

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

**MINUTES OF THE ELECTORAL AREA 'A' PARKS, RECREATION AND
CULTURE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
HELD WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2014
7:00PM
(CEDAR HERITAGE CENTRE)**

Attendance: Alec McPherson, RDN Director, Chair
Jim Fiddick
Kerri-Lynne Wilson
Patti Grand
Bernard White
Angela Vincent
Eike Jordan
Carolyn Mead

Staff: Hannah King, Superintendent of Recreation Program Services
Elaine McCulloch, Parks Planner
Ann-Marie Harvey, Recording Secretary

Regrets: Andrew Thornton

CALL TO ORDER

Chair McPherson called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

CARRIED

MINUTES

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

CARRIED

MOVED Commissioner Vincent SECONDED Commissioner Grand that the minutes of the Electoral Area 'A' Recreation Grants Sub- Committee held via email, ending March 20, 2014 be received.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Grant Approvals

MOVED Commissioner Mead, SECONDED Commissioner Jordan that the Electoral Area 'A' Grant-In-Aid application from the Cedar 4H Club be approved for a total of \$1,500.00 towards the club's expenses for materials.

CARRIED

REPORTS

PARKS

Monthly Update of Regional and Community Parks and Trail Projects –Feb -Mar 2014

Skate Park Construction Update (*verbal*)

Ms. McCulloch answered questions about the monthly report. She updated that park Staff met with MOTI staff to review installing a crosswalk and associated signs on Woobank Road crossing the Morden Colliery Trail. Permission was given for signs to be installed but not a crosswalk. MOTI will install when the signs are ready. Ms. McCulloch said she would inquire about having a horse rider on the sign as well as a hiker.

Chair McPherson commended the quick response of parks staff when he inquired about moving a boulder at NRRP that a community member told him about that is blocking access for a wheelchair to enter the trail. The boulder being there requires extra people to go to help get a wheelchair on to the trail. Park staff efficiently had the boulder moved and will now allow better access for wheelchairs.

Beach Assesses & Undeveloped Rights-of-Way – *verbal report from Commission*

Commissioner Fiddick gave an update of where the Commissioners went and potential beach accesses. The Commissioners will view some photos of the sites and discuss over email and will then meet to compile the information for a reference guide to future access development.

RECREATION

Skate Park Official Opening Update (*verbal*)

Ms. King gave an update of the plans for the Cedar Skate Park Opening with the Cedar Skate Parks Association. Formal opening will be at 11:00am with less formal events to follow.

MOVED Commissioner White, SECONDED Commissioner Mead that \$500 be allocated from the Electoral Area 'A' Community Parks Budget for the Cedar Skate Park Opening event.

NEW BUSINESS

Morden Colliery Tipple Funding

Chair McPherson told the Commission some history and background about the Morden Colliery Tipple and the current funding sources.

MOVED Commissioner Vincent, SECONDED Commissioner White that funding from the Electoral Area 'A' Community Parks Budget be approved of up to \$6,500 to the Friends of Morden Mine Society for the engineering study of the Morden Colliery Tipple if the Province of BC declines to participate in providing funding to the project.

CARRIED

School Tour Update

Ms. King gave a summary and pros and cons community use of the two schools (NCIS & Woodbank) the Commission members toured for the members that could not attend.

COMMISSIONER ROUND TABLE

Commissioner Mead – Take 5 talked about the Great South Wellington Fire 100yr anniversary and feels this is an example where the community communication is being lost and could be centralized a website.

Commissioner Grand – Feels the lack of communication is being felt with the lack of the programmer position that is needed with a small community. The community needs something to go to find out about these events/programs.

Commissioner Wilson- Has occurred that in the last 10 yrs. there is a lot of clearing on private lots with no development taking place with those sites and the invasive species is covering the lots. Is there anything that is done to prevent this happening on lots? Something to consider.

Commissioner White – Common community website. When lost the programmer was a significant loss to the community momentum that was gained when there was someone there. When something is started he would like to see it align with the RDN branding that is in place for a better buy-in to community support. Loves to see horses in the community and wants to see more in the parks.

IN CAMERA

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

TIME: 8:50pm

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED Commissioner Vincent that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

TIME: 9:00pm

Chair