

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

**MINUTES OF THE ELECTORAL AREA 'B' PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY
REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETING HELD
TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2016
7:00PM**

(WOMEN'S INSTITUTE HALL)

Attendance: Howard Houle, Director, RDN Board, Chair
Kyle Clifford
Randy Young

Staff: Elaine McCulloch, Park Planner

Regrets : Sam Betts
Megan Walker
Allen Johnston

CALL TO ORDER

Chair H. Houle noted the lack of a quorum (4 required) at 7:05 p.m.

AGENDA

An informal information discussion was requested by Howard Houle.

ELECTION OF SECRETARY

No secretary elected or appointed.

DISCUSSIONS

- Derek Kilbourn, from the Sounder, presented two pictures showing small bicycle pit boles suitable for small children riding on their first bicycle. The idea was to provide a location where parents could sit and supervise small children riding in a safe fenced location. Derek noted that several local parents would be available to install a temporary riding circle. A Huxley Community Park Preferred Concept Plan was provided, and Derek noted the location proposed for the skate bowl. Other locations such as the proposed bump path were discussed.
- Elaine McCulloch reported that the funding application for Huxley Park from the Lions Club through the Co-op Community Spaces 2016 was not successful. An application will be made again for Community Spaces 2017. Nanaimo Foundation grant applications are under way, but full development of the Huxley Park Concept Plan will depend on future grants.

- Nick Doe was present as a member of the public, and explained his opposition to the proposed Coats Marsh trail. Although Coats Marsh is a jointly owned The Nature's Trust and Regional Parks, not a Community Park, and as such does not fall under the preview of the Parks and Open Spaces Advisory Committee, all public information is appreciated. In a message to Tom Osborne, Nick showed that Mallard and Bufflehead ducks are particularly sensitive to disturbance to their chicks. Passing people, and particularly dogs, can scare the chicks out into open water where they are subject to the local predators. A similar situation may occur on the east side of Coats Marsh if that privately owned section is transferred to become an extension of the 707 Community Park.
- Randy Young read a message from Rick Jackson, Fire Chief, Gabriola Volunteer Fire Department. "Our Emergency services were very worried about locating lost or injured in there (in the 707)." A report presented by GaLTT at the March POSAC meeting was discussed as a method of identifying locations by using numbered posts at all trail intersections. Modification of the 707 management plan may be necessary for this to occur.
- Elaine McCulloch discussed the current Area B POSAC projects:
 - Mudge Island volunteer property pin location continuing with new detector. Existing grants will continue if not used this year.
 - Cox Community Park entrance sign will be based on a new RDN design.
 - Whalebone Parks entrance signs have been installed and trails improved.
 - 707 trail brushing will continue.
 - Bell's landing grading for water diversion to be discussed with Emcon by Howard Houle.
 - Joyce Lockwood toilet and surround is planned for this summer.
 - Dog park in Rollo-McClay under discussion.
- Randy Young discussed concrete 'Public Access' beach signs, one broken and re-painted on the stairs, one moved from private property, and four or five necessary for north Gabriola beach accesses.

ADJOURNMENT

H. Houle adjourned 7:59pm