

**MINUTES OF THE SECOND REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF NANAIMO
PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMISSION, HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF
THE BOWEN PARK COMPLEX, ON WEDNESDAY, 2003-MAR-24, AT 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT:

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

Absent: Commissioner D. Rispin
Commissioner B. Sperling

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

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Motion 2003-029

Moved by Commissioner Tyndall, seconded by Commissioner Lance, that the minutes of the first Regular Meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission held 2003-FEB-26 be adopted as circulated.

Carried.

RECEIVING OF LATE CORRESPONDENCE AGENDA:

Motion 2003-030

Moved by Commissioner Tyndall, seconded by Commissioner Field, that the Late Correspondence Agenda be received.

Carried.

RECEIVING OF DELEGATIONS:

- (1) **Mr. Ian Niamath, Nanaimo Cricket Club, 143 McKinnon Place, Nanaimo BC V9T 1L8,** requested that cricket be permitted use of the Gyro Youth Fields at Beban Park. He noted that the Cricket Club has worked with Commission for several years to create a cricket pitch in Nanaimo, and the Club contributed \$10,000 towards creating the pitch at Beban Gyro Sports Field. Mr. Niamath stated that Beban is the best field in the City for cricket and is the best cricket pitch north of Victoria. He advised that the Cricket Club contributed \$40,000 to the development of the field house in a joint project involving Minor Softball, Soccer and Cricket in conjunction with the Lions Club.

Mr. Niamath stated that Cricket requested 13 weekend uses during April to September and out of a possible 183 dates were granted only 2 days where there was no conflict with the other two field users. He believes that the blanket policy placed on the field, which stipulated that the field is designated for youth, is the reason why Cricket has been refused use. Mr. Niamath acknowledged that Cricket was advised from the start that youth have priority booking on the Beban Field. He was provided with a copy of a letter from the Gyro Club regarding their donation of \$50,000 for the Beban field development. Mr. Niamath said that he was not provided with a "policy" stating that this field is for youth only and believes this is merely a "practice".

The Cricket Club attended the Field Users meeting where all users submit their requests. He believes there are other fields available for Minor Softball and Youth Soccer to use, whereas cricket has only one suitable field. Mr. Niamath proposed that the policy of use be

broadened in scope to read, "the field be allocated for use by the Youth of Nanaimo and the Nanaimo Cricket Club, who has been a participant in the overall development of the Beban Sport Field Facility."

Commissioner Lance asked if it was Parks, Recreation and Culture staff who directed Cricket to establish a cricket pitch at Beban Fields. Mr. Niamath responded that the Cricket Club conducted an extensive study that resulted in their selection of the Beban fields.

Commissioner Johnstone asked how many youth play on the Cricket team. Mr. Niamath responded that it is usually offspring of members but there are sometimes others, and usually only one youth plays at a time.

Commissioner Tyndall asked what length of time Cricket uses the field. Mr. Niamath replied from 12:noon to 6:00 p.m. Commissioner Whiteaker asked how many spectators would be in attendance. Mr. Niamath responded not a large number.

Motion 2003-031

Moved by Commissioner Holdom, seconded by Commissioner Lance, that the presentation from Mr. Niamath, Nanaimo Cricket Club, be received.

Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. (1) Letter from Mr. Dick Simpson, Vice-President, Fields, Nanaimo Minor Baseball Association, requesting that they be allowed temporary use of Grandview Bowl at Beban park for an additional five (5) year period.

Motion 2003-032

Moved by Commissioner Tyndall, seconded by Commissioner Lance, that the request from Mr. Dick Simpson be referred to the Parks Committee for consideration and recommendation.

Carried.

1. (2) Letter from Mr. Peter Thomas, Hub City Lions Society Nanaimo, in support of Nanaimo Cricket Club and requesting that Commission modify the way that its fields are allocated for use.

Motion 2003-033

Moved by Commissioner Johnstone, seconded by Commissioner Tyndall, that the letter from Mr. Peter Thomas, Hub City Lions Society, be received.

Carried.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

2. (1) **Parks Committee.** Commissioner Whiteaker reported on the meeting held 2003-MAR-13.
- 2.(1.1) **Naming the Northfield Rest Area.** Commissioner Whiteaker advised that Mr. Robson, representing the five Rotary Clubs involved in the picnic shelter/washroom project, attended the meeting and requested that Rotary be recognized in the naming of the area. He also noted that Rotary has trees on order and will be further developing a heritage site at this location.

Motion 2003-034

Moved by Commissioner Whiteaker, seconded by Commissioner Young, that the washroom/shelter at the parking lot site at Northfield Road and the Parkway intersection be named "the Northfield Rotary Lookout".

Carried.

2. (2) **Recreation Program and Facilities Committee.** No meeting held.

2. (3) **Cultural Committee.** Commissioner Field reported on the meeting held 2003-MAR-05.

Motion 2003-035

Moved by Commissioner Johnstone, seconded by Commissioner Lance, that the Cultural Committee Meeting Notes of 2003-MAR-05, Item #1. Delegation – Vancouver Island Symphony, paragraph 3, be amended to read “D. Johnstone suggested that they consider ticketing the event as this was done successfully during Music Fest ‘91”.

Carried.

Motion 2003-036

Moved by Commissioner Field, seconded by Commissioner Lance, that the funding request for the Symphony in the Harbour event be referred to the Cultural Committee for re-consideration.

Carried.

Motion 2003-037

Moved by Commissioner Field, seconded by Commissioner Johnstone, that the funding request from the Vancouver Island Arts Festival Society funding request be referred to the Cultural Committee for re-consideration.

Carried.

Motion 2003-038

Moved by Commissioner Field, seconded by Commissioner Holdom, that the meeting notes as amended be received.

Carried.

2. (4) **Athletic Commission.** Commissioner McNabb reported on the meeting held 2003-FEB-27 and advised that since this meeting the promoter has moved the event from the College to a hall advertised as the Cedar Recreation Centre where the Athletic Commission has no jurisdiction.

Motion 2003-039

Moved by Commissioner Holdom, seconded by Commissioner Tyndall, that the minutes be received.

Carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

3. (1) **Use of Lion's Pavilion and Control of Amplified Music.** Mr. T. Hickey, Director, advised that staff has considered various options to better control use and amplification of music at the Lion's Pavilion. He noted that one of the conditions now in the facility licence agreement for parks states that the Licencee will be present at all times during the event and will assume responsibility for participant and/or performer conduct. It also states that excessive volume and inappropriate content that cause a nuisance to surrounding pedestrians, residents and businesses are not permitted under any circumstance.

Determining excessive volume is subjective so to further assist with the control of amplified music the City can establish for the licence agreement a maximum decibel level to be permitted for amplified music. City staff can then use a decibel meter to check sound levels on visits to the pavilion or in response to complaints. Groups booking the Lion's Pavilion to play amplified music will be asked to provide a security deposit and if the group exceeds the maximum sound level they may forfeit this deposit.

Commissioner Whiteaker asked why the hours recommended are 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. instead of 11:00 p.m. Commissioner Whiteaker stated that Council is promoting downtown and restrictions of 10:00 p.m. may act as a deterrent. Mr. Hickey indicated the intent is to minimize the complaints received by Council and Department staff. The Parks Bylaw enables the Director to extend park use for some special events. Commissioner Lance noted that Council is also promoting downtown as a place to live and we do need to consider the residents.

Commissioner Field noted that there is apparatus available that has lights indicating decibel levels and shuts down when the pre-set limit is reached.

Commissioner Johnstone asked if we could include a statement that if the performers use obscenities the licensee would forfeit their deposit at the discretion of staff.

Motion 2003-040

Moved by Commissioner Tyndall, seconded by Commissioner Tang,

1. That bookings for performances and presentations will be restricted to:
 - (1) Hours between 10:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m., and
 - (2) Not exceeding a two hour time period (not including set-up or take down time).
2. That special event bookings of a longer duration than two hours may be accepted if booked by a recognized community organization and provided that a schedule of events be submitted to the City at least 3 days prior to the event.
3. That non-compliance of these policies will result in the licensee losing future booking privileges at the Lion's Pavilion and/or their security deposit.

Carried.

Motion 2003-041

Moved by Commissioner Holdom, seconded by Commissioner Lance, that the Parks Committee works with staff to establish a maximum decibel level to be permitted for amplified music at the Lion's Pavilion.

Carried.

3. (2) **Request to Malaspina University-College for Field Funding.** Mr. T. Hickey, Director, advised that in April 2002, the Parks Recreation and Culture Commission endorsed a Sport Field Improvement / Development Plan. One of the projects in this plan is the development of a lighted synthetic turf playing field in 2005/06 at an estimated cost of \$1,200,000. The City has \$800,000 in its 5 Year Capital Plan for this project with \$400,000 to be raised through community contribution. Currently, the Nanaimo and District Youth Soccer Association is committed to a fundraising goal of \$150,000. Because Malaspina University-College uses City fields and facilities for their Physical Education, Intramural and Intercollegiate programs, they may want to contribute capital funding to this project over the next 3 years.

Motion 2003-042

Moved by Commissioner Field, seconded by Commissioner Tyndall, that Commission sends a letter of request to Malaspina University-College, under the signature of the Mayor and the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission Chair, for capital funding for the development of a lighted synthetic turf playing field.

Carried.

3. (3) **Temporary Use of Track at Grandview Bowl for Auto Manufacturer Demonstration Site.** Mr. Brent Meunier, Manager of Recreation Services, advised that a general inquiry has been made by an automobile manufacturer to use either the Beban Park parking lot or the pavement at Grandview Bowl as a demonstration location to display and test new cars for Island dealers and sales staff. Beban Park is one of several locations on Vancouver Island being considered for a temporary three-day rental during the autumn. The auto manufacturer is accustomed to handling spectators and providing adequate safety measures. This rental may generate approximately \$1,000 per day for each of the three days.

Motion 2003-043

Moved by Commissioner Lance, seconded by Commissioner Whiteaker, the Commission direct staff to explore alternative uses of Beban Park that will generate additional revenue and increase activity at the Park.

Carried.

3. (4) **Parks Manager's Report.** Mr. T. Hickey, Director, advised that at the end of this month the park concessionaire agreements expire and staff will ask the Parks Committee to assist in the selection of vendors from the applications received. Mr. Hickey reviewed the revised Departmental Organizational Structure.
3. (5) **Recreation Manager's Report.** Mr. Brent Meunier, Manager of Recreation Services, reviewed his report and advised that 46,000 brochures were produced and advertising revenue covered all but \$1,000 of the printing costs. He advised that an application has been submitted to HRDC for a youth grant.
3. (6) **Parks Planning and Development Manager's Report.** Mr. Richard Harding, Manager, Parks Planning and Development, advised that a neighbourhood VIP meeting will be held this Saturday at Collingwood Drive. He noted that the HRDC trail program is underway at Chase River Estuary Park.

Motion 2003-044

Moved by Commissioner Field, seconded by Commissioner Young, that the Director's report be received.

Carried.

COMMITTEE/COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

4. (1) **Port Theatre** – Commissioner Whiteaker reviewed the monthly activity report and advised that a more extensive report regarding the Port Theatre Annual General Meeting will be provided next month. He noted that the Port Theatre has adopted a very comprehensive Risk Management Policy.

Motion 2003-045

Moved by Commissioner Whiteaker, seconded by Commissioner Lance, that the Port Theatre report be received.

Carried.

ITEMS OF GENERAL INFORMATION:

5. (1) Copy of correspondence to Mr. Brent Meunier, Manager of Recreation Services, from Estelle Pedersen, Secretary, Bowen Park Seniors requesting that the original showcase be re-instated in the Bowen Complex lobby; or a new wall mounted showcase be constructed and mounted in the lobby with the Bowen Seniors contributing a maximum of \$500 towards its cost.

5. (2) Copy of correspondence to Estelle Pedersen, Secretary, Bowen Park Seniors, from Mr. Brent Meunier, Manager of Recreation Services, regarding showcase at Bowen Complex.
5. (3) Copy of Minutes from the Board Meeting of the Bowen Park Seniors held 2003-MAR-04.
5. (4) Copy of correspondence to Mr. Larry McNabb, Chair, Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission, from Mike Paquette, Program Coordinator, Chase River Boys and Girls Club expressing appreciation for supporting their funding request.
5. (5) Copy of correspondence to Mayor Korpan and Council, from Mr. Ted Nebbeling, Minister of State for Community Charter and 2010 Olympic Bid, advising that the Community Charter is expected to take effect 2003-DEC-31.
- 5.(6) Copy of correspondence to Mr. Marshal Cooper, Vancouver Island Arts Festival Society, 418C Fitzwilliam Street, PO Box 197, Stn A, Nanaimo BC V9R 5K9, from Mr. Phil Field, Chair, Cultural Committee, advising that the funds in the Arts and Cultural Events Downtown Funds have been expended for 2003, and advising of application deadlines for 2004 funding.
- 5.(7) Copy of correspondence to Mr. Robert Bevis, President, Vancouver Island Symphony, Box 661, Nanaimo BC V9R 5L9, from Mr. Phil Field, Chair, Cultural Committee, advising that the Cultural Committee is suggesting that the City investigate sources for further funding in the amount of \$3,200; and that the Symphony seriously consider ticketing this event in subsequent years.
- 5.(8) Copy of correspondence to residents of Collingwood Drive area, from Mr. Richard Harding, Manager, Parks Planning and Development, inviting them to attend a Volunteers in Parks meeting on Saturday, 2003-MAR-29 at 10:00 a.m.

Motion 2003-046

Moved by Commissioner Whiteaker, seconded by Commissioner Baltzer, that the Items of General Information be received.

Carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM DELEGATIONS:

- (1) **Nanaimo Cricket Club** – Commissioner Lance asked if there is a policy specifying that Beban Gyro sports field is designated for youth. Mr. Hickey replied that in 1995 the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission designated these fields as the Gyro Youth Sports Fields. Because of that designation, the fields are allocated to youth groups before adult groups are considered. The Cricket Club has been informed on many occasions since 1995 about the youth field designation and that the fields are allocated to youth groups first.

Commissioner Lance suggested Commission meet with all Beban field user groups to find a compromise. Mr. Hickey advised that this type of discussion took place at the Field Users Meeting held 2003-MAR-06 with no success because Cricket is unwilling to consider other dates or change their 12:noon – 6:00 p.m. booking time. Mr. Hickey, Director, suggested that if Commission is considering changing the policy regarding use of this field, they should first speak to representatives from the Gyro Club, Youth Soccer Association and Minor Softball.

Commissioner Field asked for historical information regarding the construction of the sport fields at Beban. Mr. Hickey advised that in 1995 the Gyro Club donated \$50,000 to develop these fields as youth fields. Minor Softball and Youth Soccer have also made substantial contributions to the development of these fields.

Commissioner Tang noted that the Cricket Club have used Woodlands School field but there were no washroom or spectator facilities available, and for many years they have played all games out of town. The Cricket Club is working hard to promote the sport and have between 30 – 50 members. She advised that teams travel from Victoria and it takes 1 hour to prepare the field for cricket use. She noted that adults are the taxpayers, and we should encourage adults to be healthy, not erect barriers.

Commissioner Whiteaker stated that Commission seems to have a “practice” not a “policy” regarding the youth priority at Beban sports field and perhaps it is time to try to implement changes to better accommodate users. He also noted that the City permitted Cricket to contribute to the improvements at Beban, namely the field house, and he feels that we are therefore obligated to assist the Cricket Club.

Commissioner Field noted that without field access cricket may be lost to our community.

Commissioner Johnstone concurred adding that she had spoken to some Gyro Club members who support giving preference to youth but not necessarily solely to youth.

Commissioner Holdom noted that the Cricket Club has a 3 day allocation in May and a day in July. He asked if Cricket could expect to have all their home games accommodated in Nanaimo. Mr. Hickey responded that at no time has Cricket played 11 home games. Commissioner Holdom suggested we should try to accommodate at least 6 dates.

Commissioner Lance advised that field allocations have been assigned for 2003 and we should be looking at having meetings with groups to discuss 2004, not to make changes for this year.

Motion 2003-047

Moved by Commissioner Holdom, seconded by Commissioner Baltzer, that Commission direct staff to use their best efforts to find 6 dates for cricket to be played on Beban field this year.

Amendment:

Moved by Commissioner Whiteaker, seconded by Commissioner Baltzer, that “to use their best efforts” be removed.

Carried.

Motion 2003-047 Carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- (1) Naming of the Northfield rest area – referred to the Parks Committee.

Motion 2003-048

Moved by Commissioner Lance, seconded by Commissioner Tyndall, that Unfinished Business Item #1 – Naming of the Northfield rest area, be removed

Carried.

CURRENT UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- (1) Nanaimo Cricket Club Use of Beban Field – staff report.
- (2) Nanaimo Minor Baseball Use of Grandview Bowl – referred to Parks Committee.
- (3) Symphony on the Harbour Funding Request – referred to Cultural Committee.
- (4) Vancouver Island Arts Festival Society Funding Request – referred to Cultural Committee.
- (5) Establish a Maximum Decibel Level at Lion’s Pavilion – referred to Parks Committee.

ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS:

Commissioner Lance asked about the letter to the editor regarding problems with the Handicapped Washroom at Nanaimo Aquatic Centre. Mr. Patton advised there had been a few problems with malfunctioning valves but corrections have been made.

MEDIA QUESTION PERIOD. Nil.

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD. Nil.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

Cultural Committee	Wednesday, 2003-APR-02 ; 4:15 p.m.
"In Camera" Commission and BC Summer Games Legacy Committee	Wednesday, 2003-APR-09 ; 5:00 p.m.
Recreation Program and Facilities Committee	Immediately following the meeting with the BC Summer Games Legacy Committee.
Parks Committee	Thursday, 2003-APR-10 ; 5:00 p.m.
COMMISSION FACILITY TOUR	Wednesday, 2003-APR-23; 5:00 p.m.
COMMISSION	Wednesday, 2003-APR-23; 7:00 p.m.

Motion 2003-049

Moved by Commissioner Holdom, seconded by Commissioner Field, that the meeting be adjourned.

Carried.

ADJOURNED: 8:50 p.m.