

MINUTES OF ELECTORAL AREA I (Youbou/Meade Creek) PARKS COMMISSION MEETING

DATE: October 13, 2009

TIME: 7:00pm

MINUTES of the Electoral Area I Parks Commission Meeting held on the above noted date and time at Youbou Lanes, Youbou, BC. Called to order by chair at 7:02pm.

PRESENT:

Chairperson: Marcia Stewart

Vice-chairperson: Sheny Gregory

Members: Dave Charney, Gerald Thom

ALSO PRESENT:

Director: Klaus Kuhn

Alternate Director:

Secretary: Tara Daly

Guests: Brian Farquhar, CVRD Parks Manager

REGRETS: Alternate Director Alex Marshall, Dan Nickel, Wayne Palliser

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

It was Moved and Seconded to accept the agenda.

MOTION CARRIED

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

It was Moved and Seconded that the minutes of September 8, 2009 be accepted with the following correction: spelling of Thomas Kreilein.

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING

- **Community Trust Fund** ~ S. Gregory reported that the funds have all been spoken for at this deadline but she was encouraged to check again in December; she will email a list to Commission members of the items that the monies can be used for
- **Little League Park** ~ R. Dias has put the sand on hold pending further investigation

CORRESPONDENCE

- email from R. Dias and Linda Backlund noting that all equipment has been removed from the storage room to allow the Maintenance Contractor to use it for storage

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- the sixteen (16) students and Peter Law coming to Cowichan Lake to film didn't work out as planned but not to waste the day decided to identify invasive plants; Eurasian milfoil was found below and above the weir, this plant is transferred on boats and is extremely difficult to get rid of
- UBCM (Union of BC Municipalities) convention was held recently in Vancouver with 600 attendees and a further 400 support and ministerial staff attending; Director Kuhn met with the Attorney General asking for \$10 000 for seasonal policing on the lake, positive response
- Elk Signs ~ misunderstanding with Highways has led to a delay but hoping that two (2) signs are arriving soon

COWICHAN LAKE RECREATION

- **Regatta** ~ was a huge success, Linda Backlund thanked the Commission for their work in the concession and moving equipment, \$1 100 was made in four (4) hours; the dance had 102 attendees

with everyone enjoying the band

- **Arena project** ~ will soon be underway with tenders closing this week for demolition, the renovations will be completed in two (2) phases
- **Halloween** ~ at Youbou Hall with doors opening at 5:30pm and Haunted House opening at 6:00pm with costume judging for all categories to follow, free hotdogs and drinks, no fireworks display because of new CVRD By-law requiring the person setting off the fireworks to have completed a course; the course is only offered in Maple Ridge – investigating the possibility of someone coming to the CVRD to teach the course
- **New Year's Dance** ~ doors open at 9pm, tickets are \$15 each including a midnight snack, the band is *Third Rock*

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- **Community Ballgame** ~ only had six (6) persons out to play but it was a lot of fun, the OAPO still opened the concession
- **Park Commission Chairs meeting** ~ all areas except Mesachie Lake are focusing on small projects, Mesachie Lake has purchased the store beside the Skydome and will expand their field; community fundraising for parks is happening in many areas, tree planting with a memorial plaque is becoming popular, with the public purchasing the trees

COWICHAN VALLEY REGIONAL DISTRICT – Ryan Dias

- **Little League Park** ~ ballfield: best solution for the field seems to be lifting the sod (contractor to do), re-grade (contractor to do), and lay the sod back down (could be done by volunteers)
- **Woodland Shores** ~ not ready yet for a walkabout, unsure if seeding has been completed, a deficiency list has been compiled including gates not be installed and grass not sown
- **Maintenance Contractor** ~ is aerating and winterizing water lines

OLD BUSINESS

- **Community Ballgame** and other events to be discussed further next Spring
- **Buoys (6)** ~ have been installed by the Town of Lake Cowichan on the east end of the South Arm at a cost of \$500 each, a difference in the boat traffic has been noticed by lakeshore residents
- **Archie Benson** bench has been removed from the Little League Park

NEW BUSINESS

- **Flag** ~ at Arbutus Park needs to be removed, Director Kuhn will contact W. Palliser
- **Cover for slide** at Arbutus Park is needed, M. Stewart has spoken with R. Dias
- **Woodland Shores** gate key ~ CVRD and Boy Scouts currently have keys, although there are plans for the land behind the gate it hasn't happened yet and there is a liability concern
- **Park Feedback Forms** ~ all members present handed in their forms except S. Gregory who will email M. Stewart
- **Update on Woodland Shores parks by B. Farquhar** ~ includes three (3) small parks, Upland Parks, Scout Camp relocation, and trail along the road; is very close to completion, deficiency list has been compiled with a \$46 000 bond put forward by the developers who are working through the list, the bond will be used for anything that isn't completed to CVRD standards; Commission will do a walk through at completion to give approval; there are potable water and sewer hook-ups in the parks
- **Water Tank** stability of bank ~ is CVRD liable? A geo-tech study was completed for MoTH to allow the subdivision so there is no liability concerns
- **Frog Pond** ~ biologist report covers 1½ year study and notes no introduction of sediment into the pond, hydro seeding will be done again, hay bails have been put in the upper ditch; CVRD staff will follow up with the developer and keep an eye on it over time

- **Scout Camp** ~ was successfully moved by the developer with a license in place to allow the Scouts to use the facility for the August weekend; the picnic shelter was built for Victoria snow loads and must be reinforced for CVRD building standards, a building permit was not taken out; the interim license allowed the Scouts to use the camp for August and September 2009; a thirty (30) year X 3 (for a total of 90 years) agreement will be signed; the old site was three (3) acres with the new one being between seven (7) and eight (8) acres but terraced, not flat, 150 campers could attend a jamboree and safety for some activities (archery) could become a problem ~ Scouts are asking for an expansion either to the east, which would infringe on the parkland or to the south which would be about a further eight (8) acres or 3.2ha expanding to a natural boundary of a rock face with a plateau on top or apply to use the Crown parcel to the west which may be complimentary and/or beneficial to the Commission's desire to obtain the Crown lands thereby expanding Bald Mountain Peninsula Park; Commission will do a walkabout before any decisions are made ~ tentative date set for Tuesday, October 27th at 9am meeting at the gate, B. Farquhar will email confirmation, Scout reps (Jack Casey), R. Dias, and developers to also attend
- **Upland Park** is 927 acres, work needs to continue with replanting at 400-600 stems per acre and brushing back Scotch broom, largest community park in the Regional District, even larger than any regional parks; was identified in the Regional Parks and Trails Master Plan as a significant, prominent geographic site promoting hiking and nature study, low impact, traditional recreation; any change in ownership would have to go to the public of Area I (Youbou/Meade Creek) for approval as per *Park Designation Bylaw*; Regional Parks are paid for by the nine (9) Electoral areas and the four (4) Municipalities whereas Community Parks are paid only by the electors of the area, the only difference between a community park and a regional park is the way funding is collected, asked B. Farquhar to investigate East Sooke Regional Park; CVRD Board have requested to acquire the Crown land for park purposes and are in agreement over not allowing access for logging purposes; B. Farquhar to obtain a letter stating developers are okay with their gift to Area I (Youbou/Meade Creek) residents becoming a Regional Park if that is their wish
- **Picnic table** top ~ Ben Wingo has a picnic top that he wishes to donate to Parks

BUDGET

- deadline for draft Budget is Friday, October 9th going to the CVRD Board in February 2010 for final approval
- General Expenses include such items as meeting cost, consultant fees, advertising, mileage, and General Government
- proposed to have no change in the parks budget with regards to line items
- B. Farquhar will check costs on Marble Bay Park as there seems to be a discrepancy
- \$168 000 currently in Reserve Funds with includes \$4 000 for refurbishing the *speeder* which can be used for capital projects and parkland acquisition; a further \$12 000 is in Reserve to be used only for parkland acquisition
- R. Dias is completing a 10-year plan of capital expenditures including park amenities
- with new parks coming on stream, how can costs be kept down?
- time frame for budget process with respect to community versus regional park ~ a decision would have to be made before the adoption of the budget in February; the Regional Parks committee has a meeting at the end of November, would CVRD purchase park? ~ suggestion by B. Farquhar of \$1.00
- in 2009 requisition per \$100 000 was \$14.18, in 2010 requisition of \$136 000 would be approximately \$20.96 per \$100 000
- **BUDGET ITEMS** ~ \$6 000 for building a vandal-proof bridge in Price Park, \$13 000 for Arbutus irrigation system, \$1 000 for Little League field repairs, \$12 000 for Upland Park plantings, short term debt final payment from Reserve of \$17 755

- BUDGET ITEMS ~ requisition of \$119 000 with the remainder taken from Reserve to a total of \$136 668 (covering short term debt), a total of \$17,663 from Reserve

ADJOURNMENT

It was Moved and Seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 9:45pm.

MOTION CARRIED

NEXT MEETING

November 10, 2009
7pm at Youbou Lanes

ITEMS FOR NOVEMBER AGENDA

picnic table top
Community versus Regional Parks

/s/ Tara Daly
Secretary