

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO**

**MINUTES OF THE  
REGIONAL PARKS AND TRAILS SELECT COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON TUESDAY OCTOBER 20, 2015 AT 12:00 PM  
IN THE RDN COMMITTEE ROOM**

**Attendance:** Director Maureen Young, Electoral Area 'C'  
Director Alec McPherson, Electoral Area 'A'  
Director Bob Rogers, Electoral Area 'E'  
Director Ian Thorpe, City of Nanaimo  
Director Teunis Westbroek, Town of Qualicum Beach  
Director Marc Lefebvre, City of Parksville

**Staff:** Tom Osborne, General Manager of Recreation and Parks  
Paul Thorkelsson, Chief Administrative Officer  
Wendy Marshall, Manager of Park Services  
Ann-Marie Harvey, Recording Secretary

**Regrets:** Director Colin Haime, Chair, District of Lantzville  
Director Julian Fell, Electoral Area 'F'

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Due to Director Haime's absence, the Committee appointed Director Westbroek to Chair the meeting.

Chair Westbroek called the meeting to order at 11:57 am.

**MINUTES**

MOVED Director Lefebvre, SECONDED Director Thorpe that the Minutes of the Regular Regional Parks and Trails Select Committee meeting held June 16, 2015 be approved.

CARRIED

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE**

Mr. Osborne noted that the correspondence from J. Turlock should be titled Benson Creek Falls, not Mt. Benson.

MOVED Director Lefebvre, SECONDED Director McPherson that the following Correspondence be received as corrected:

J. Turlock, Prov. Of BC – MFLNRO to L. Fesiak, RDN, **RE: Benson Creek Falls Renewal of Crown Land**

B. Smith, Canadian Wildlife Service to E. McCulloch, RDN, **RE: Request for Authorization of Proposed Change in Use for Ecological Gift BC109**

S. Yates to Director Houle, RDN, **RE: Descanso Bay Oyster Harvesting**

CARRIED

## REPORTS

### **Monthly Update of Community and Regional Parks and Trails Projects –June - August 2015** **Monthly Update of Community and Regional Parks and Trails Projects –September 2015**

Ms. Marshall answered questions from the directors regarding items in the report.

#### **E & N Trail**

Ms. Marshall updated that staff are at the permitting stage. She noted that at the Church Rd crossing the original plan was to swing the trail away from the rail by 30meters to avoid a \$500,000.00 crossing. ICF have told staff that a cueing study would have to be done and that a 30 meter distance may not be adequate. Because the rail is not in use at this time, the cost of the study can be put off with the understanding that once the rail line becomes active again that the study would then need to be done and the crossing upgraded at that time. MOU in works now with ICF. Staff have met with the City of Parksville to work around the water line and to use Springwood Park and the service road to access the trail head. This new plan in Springwood will provide some cost savings.

**MOVED Director** Lefebvre, **SECONDED Director** Rogers that the reports be received.

CARRIED

## **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE/DELEGATONS**

S. Yates to Director Houle, RDN, **RE: Descanso Bay Oyster Harvesting**

**MOVED Director** Thorpe, **SECONDED Director** Lefebvre that the RDN write a letter to advise the Department of Fisheries and Oceans of the concerns of over harvesting of oysters at Descanso Bay Regional Park and those operating without a license.

CARRIED

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Mt. Benson Race Request**

Ms. Marshall told the Committee of the requests from groups who want run “Grouse Grind” type races at Mt. Benson Regional Park. The issues is that Mt. Benson does not have the level of development as the North Vancouver trail and RDN and NALT staff already are concerned with the volume of use as it is now, as well, there is no staging area to support a race.

She said staff would take the next few years to look at the volume and development potential to support these kinds of races.

**MOVED Director** Thorpe, **SECONDED Director** Young that the RDN not permit race requests to use the Mount Benson Regional Parks trail system at this time due to trail degradation and parking issues.

CARRIED

### **TLC Transfer of Properties**

Mr. Osborne gave an update with TLC and Nanaimo River Regional Park. The Nature Conservancy Canada is now on title for the park and the RDN has worked with the agency with Moorecroft and Englishman River Regional Parks.

### **IN CAMERA**

MOVED Director Rogers, SECONDED Director Lefebvre that pursuant to Sections 90(1) (e) and (i), and 90 (2) (d) of the Community Charter the Committee proceed to an In Camera Committee meeting to consider items related to land acquisition, solicitor-client privilege, and third-party business interests.

Time: 12:35pm

CARRIED

### **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED Director Lefebvre, SECONDED Director Rogers that the meeting be adjourned at 1:25pm.

CARRIED

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Chairperson