

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

**MINUTES OF THE AREA 'F' PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (POSAC)
REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETING HELD
MONDAY MARCH 17, 2014**

AT THE ARROWSMITH HALL, COOMBS

ATTENDANCE: Chair Julian Fell
Alfred Jablonski
Barbara Smithh
Colin Anderson
David Edgeley
Earl Billingsley
Reg Nosworthy

STAFF: Wendy Marshall, Manager of Parks Services

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Fell called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m.

Election of Secretary

MOVED R. Nosworthy, SECONDED A. Jablonski to elect Barbara Smith as Secretary.

CARRIED

MINUTES

MOVED R. Nosworthy, SECONDED A. Jablonski that the Minutes of the Electoral Area F Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee (POSAC) on Dec 2, 2013 be approved.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

R. Nosworthy noted that signage for Malcolm Park is not completed. He also advised that there were many windfalls needing clearing. B. Smith stated that all trails are in rough condition due to the recent snowfall.

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

MOVED R. Nosworthy, SECONDED A. Jablonski that the following Correspondence be received:

J. Diewold, Errington Elementary, **Re: Errington School Trail signage**

CARRIED

REPORTS

MEADOWOOD COMMUNITY PARK UPDATE

Wendy Marshall presented the Meadowood Layout and Materials Plan for Phase 1. There had been a slight revision due to overly soft ground. The RDN has applied for a BC Tire funding for a rubber based playground surfacing. Wendy Marshall stated that the project is short of funds by \$50,000. As such, the RDN has looked into the Area F POSAC Reserve Fund and allocated \$49,000 towards the Meadowood Project. The Budget calculation is also based on "in kind" donations. Wendy Marshall advised that in total there is \$66,000 in reserve. Wendy Marshall says \$150,000 needed in all.

B. Smith presented a list of funding sources obtained from the Horse Council of BC Share the Trails Workshop she attended in early March.

E & N REGIONAL RAIL TRAIL UPDATE

Wendy Marshall gave a status update of the E&N trail. The RDN has received \$2.6 Million gas tax funding for the first phase of this long-term project. Two sections of trail will be designed along the E&N right of way corridor beside the rail track. One will run along the Alberni line from Springwood Park in Parksville to Coombs. The other will run along the Victoria line from Springwood Park to Lowry Road. R. Nosworthy advised that 2 volunteer groups have maintained the Alberni Track. There used to be a siding in Coombs and there is a proposal from one of these groups to rebuild this siding to use for a railway museum. There are some challenges to deal with in the design including a creek crossing and a narrow highway underpass.

MONTHLY UPDATE REGIONAL AND COMMUNITY PARKS AND TRAIL PROJECTS – June to December 2013 MONTHLY UPDATE REGIONAL AND COMMUNITY PARKS AND TRAIL PROJECTS - January 2014

COMMUNITY PARKS AND TRAILS STRATEGY FINAL REPORT

Only the new members received this report and Wendy Marshall advised that this would be delivered to the existing members also.

2014 PARKS WORK PLAN

Wendy Marshall reviewed information and the list of all work projects overseen by Elaine McCulloch and Jonathan Lobb. All projects for 2014 were reviewed.

MOVED A. Jablonski, SECONDED D. Edgeley that the reports be received.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM DELEGATION OR COMMUNICATIONS

The request sent by Jeannie Deiworld of Errington Elementary School for a trail site map and signage guidelines was reviewed. The site map can be found on the RDN web site.

MOVED R. Nosworthy, SECONDED D. Edgeley that Barbara Smith be appointed to liaison with Ms. Dieworld on her request for a site map and signage.

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

Accessible Trails

Chair Fell stated that Minister Don McRae has funds available for accessible trails and questioned whether this is a possibility for Meadowood Park. After discussion, it was felt that such a trail development was feasible. Chair Fell will investigate how to access the funding. E. Billingsley suggested the Oceanside Accessibility Group for possible input.

School Closure

Chair Fell advised that the District School District intends to close and dispose of portable classrooms at Parkville Elementary School. He proposes to look into acquiring one or two for temporary use in Meadowood for a Community Hall.

Errington Trails

Smith reviewed the joint application of the Silver Spur Riding Club and the Central Island Back Country Horsemen for s. 57 Forest and Range Practices Act acknowledgement of the multi use trail system in existence on the Crown land at the base of Little Mountain in Errington. These two Clubs plan to maintain and rehabilitate the trails, which will include constructing a culvert on a swampy section of that trail system and dealing with garbage. The application and Map of the trails was presented.

MOVED A. Jablonski, SECONDED R. Nosworthy, that the Regional District support the Silver Spur Riding Club and Central Island Back Country Horsemen in their application under Section 57 of the Forest and Range Practices Act to maintain the unmanaged trail system on the Crown Land adjacent to Little Mountain, Errington.

CARRIED

IN CAMERA

MOVED A. Jablonski, SECONDED D. Edgeley that pursuant to Section 90(1) (e) of the Community Charter the Committee proceed to an In Camera Committee meeting to consider items related to land issues.

CARRIED

TIME:

AJOURNMENT

MOVED R. Nosworthy that the meeting adjourn at 8:45 pm.

CARRIED

Chairperson