

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

**MINUTES OF THE ELECTORAL AREA 'A'
PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20, 2012
AT CEDAR HERITAGE CENTRE, 7:00PM**

Attendance: Alec McPherson, RDN Director, Chair
Eike Jordan
Angela Vincent-Lewis
Jim Fiddick
Chris Pagan
Kerri-Lynne Wilson

Staff: Tom Osborne, General Manager of Recreation and Park Services
Dean Banman, Manager of Recreation Services
Sandra Pearson, Superintendent of Recreation Program Services
Elaine McCulloch, Parks Planner
Ann-Marie Harvey, Recording Secretary

Regrets: Carolyn Mead
Bernard White
Shannon Wilson

CALL TO ORDER

Chair McPherson called the meeting to order at 7:07.

MINUTES

MOVED Commissioner Vincent-Lewis, SECONDED Commissioner Pagen, that the minutes from the May 1, 2012 meeting be approved.

CARRIED

REPORTS

Monthly Update of Community and Regional Parks and Trails Projects – April 2012

Monthly Update of Community and Regional Parks and Trails Projects – May 2012

Ms. McCulloch gave a brief summary of the April and May Community and Regional Parks and Trails Project Reports.

2012 Budget Highlights – Community Parks Electoral Area 'A'

Ms. McCulloch reviewed the 2012 project budget.

It was noted that the previously proposed tipple kiosk project has now been changed to an interpretive sign kiosk at the trail head in Cedar.

Commissioner Fiddick asked about status of the steps and railing at the Nelson Road boat ramp. Mr. Osborne stated that staff have been to the site and it has been deemed the railing safe but will follow up on the erosion issue at the site.

Quennell Lake Boat Launch Update

Ms. McCulloch reported that the next steps for the Quennell Lake Boat Launch is to meet with the Ministry of Environment (MoE) to confirm the final design and to identify projects the community can help out with. The next step will be to make an application for Section 9 with MoE and Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI). She stated that once in-kind donations are identified, preparation for the final working drawings and cost estimates will be done, and then a Tender/Request for Quotes will be placed. Ms. McCulloch sees construction starting in late August/September.

MOVED Commissioner K. Wilson, SECONDED Commissioner Jordan, that the update reports be received.

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

Recreation and Parks Planning Session

Mr. Banman explained to the Commission that traditionally the Commission has met in the fall to review the Electoral Area A Recreation and Cultural Services Master Plan (2007) and plan ahead the priorities for the coming year. It was suggested that the Commission also discuss park initiatives at the same time and could tour the community parks system. Ms. McCulloch said this would also be an opportunity to discuss what the commission would like to focus on and budget for the next year.

The Committee agreed scheduling a date for a planning session in the fall would be appropriate.

Multi-Use Indoor Facility Feasibility Study

The Commission discussed advancing discussions on the planning of a future Multi-Use Indoor Facility in the area and what level of study could be taken to proceed to the next steps. A tour of other communities for some insight was suggested. Staff were asked to provide some background information as part of the fall planning session on examples from other communities of facilities or facility amenities that may be worth considering in Electoral Area 'A'.

MOVED Commissioner K. Wilson, SECONDED Commissioner Jordan that the verbal project and planning reports be received.

CARRIED

COMMISSION ROUND TABLE

Commissioner Jordan told the Commission about her positive experience at the BCRPA Symposium.

Commissioner Vincent-Lewis mentioned the field conditions at North Cedar Intermediate School where her soccer program is held are somewhat hazardous and lacking upkeep with knee high grass. She mentioned it to the school coordinator but thought she would bring it to the Commission's attention.

Commissioner Pagen stated he finds it unfortunate that there are no tennis courts available in Area A.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

A local resident asked what steps the Commission will be taking with Area A Recreation Services since the dismantling of the RDN Recreation Programmer position and how the community can be involved in the planning and improvement of future recreation programming.

Through discussion, Chair McPherson said at this point services have returned to the volunteers offering services. He gave the community member a few suggestions as to how to become involved and to contact existing service providers in the area. Another community member referred the resident to the Community School Coordinators and programs run through Cedar Secondary School.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED Commissioner Pagen, that the meeting be adjourned at 8:34pm

CARRIED

IN CAMERA

MOVED Commissioner Pagen, SECONDED Commissioner Fiddick, that pursuant to Section (90) (1) (e) of the Community Charter the Commission (Commission) proceed to an In Camera meeting to consider land issues.

CARRIED

Chair