

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO
MINUTES OF THE ELECTORAL AREA 'A'
PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING HELD
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2013 AT 7:00PM
AT CEDAR HERITAGE CENTRE

Attendance: Alec McPherson, RDN Director, Chair
Jim Fiddick
Angela Vincent-Lewis
Kerri-Lynne Wilson
Patti Grand
Chris Pagan
Bernard White

Staff: Dean Banman, Manager of Recreation Services
Elaine McCulloch, Parks Planner
Ann-Marie Harvey, Recording Secretary

Regrets: Carolyn Mead
Eike Jordan

CALL TO ORDER

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

MINUTES

MOVED Commissioner Grand, SECONDED Commissioner Fiddick that the minutes of the Regular Electoral Area 'A' Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission meeting held June 19, 2013 be received.

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS

MOVED Commissioner Vincent, SECONDED Commissioner Wilson that the following correspondence be received:

K. St. Cyr/ B. Stupich, Cedar Family of Community Schools to Regional District of Nanaimo, RE: Grant Support

D. Slater, St. Philip Cedar to S. Pearson, RDN, RE: Grant in Aid, Area A

S. Pearson, RDN to F. Garnish, Cedar School and Community Enhancement Society, RE: Cedar Heritage Centre Lease Renewal

CARRIED

PARKS

Cedar Skate Park Update (verbal)

Ms. McCulloch gave an update on the award of contract for the Cedar Skatepark to Newline Skateparks Inc. who was the lowest bidder on the project. Board approval was granted on Aug 27th and construction began

on Sept 9th. The estimated completion date for the contract is the end of November- a 13 week construction schedule.

7:14pm Commissioner White joined the meeting.

Ongoing meetings with the school district are scheduled to ensure disruption is minimized during construction. RDN and Newline staff met with the immediate neighbours to inform them of the construction schedule and provide contact information should they have questions. Construction updates will be posted on the RDN Cedar Skatepark webpage – www.rdn.bc.ca/parks.

Potential change orders that are currently being considered include: 1) bringing permanent power to the site and installing electrical conduits to allow lighting in the future; and 2) the removal of a soil mound and blackberries located in the parking lot in order to improve sightlines into the park.

Park Naming – The park will officially be known as the *Cedar Skatepark* as suggested by the Cedar Skateboard Park Association.

Ideas for the Spring Grand Opening were discussed and at a later date as Sub-committee may be formed to organize events for the opening.

Chair McPherson inquired about the potential need for security cameras at the park. Staff will look into what other jurisdictions are using for security at their skateparks.

MOVED Commissioner Grand, SECONDED Commissioner Vincent that the Cedar Skate Park Update be received.

CARRIED

RECREATION

Recreation Update

Mr. Banman updated the Commission about the resignation of Sandra Pearson, Superintendent of Recreation Services and the hopes of having someone in place by the next meeting. He noted until then, any inquiries that would have gone to Sandra, to please direct them to him for the interim.

Mr. Banman gave an update on the 2013 capital projects have been done including the HVAC, exterior paint, new gutters/downspouts, landscaping and next will be the exterior doors replaced for 2013.

Mr. Banman reminded that the grant deadline is September 27, 2013 and after that time a sub-committee meeting will be scheduled.

He noted that the 2014 Budget process has started and the next meeting, November 20th, more information for the 2014 budgets will be on the agenda for discussion.

MOVED Commissioner Wilson, SECONDED Commissioner White the Recreation Update be received.

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

Volunteer Mileage Policy

Mr. Banman explained the RDN's acknowledgement for the volunteer mileage costs for those members who are eligible and not already reimbursed by another organization. He noted that Commission members should send Ms. Harvey their one way kilometre distance from their home to Cedar Heritage Centre.

Chair McPherson said he would get back to the Commission about an inquiry of a volunteer dinner once a year that he thought had been passed by the Board.

Grants in Aid Deadline

Discussed prior.

COMMISSIONER ROUND TABLE

Commissioner Fiddick noted his concern of the busy Nelson Road boat launch.

Commissioner Grand said she has enjoyed researching different aspects of skateboard parks and their shapes.

Commissioner Pagan went to Nanaimo River Park over the summer. It is very nice park and trails. Although not in our area, Blue Heron Park is also very nice and would love to see a park like this in Electoral Area A.

Commissioner McPherson told the Commission that the residents around Quenell Lake have sent a letter to MOTI for more signage in the area. He said he would scan the letter and send it to Ms. McCulloch. He was told MOTI would put up more signage but that it would have to go through the RDN.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED Commissioner Grand, SECONDED Commissioner Wilson, that this meeting be adjourned.

TIME: 7:50 PM

CARRIED

Chairperson