

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO**

**MINUTES OF THE  
REGIONAL PARKS AND TRAILS SELECT COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 20, 2016  
12:00 PM  
(RDN COMMITTEE ROOM)**

**Attendance:** Director Haime, Chair, District of Lantzville  
Director McPherson, Electoral Area 'A'  
Director Houle, Electoral Area 'B'  
Alternate Director Pinker, Electoral Area 'C'  
Director Rogers, Electoral Area 'E'  
Director Fell, Electoral Area 'F'  
Director Stanhope, Electoral Area 'G'  
Director Westbroek, Town of Qualicum Beach  
Director Lefebvre, City of Parksville  
Director Thorpe, City of Nanaimo  
Director Hong, City of Nanaimo

**Staff:** Tom Osborne, General Manager of Recreation and Parks  
Wendy Idema, Director of Finance  
Wendy Marshall, Manager of Park Services  
Tyler Brown, Intergovernmental Liaison  
Ann-Marie Harvey, Recording Secretary

**Regrets:** Director Pratt, City of Nanaimo  
Director Yoachim, City of Nanaimo  
Director Young, Electoral Area 'C'  
Director Veenhof, Electoral Area 'H'

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Haime called the meeting to order at 12:03pm.

**DELEGATIONS**

**Chief Edwards, Chris Edwards, Mark Stevens, Director of Operations - Snaw-Naw-As First Nations**  
RE: Wallace Point, Nanoose Bay

Chief Edwards gave a history of the Snaw-Naw-As First Nations use of Wallace Point. He requested a letter of support to the Federal Government in support of allowing use of CFMETR lands at Wallace Point as public park space.

**MINUTES**

MOVED Director Houle SECONDED Director Thorpe that the Minutes of the Regular Regional Parks and Trails Select Committee meeting held June 7, 2016 be adopted.

CARRIED

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

None

## **COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE**

None

## **REPORTS**

### **Monthly Update of Community and Regional Parks and Trails Projects –June-August 2016**

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

MOVED Director Lefebvre, SECONDED Director Westbroek that the Monthly Update of Community and Regional Parks and Trails Projects June – August be received.

CARRIED

### **Coats Marsh Bats Recovery Strategy Report**

MOVED Director Westbroek, SECONDED Director Lefebvre that the Board direct staff to allocate \$5,000 in the 2017 Regional Parks Budget to complete an environmental assessment of the cabin at Coats Marsh Regional Park to determine if the structure provides critical bat habitat and to determine mitigation measures to implement with the planned decommissioning of the structure if the building is found to provide critical bat habitat.

CARRIED

### **Mt. Benson Regional Park / Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail Parking Report**

MOVED Director McPherson, SECONDED Director Thorpe that the Board direct staff to continue to explore a long-term parking solution for Mount Benson Regional Park and the Witchcraft Lake Regional Trail.

CARRIED

### **Benson Creek Falls Regional Park Parking Report**

MOVED Director Houle, SECONDED Director Thorpe that the Creekside Place parking lot remain open as the primary access and trailhead parking area for Benson Creek Falls Regional Park from the south.

CARRIED

MOVED Director Houle, SECONDED Director Thorpe that the Board direct staff to continue to monitor the Creekside Place parking lot and maintain open communication with the residents of the area regarding issues and mitigation measures.

CARRIED

MOVED Director Houle, SECONDED Director Thorpe that, pending lease renewal with the Province of BC, staff be directed by the Board to examine the feasibility of developing a parking lot within the undeveloped road allowance leading towards Benson Creek Falls Regional Park from Weigles Road, and that staff examine formalizing the loop trail through the crown woodlot W0012.

CARRIED

MOVED Director Houle, SECONDED Director Thorpe that, pending lease renewal with the Province of BC, staff be directed by the Board to engage the services of a geotechnical and structural engineer to assess the feasibility and design options for pedestrian access across Benson Creek and to the base of Ammonite Falls, as per the Management Plan.

CARRIED

MOVED Director Houle, SECONDED Director Thorpe that, pending lease renewal with the Province of BC and evidence of parking demand/capacity requirements at the Jameson Road trailhead, staff be directed by the Board to present long-term options for consideration of developing additional parking at this site, under permit with MOTI, or at the end of Longview Place or Galloway Gulch, under agreement with the Province and the operators of the Vancouver Island University crown woodlot W0020.

CARRIED

### **Regional Parks Parcel Tax Review Report**

MOVED Director Westbroek, SECONDED Director Fell that the Board maintain the parcel taxation at its current level and the use of Parcel Tax for the Regional Parks Acquisition and Development Fund be deferred to the Regional Services Review and budget discussions.

CARRIED

### **Salish Sea Marine Trail Proposal BC Marine Trails Network Association Report**

MOVED Director Rogers, SECONDED Director Westbroek that the Board direct staff to continue to show support for the concept of marine trails.

CARRIED

MOVED Director Westbroek, SECONDED Director Houle that the Board direct staff to work with the BC Marine Trails Network Association on developing, for Board approval, a partnership agreement that establishes Descanso Bay Regional Park as a Salish Sea Marine Trail camping site.

CARRIED

MOVED Director Westbroek, SECONDED Director Rogers that consideration of the Nelson Road Boat Launch (Area 'A') and Blueback Community Park (Area 'E') as Salish Sea Marine Trail access points be referred to the Electoral Area 'E' Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee and the EA 'A' Parks, Recreation & Culture Commission for further discussion.

CARRIED

### **Trans Canada Trail IT Licence Renewal Report**

MOVED Director Thorpe, SECONDED Director Westbroek that the Board accept Island Timberland's offer to renew the Region's non-exclusive licence permitting approximately 16 km of Trans Canada Trail.

CARRIED

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

MOVED Director Lefebvre, SECONDED Director Rogers that the Board direct staff to prepare a report with respect to the history of Wallace Point and work in conjunction with the Snaw-Naw-As First Nation to support the use of Wallace Point as a public park.

CARRIED

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Horne Lake Historic Regional Trail**

Mr. Osborne gave a summary of the history of the Horne Lake Historic Regional Trail area to the Committee. Ms. Marshall explained some of the work that would be involved to develop the trail.

MOVED Director McPherson, SECONDED Director Houle that the following motion - That the Board direct staff to work with Directors and commence planning work for the Historic Horne Lake Regional Trail including meeting with Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District, Horne Lake Strata, Qualicum First Nation, and First Nation communities in the Alberni Valley and that the trail's development costs be included the Regional Parks and Trails Five Year Financial Plan - be referred to staff to report back with cost and resource implications.

CARRIED

**IN CAMERA**

MOVED Director Lefebvre, SECONDED Director Houle 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 and legal issues.

Time: 1:55pm

CARRIED

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED Director Houle that the meeting be adjourned at 2:17pm.

CARRIED

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Chairperson