awareness and promote understanding between all cultures in Canada. He noted that the Snuneymuxw First Nations, along with other local sponsors, were helping fund this event.

**Motion**

It was moved and seconded that the Commission approve the allocation of the Downtown Cultural Event Grant as follows:

	<b>Requested</b>	<b>Recommended</b>
Beat of the Street	1,500	350
Snuneymuxw First Nation	2,000	750
Kirkwood Production	1,500	900
Musician's Co-operative	2,500	0
Applause Show Chorus	1,500	0
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$2,000</b>

**Carried unanimously.**

**Motion**

It was moved and seconded that the Cultural Committee report be adopted.

**Carried unanimously.**

2. (4) **Athletic Commission.** No meeting held.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

3. (1) **Department Mission Statement and Goals Update.** Mr. T. Hickey, Director, advised that at the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission Seminar held 2004-MAR-15, the Mission Statement and Goals were reviewed. Because the Mission Statement refers to all Parks, Recreation and Culture services and facilities, the Commission felt the goals needed to consistently identify services and facilities.

**Motion**

It was moved and seconded that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission adopt the following goals for Parks, Recreation and Culture.

- To be aware of the developing leisure requirements of our community.
- To be innovative and responsive in leading or facilitating the delivery of services that meets the needs of our community.
- To establish and maintain a system of **services**, facilities, parks and open spaces that meets the needs of our community.
- **To provide services and facilities that are** safe, accessible and fun.
- To be active in fostering Nanaimo as a healthy community.

- To market our services, facilities, parks and open space to Nanaimo residents and then to visitors.
- To seek efficiencies that maximize taxpayer benefit and to maintain a net operating cost that meets the City's 5-year financial plan.

**Carried unanimously.**

3. (2) **Commission Assignments to Community Boards.** Mr. T. Hickey, Director, suggested that because only six Commissioners were present, that the report be deferred until the 2004-JUL-28 meeting.

**Motion**

It was moved and seconded that the Commission Assignments to Community Boards report be discussed at the 2004-JUL-28 Commission meeting.

**Carried unanimously.**

3. (3) **Community Paddling / Auxiliary Coast Guard Dock at Brechin Boat Ramp.** Mr. T. Hickey, Director, advised that the Brechin Boat Ramp has been used primarily by powerboats since its opening in the mid 1960's. In the last ten years, there has been a significant increase in the use of this boat ramp by paddlers. Paddling sports have been gaining popularity over the past decade and there is a continuing trend for increased use of these types of boats. The paddling community and the Auxiliary Coast Guard are requesting Commission's support for the concept of a community dock at the Brechin Boat Ramp.

Currently there is limited docking space in Nanaimo for paddlers, especially for the larger out-rigger canoes, dragon boats and rowing sculls. The paddling community believes the Brechin Boat Ramp is an excellent location for a dock. The Auxiliary Coast Guard has been looking for a dock and boathouse location for some time and has recently approached City staff with the idea of having a facility of this nature at the Brechin Boat Ramp because most of their clients launch from this site. Both groups are requesting that the middle section of the Brechin Boat Ramp be used for this dock. The Port Authority Harbour Master felt that the 5 mile per hour area mixed use of this area would continue to work well.

Mr. Hickey stated that if the Commission supports the concept, the following actions will be taken:

- Nanaimo Port Authority approval will be sought to use the water lot lease for the dock and to construct a boathouse. The boathouse will require a variance under the Port Authority Master Plan.
- To obtain a long term water lot lease with Provincial Government / Nanaimo Port Authority.
- A depth sounding company will be hired to plot the area.
- A preliminary site plan and projected construction budget will be prepared by an engineering company.
- Department of Fisheries and Oceans approval, as well as remediation and compensation requirements, will be sought.
- Coast Guard approval will be sought in regard to the Navigable Waters Act.

The Auxiliary Coast Guard currently has about \$50,000 for this project and expects that they have other funding sources. The paddling community has not done any fundraising for this project yet and need to develop a fundraising plan. Because this is a public dock amenity, that will enhance the use of the Brechin Boat Ramp, the City may consider some contribution to the project.

Mr. Hickey noted that Robins Parking is monitoring the use of the parking lot this summer. For the months of April, May and June the measured use of the parking lot was approximately 50% capacity. He advised that the boathouse position is still to be established.

Commissioner Field asked if any City rights would be lost in regards to the water lot lease if this project proceeds. Mr. Hickey replied that a water lot lease needs to be re-established with the Port Authority and the Province but that the dock and boat ramp will not impact current uses of this lease area.

**Motion**

It was moved and seconded that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission support the concept of a community paddling / Auxiliary Coast Guard dock at the Brechin Boat Ramp and direct Staff to work with community groups to further develop plans and feasibility for this project.

**Carried unanimously.**

3. (4) **Bowen Park Seniors Membership Eligibility for Spouses of Members.** Mr. T. Hickey, Director, advised that from the inception of the Bowen Park Seniors in the late 1960's through to 2002, the policy had been that anyone could become a member upon turning 60 years of age, and that person's partner/spouse was also permitted to join at the same time, regardless of age. This resulted in a handful of Bowen Park Senior members who were under 60 years of age.

At the 2002-OCT-23 Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission meeting, Bowen Park Seniors President, Aileen Fabris, requested that the membership for all Bowen Park Seniors be maintained at 60 years of age with no exceptions being permitted for a member's spouse. Based on the request of the Bowen Park Seniors, the Commission passed a motion supporting this change.

The Bowen Park Seniors have had several requests over the past 18 months to rescind this policy. The present Bowen Park Seniors Executive has requested that the age limit for members revert to the previous arrangement which allows both partners to become members if either one is 60 years of age or older.

**Motion**

It was moved and seconded that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission amends the Bowen Park Seniors membership policy to permit membership at 60 years of age and the member's partner/spouse may also join regardless of age.

**Carried unanimously.**

3. (4) **BC Transmission Corporation Hazard Tree Abatement Program at Westwood Lake.** Mr. T. Hickey, Director, advised that BC Transmission Corporation (BCTC), on behalf of BC Hydro, has advised of the necessity to remove dangerous trees beside its transmission lines running adjacent to Westwood Lake. The removals are being done to protect the safety of people using the trails, to ensure reliability of electrical supply and to prevent the potential of forest fire by a tree contacting a transmission line.



BCTC is taking an aggressive position in wanting to remove healthy trees that are located on transmission easements as there is insufficient capacity to withstand power outages. Approximately 192 trees, plus some smaller clumps, may be removed; some of which have substantial root rot. The City Arborist has reviewed the plan with a BC Hydro representative and has confirmed the necessity of taking remedial action; and the City's Environment Co-ordinator has also reviewed the proposed activities.

The operations will have a visual impact to trail users, particularly at the southeast corner of the lake and a section further to the west, and will be present for a number of years until re-growth occurs. Remedial plantings are planned to mitigate potential riparian impacts. As well, other methods of mitigation are being suggested such as creating wildlife trees and increasing the frequency of maintenance, thereby minimizing the amount of vegetation removal.

Parks Staff will be meeting with representatives of BCTC and BC Hydro to refine work to be performed, discuss ways to minimize the actual number of trees that will be removed and the impact during operations to trail users, plus to develop a community relations program.

**Motion**

It was moved and seconded that report be received.

**Carried unanimously.**

The Commission suggested that a representative from BC Hydro or BC Transmission Corporation be invited to attend as a delegation prior to the tree removal work commencing.

3. (5) **Sport Field Development Update.** Mr. T. Hickey, Director, advised that fundraising and planning for the lighted synthetic turf field at Grandview Bowl continues to move forward. The design plans are now being worked on by Herold Engineering and should be ready in late July. Nanaimo Youth Soccer Association has committed \$250,000 to the project and has other fundraising initiatives in progress including a fundraising campaign with Coastal Community Credit Union. The Gyro Club is still considering whether it will take on a fundraising campaign for this facility and should provide us an update in September. Staff are arranging a facility tour of several synthetic turf facilities in the lower mainland. A couple of representatives from community soccer will come along and if any Commission members are interested, they may attend as well.

Staff have been in discussion with Nanaimo Minor Baseball Association and Malaspina University-College regarding an updated concept for the field project at Third Street. Nanaimo Minor Baseball Association is very committed to the project and would like to see it move forward. Malaspina University-College is conceptually very supportive of the project but further discussion on the concept is needed. The concept is much more multi-use design and the development timing is such that the two little league fields at Grandview Bowl can be moved to Third Street prior to the opening of the synthetic turf field in 2006.

3. (6) **Manager of Parks Monthly Report.**

3. (7) **Manager of Recreation and Culture Services Monthly Report.**

**Motion**

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

**Carried unanimously.**

**COMMITTEE/COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:**

**4. (1) Port Theatre.**

**Motion**

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

**Carried unanimously.**

**4. (2) PacificSport – No report.**

**ITEMS OF GENERAL INFORMATION:**

5. (1) Copy of correspondence to Mr. Tom Hickey, Director, from Ms. Louise Morrison, Cultural Capitals of Canada, advising that Nanaimo's application for the 2005 Cultural Capitals of Canada award has been deemed eligible by the Department of Canadian Heritage.
5. (2) Copy of meeting notes from the Bowen Park Seniors Annual General Meeting held Thursday, 2004-MAY-27, the President's Report and Bowen Park Seniors Terms of Reference.
5. (3) Copy of correspondence to TheatreOne, Mr. D. Neve, General Manager, from Mr. B. Meunier, Manager of Recreation and Culture Services, forwarding the third installment of their Cultural Fund Grant.
5. (4) Copy of correspondence to Vancouver Island Symphony, Mr. M. James, General Manager, from Mr. B. Meunier, Manager of Recreation and Culture Services, forwarding the third installment of their Cultural Fund Grant.
5. (5) Copy of correspondence to Ms. Lynne Fraser, Vice President, Finance and Community Relations, Coastal Community Credit Union, Nanaimo, from Mr. B. Meunier, Manager of Recreation and Culture Services, expressing appreciation for the \$500 contribution to help offset the costs for the preparation of articles to appear in the Nanaimo Daily News.
5. (6) Copy of City Notes Newsletter dated 2004-JUN-17 & 2004-JUL-01.
5. (7) Correspondence to the Manager, Beban Park Recreation Centre, from the Nanaimo Quilters Guild, Ms. V. Ursulak and Ms. C. Zerr, expressing dissatisfaction with their rental May 28-30 for their 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Quilt Show at Beban Park.
5. (8) Correspondence to Ms. V. Ursulak and Ms. C. Zerr, Nanaimo Quilters Guild, from Elizabeth Fuller, Recreation and Culture Supervisor, apologizing for difficulties experienced with their rental May 28-30 for their 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Quilt Show at Beban Park and providing a \$450.00 rental refund.
5. (9) Correspondence to Tournament and Festival Grant applicants who were awarded funding, from Mr. L. McNabb, Chair, Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission.

**Motion**

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

**Carried unanimously.**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM DELEGATIONS:**

- (1) **Ms. Donna Hais, Nanaimo Christian School, 198 Holland Road, Nanaimo BC V9R 6W2,** request for \$12,000 from Volunteer In Park (VIP) funding to complete their school playground.

Commissioner Field asked if present policy permitted City funding being used on private property. Mr. T. Hickey, Director, referred to the Volunteer in Park brochure which outlines that any municipal; parkland and some non-parkland, like boulevards, may be suitable. A recent exception of this policy was Fairview Elementary School because there was no neighbourhood park close by.

Commissioner Johnstone asked if we have monitored use of this play area? Mr. Harding replied we have not. He further advised that initially the playground was to be situated on adjacent City parkland, but the Christian School did not agree to this because they felt that the City property was too far from their Elementary School building.

Commissioner Tang suggested the situation with the Christian School is the same as that of Fairview School, and the entire neighbourhood will benefit.

Commissioner Lane suggested that City funding should only be invested on public lands to ensure access will continue over time; or if used to fund projects on private land that an agreement or covenant is in place to ensure continued public use. He advised that he is supportive of the project providing policy is adhered to. Commissioner Lane asked to review a copy of the current policy.

Mr. Hickey replied that the Volunteer In Park brochure provides the policy information used by Commission, Staff and the community.

Commissioner Tang stated that she supports this request providing public use is protected by an agreement because there appears to be a real need for a playground in the neighbourhood.

Commissioner Lane suggested tabling the Christian School's request until the policy is clarified.

Chair McNabb suggested there is policy in place and perhaps it would be best to ask staff to clarify the policy and suggest options.

**Motion**

It was moved and seconded that the request from Ms. Donna Hais, Nanaimo Christian School, be referred to staff for policy clarification and to suggest options.

**Carried unanimously.**

- (2) **Ms. Sandra Thomson, General Manager, Port Theatre, 125 Front Street, Nanaimo BC V9R 6Z4** request that the City install air condition in the Harmac Pacific Room of the Port Theatre at a cost of approximately \$34,000.

**Motion**

It was moved and seconded that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission recommends that Council allocate \$34,000 from Council contingency for air conditioning of the Port Theatre Harmac Pacific Room.

**Carried unanimously.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Motion**

It was moved and seconded that Item #2 - Proposal to construct a Wedding Arch at Maffeo Sutton Park, be removed from Unfinished Business.

**Carried unanimously.**

**CURRENT UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- (1) Proposal for Annual Bike Rack Competition – referred to Staff to work with Cultural Committee and Downtown Nanaimo Partnership (September).
- (2) Recommendation from Ms. C. Meutzner, Community Heritage Commission, regarding the creation of a Miner's Memorial Public Art Project – referred to Cultural Committee (September).

- (3) Community Paddling/Auxiliary Coast Guard dock at the Brechin Boat Ramp – referred to staff to work with groups to develop plans and feasibility.
- (4) Nanaimo Christian School VIP request – staff report.
- (5) Cost-sharing of fence between residences at 2231 Fern Road and 2162 Lang Crescent and parkland at 2235 Fern Road – staff report.
- (6) Sunset Ceremony Flag Pole at Maffeo Sutton Park – staff report.
- (7) Commission Assignments to Community Boards – postponed to 2004-JUL-28 meeting.

**ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS:** Nil

**MEDIA QUESTION PERIOD:** Nil.

**PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD:**

Mr. F. Taylor, 204 Emery Way, Nanaimo BC V9R 5Z8 suggested Commission review their past correspondence regarding the Brechin Boat Ramp from 1997.

**NEXT MEETING DATES:**

Cultural Committee	Wednesday, 2004-SEP-01, 4:15 p.m.
Recreation Committee	No meeting required.
Parks Committee	No meeting required.

**COMMISSION SEMINAR  
“Trends in Leisure Services”**

**Wednesday, 2004-JUL-28; 5:00 p.m.  
Nanaimo Aquatic Centre**

**COMMISSION  
Aquatic Centre Physical Plant Tour**

**Wednesday, 2004-JUL-28; 6:30 p.m.  
Nanaimo Aquatic Centre**

**COMMISSION**

**Wednesday, 2004-JUL-28; 7:00 p.m.  
Nanaimo Aquatic Centre**

**Motion**

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

**Carried unanimously.**

**ADJOURNED:** 8:48 p.m.