

MINUTES
SPECIAL DISTRICT 68 SPORTS FIELD AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING
BOARDROOM, SERVICE AND RESOURCE CENTRE,
411 DUNSMUIR STREET, NANAIMO, BC
THURSDAY, 2020-DEC-03, AT 2:00 P.M.

Present: Councillor Thorpe, Chair
Councillor Turley
V. Craig, Vice Chair, Electoral Area B, Regional District of Nanaimo
(joined electronically)
M. Swain, Mayor, District of Lantzville (joined electronically 2:02 p.m.)
K. Wilson, Director, Electoral Area A, Regional District of Nanaimo
(joined electronically)
M. Young, Director, Electoral Area C, Regional District of Nanaimo
(joined electronically)

Other: T, Osborne, General Manager, Recreation and Parks, Regional
District of Nanaimo (joined electronically)

Staff: R. Harding, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture
S. Snelgrove, Deputy Corporate Officer
K. Lundgren, Recording Secretary

1. CALL THE SPECIAL DISTRICT 68 SPORTS FIELD AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING TO ORDER:

The Special District 68 Sports Field and Recreation Committee Meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

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

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES:

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of Special District 68 Sports Field and Recreation Committee Meeting held in the Boardroom, Service and Resource Centre, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Monday, 2020-OCT-15 at 11:02 a.m. be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

4. PRESENTATIONS:

(a) Sport Field Developments in Nanaimo and the REIMAGINE NANAIMO Project

Richard Harding, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture provided a PowerPoint presentation. Highlights included:

- The REIMAGINE NANAIMO process and how it relates to parks and recreation

Mark Swain joined electronically at 2:02 pm.

- Six key plans under the REIMAGINE NANAIMO process include: Official Community Plan Update, Parks, Recreation and Culture Plan Update, Active Transportation Plan, Climate Action Plan, Economic Development Plan and Water Supply Strategic Plan
- REIMAGINE NANAIMO currently nearing the end of phase one, which includes community and stakeholder engagement
- Public and stakeholder engagement will continue through all phases of the process
- The Parks, Recreation and Culture (PRC) Master Plan guides the development of facilities, parks, and open spaces, as well as service delivery, to best meet the needs of the community
- Previous Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan was done in 2005

Committee discussion took place. Highlights included:

- REIMAGINE NANAIMO survey results inform the City of key trends and demands within the community such as emerging sports and activities
- Explanation of the Urban Forest Strategy
- Information gathered from REIMAGINE NANAIMO in regards to plans on developing forested lands

Richard Harding, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture, continued his presentation as follows:

- Informed the committee of a draft Nanaimo Stadium Report that was brought to the 2020-JUL-27 Special Council meeting
- Copy of report to be sent to the committee for information
- Background on the different types of stadiums
- A municipality the size of Nanaimo would be best served by a medium sized stadium, which seats between 3,000 to 12,000 spectators
- Report provides detail regarding the key components required for the design and operations of a stadium
- Focusing on the components outside the lines of the field such as seating, spectator amenities, lighting, scoreboards and videoboards
- Report identifies potential opportunities and limitations of various sites. Sites included Caledonia Park, Beban Park, Nanaimo District Secondary School (NDSS) Field/Rotary Bowl/Serauxmen Stadium Complex
- While currently in the engagement phase, Staff are seeing a lot of support for the NDSS Field/Rotary Bowl/Serauxmen Stadium Complex
- Application for a grant opportunity to fund an artificial turf field

Committee discussion took place. Highlights included:

- Co-management agreement with School District #68 (SD68)
- Benefit of the central location of the NDSS community field includes: being on a major transit route as well as being located within the the hub of activity of the surrounding area (Nanaimo Aquatic Centre and Nanaimo Ice Centre)
- Stadium would be uncovered but will look into covering the spectator seating area
- Shared 50/50 funding between the City and SD68 and surplus going into statutory reserve. In addition, yearly contributions from both the City and the SD68 will go towards capital improvements
- Currently don't have agreement with Vancouver Island University but rent the field based on the fees and charges bylaw

Richard Harding, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture, noted that updates regarding the PRC Master Plan will continuously be brought forward to the committee at future meetings.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

(a) 2015 Recreation Facility and Sports Field Survey Usage Results

Introduced by Tom Osborne, General Manager, Recreation and Parks, Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN).

- At the 2020-OCT-15 Special District 68 Sports Field and Recreation Committee meeting, questions were brought up surrounding the methodology of the Sports Field Usage research survey
- 2020 Sports Field and Usage Survey not conducted due to COVID-19 and next survey is budgeted for 2022
- Open to answer any questions or comments regarding the methodology of the survey or the associated report

Committee discussion took place. Highlights included:

- Inclusion of the stadium in the District 68 Sports Field and Recreation Services agreement
- Clarification of the agreement in regards to determining usage
- Stadium more heavily focused on spectators
- Nanaimo arenas assessed in the survey included the Nanaimo Ice Centre and the Beban Park Arena
- The inclusion of dry floor usage in arena facilities in the usage survey
- Acknowledging the work from the Recreation Staff at both the City of Nanaimo and RDN in continuously adapting to the COVID-19 protocols as well as maintaining service delivery in accordance with the provincial guidelines
- The positive impact on mental health associated with outdoor recreation and the importance of keeping parks and trail services open
- Update on the status of the pools and arenas in accordance with the provincial guidelines and the challenges around meeting the provincial guidelines

- The usage survey has been adapted and modified over the years to ensure validity

(b) Next Meeting Date

It was moved and seconded that the next meeting be held on Thursday, 2021-FEB-25 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 3:03 p.m. that the meeting adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

C H A I R

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

CORPORATE OFFICER