

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO**

**MINUTES OF THE ELECTORAL AREA 'G' PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY  
REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETING HELD  
MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2016  
4:30 PM  
(Oceanside Place, Meeting Room)**

**Attendance:** Joe Stanhope, Director  
Ted Malyk  
Rick Horte  
Elaine Peterson  
Catherine Watson  
Michael Foster

**Regrets:** Brian Coath

**Staff:** Lesya Fesiak, Parks Planner

**Also in Attendance:** Helen Simms, Simms Associates  
Michael Jessen, French Creek Residents' Association

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Director Stanhope called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

MOVED M. Foster, SECONDED R. Horte to adopt the agenda for the March 7, 2016 Regular Electoral Area 'G' Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee meeting.

CARRIED

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS / INTRODUCTION**

Director Stanhope welcomed new committee member Catherine Watson. Committee members and staff introduced themselves to Ms. Watson.

**ELECTION OF SECRETARY**

There was no interest from committee members to fill the role of Secretary.

**DELEGATIONS**

**MINUTES**

MOVED R. Horte, SECONDED T. Malyk to adopt the Minutes of the Regular Electoral Area 'G' Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee meeting held November 4, 2015.

CARRIED

## **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

None

## **CORRESPONDENCE / COMMUNICATIONS**

None

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

## **REPORTS**

### **Monthly update Regional and Community Parks and Trail Projects – October 2015-Jan 2016**

#### **Bluewater Community Park Planting**

L. Fesiak provided a verbal update on the tree work and future planting in Bluewater Community Park.

T. Malyk noted that Bluewater Community Park is in need up upgrades and not currently up to RDN Park standards. He suggested that tree stumps be removed and that site work, including stump removal, be the responsibility of the developer.

#### **Proposed Park Dedication in Conjunction with Subdivision Application No. PL2015-137**

Helen Simms (Sims Associates) provided an overview of the subdivision application and parkland dedication between Lowry's and Wembley Roads on behalf of the developer.

The committee was generally in favour of the proposed parkland dedication.

Individual comments, suggestions and questions were posed as follows:

- R. Horte requested that the developer clear trails in the future park during the first phase of subdivision development to encourage public use and monitoring and to discourage the type of dumping that has occurred in undeveloped parks.
- H. Simms noted that the developer has provided \$5000 towards trail development in the park, and that the developer will not be able to clear trails in the adjacent exciting park because it is RDN-owned land.
- T. Malyk requested that roadside trails be included within the subdivision, and not merely through the proposed parkland connecting the subdivision with Wembley Road. He referenced the recent pedestrian fatality on Robertson Boulevard and noted an additional off-road trail opportunity along an undeveloped ROW connecting Lowry's Road and Osprey Way.
- R. Horte supported Mr. Malyk's request further noting the opportunity for trail development within unpaved road shoulders – approximately 20' beyond the paved road area.
- Director Stanhope explained that road ROWs, including the unpaved road shoulder, are under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) and that the RDN does not have the authority to build or maintain sidewalks. Director Stanhope will be meeting with MOTI to discuss general road safety and traffic calming measures for Area G.
- E. Peterson noted the public consultation process regarding the subdivision and parkland dedication and the benefits of adding parkland to the exiting park for a trail connect from the future subdivision to Windridge Place and Wembley Road.

## **BUSINESS ARISING FROM DELEGATIONS OR COMMUNICATIONS**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None

## **COMMITTEE ROUND TABLE**

Director Stanhope invited committee members to a round table discussion:

**C. Watson** expressed support for a gravel road-side trail along Robertson to Wembley Road.

**E. Peterson** requested the budget for Area G.

**M. Foster** noted his frustration with the lack of development on the Dashwood Hall restoration project. The Parks Department was to complete a report based on a building assessment and it continues to be delayed. Mr. Foster requested a project timeline from RDN Parks.

**R. Horte** was interested in the E&N Trail development from Parksville to Coombs and requested staff provide a project timeline.

**R. Horte** requested an update on the progress of Stanhope Trail.

**L. Fesiak** reported that trail planning has begun and that a project start-up meeting is scheduled later in March between park planning and operation staff.

**T. Malyk** reiterated his support for neighborhood sidewalks and roadside gravel trails and his position that these need to be managed by the RDN.

**M. Jessen** commended RDN Parks on the installation of regulatory signage in parks and trails. Mr. Jessen also noted the recent installation of dog on-leash signage at Area G beach accesses and that the French Creek Residents Association will be requesting that these signs be removed.

**H. Simms** informed the committee of a future intersection redo at Robertson and Wembley.

## **ADJOURNEMENT**

MOVED E. Peterson, SECONDED T. Malyk that the meeting be adjourned at 5:30pm.

CARRIED

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Chairperson