

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

**MINUTES OF ELECTORAL AREA 'E' PARKS AND OPEN SPACES ADVISORY
REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETING HELD
WEDNESDAY JUNE 14, 2017
6:30 PM
(Nanoose Place)**

Attendance: Director Bob Rogers - Chair
Marlene Caskey - Secretary
Debbie Mitchell
Rod Turkington

Staff: Kelsey Cramer, RDN Parks Planner

Regrets: G. Wiebe

CALL TO ORDER

Director Rogers called the meeting to order at 6:43PM

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

It was moved and seconded that the agenda be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

LATE DELEGATIONS

It was moved and seconded that the late delegations of Dr. Luckhurst and K. MacMillan be accepted for inclusion in tonight's meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the Electoral Area 'E' Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee held February 22, 2017 be adopted,

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATIONS

Peter van Dongen and Clarice Springford – Nanoose Bay Natural Playgrounds

The delegates are interested in seeing a natural playground developed in the Madrone/Timberstone area, perhaps at Stone Lake Drive Community Park or in Amelia Crescent Community Park (an undeveloped park with an informal trail which starts at Ballenas Rd. mailboxes). They are strongly promoting the use of 'natural' materials such as wood, boulders, mulch. (This extends the '100 Mile Diet' concept to playground building materials.)

Dr. Luckhurst

Dr. Luckhurst talked about the history, present status, and future potential of the creek at the beach access/Right of way off of Higginson Rd. (E 54). He expressed concerns that, if commercial access is allowed there, it will affect the (future) salmon usage.

Kirke MacMillan

Mr. MacMillan expressed concerns on behalf of himself and other residents about the rescinding of the 2001 document 'A Parks and Open Space Plan for Nanoose Bay' by the RDN Board in May of this year. They feel that some of the wording, especially around beach accesses and local versus commercial users, should be carried forward into the 'Community Parks and Trails Strategic Plan (2014)'. They felt that there should have been an opportunity for public input prior to the rescinding of the document.

Director Rogers noted that the 2001 wording inferred that the RDN had authority to do things that neither the RDN nor MOTI can, such as restrict commercial use. He also reminded the audience that there was opportunity provided for public input to the 2014 plan and that when the CPTS is updated in 2019, there will be the opportunity to integrate additional wording specific to beach accesses at that time.

CORRESPONDENCE

It was moved and seconded that the correspondence be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

STAFF REPORTS

Parks Quarterly Update Report Jan-Mar 2017

It was moved and seconded that the Parks quarterly update for January to March 2017 be received as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Beach Access Subcommittee – verbal update from POSAC Subcommittee

M. Caskey provided a copy of the form created for this project, and a spreadsheet summary of the accesses assessed to date. Subcommittee members are herself, D. Mitchell and V. Swan.

It was moved and seconded that the interim report be accepted, and that the subcommittee continues to assess the remaining beach access/Rights of way.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Oak Leaf Community Park – verbal update from Parks staff

K Cramer said that the fencing along the west property line has been postponed until fall due to the presence of an active eagle nest. The closure of an undesirable trail has also been postponed. Director Rogers indicated that the Nanoose First Nations are considering a name for Moorecroft Regional Park and plan to make a decision on a new name for Oak Leaf next week.

It was moved and seconded that the verbal update be received as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D69 Recreation Committee Update – verbal from G Wiebe

As G. Wiebe was not present, no report was given.

Director's Report – verbal update

Director B Rogers gave a verbal report, and thanked V. Swan and M. Caskey for attending the Volunteer Recognition reception.

It was moved and seconded that the Director's report be received as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE DELEGATIONS/COMMUNICATION

Natural Playgrounds

Stone Lake Drive Park is a possible location.

It was moved and seconded that staff be directed to provide a scoped concept report regarding natural playground equipment, budget and location around the Madrona area for the next Electoral Area E POSAC meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Dr. Luckhurst's Presentation

As the issues around a salmon stream fall under the Federal Fisheries jurisdiction, there were no action items arising from this delegation.

Kirke MacMillan's Presentation

As the rescinding of the 2001 Parks plan has occurred, and the issue of commercial and non-local use of Beach access/Rights of ways is not within the RDN's mandate, no action items arise from this presentation.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Redden Park

The issue of blackberry control was discussed at the last meeting. Park Operations staff responded to the issues noted at the last meeting.

Nanoose Road Community Park

Park is Crown land; lease is up for renewal in 2020. Present wording only allows for playground.

It was moved and seconded that staff be directed to submit a request to Crown Lands to expand the potential uses for the Nanoose Road Community Park to include a dog park.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

Five Year Plan (2018-2022)

It was moved and seconded that the following changes be made:

Additional Project Suggestions: delete Henley Park Place item (operational issue); move Nanoose Road Community Park and Beach Access survey to High Priority projects.

Planning for a Natural Material playground also be added to the High Priority projects list.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 9:24 PM.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY