



PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

Tuesday, June 16, 6:00 p.m.
Greenhouse, Queen's Park

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

John Davies	- Acting Chair, Community Member
Shawna Barkley	- Community Member
Jacqueline Buchanan	- Community Member
Bruce Clark	- Community Member
Michael Folka	- Community Member
Ted Garbutt	- Community Member
Andrew Hull	- Community Member (arrived at 6:36 p.m.)
Eman Ismail-Elmasri	- Community Member
Michel Roy	- Community Member
Karl Sturmanis	- Community Member (exited at 6:50 p.m.)

MEMBERS REGRETS:

Councillor Jaimie McEvoy	- Chair, City Council Member
Casey Cook	- School District #40 Representative
Melissa Maltais	- Community Member

GUESTS:

Jon Proctor	- Dirtwest Cycling
Derek Kost	- Dirtwest Cycling

STAFF PRESENT:

G. Dean Gibson	- Director of Parks, Culture and Recreation
Jennifer Wilson	- Assistant Director of Parks, Culture and Recreation
Hilary Knowles	- Canada Games Pool
Cidalia Martin	- Canada Games Pool
Claude LeDoux	- Manager of Parks Horticulture
Lauren Blake	- Committee Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

1.0 ADDITIONS / DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the following items be added to the agenda:

- 7.1 – Parklet report;
- 7.2 – Outdoor concert series at Westminster Pier Park;
- 7.3 – Parks Grounds Maintenance Approach; and,
- 7.4 – Museum and Archives Announcement.

AND THAT the agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED.

All members of the Committee present voted in favour of the motion.

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Adoption of the Minutes of April 29, 2015

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the April 29, 2015 Parks and Recreation Committee meeting minutes be adopted.

CARRIED.

All members of the Committee present voted in favour of the motion.

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Tour of Queen's Park Greenhouses

Claude LeDoux, Manager of Park Horticulture, provided a tour of the Queen's Park greenhouses.

3.2 Dirtwest Cycling

Jon Proctor and Derek Kost, Dirtwest Cycling, summarized the on-table document regarding a proposal to implement a pump track in New Westminster. Mr. Proctor and Mr. Kost suggested Westminster Pier Park as a location for a new pump track, Ryall Park as a potential park for upgrading, and advised that Dirtwest Cycling could provide assistance with the future relocation of Mercer Stadium Skate Park.

Mr. Proctor and Mr. Kost advised that there will be an opening event for Fun Fun Park in Surrey on June 20, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and invited Committee members to attend.

In response to questions from the Committee, Dean Gibson, Director of Parks, Culture and Recreation, Mr. Proctor and Mr. Kost provided the following information:

- A pump track utilizes rollers and banked corners in a circuit, allowing riders to accelerate and decelerate using the rollers;
- Pump tracks have a small footprint, use inexpensive materials and are easy to construct;
- A pump track can be utilized by riders of all experience levels;
- A notice of inherent risk would be posted at the park to address liability;
- The cost of constructing the park could be reduced if the City were to utilize recycled materials;
- Dirtwest Cycling provides support, expertise and help to facilitate community engagement;
- A pump track should have funding for the building of the track, as well as for maintenance;
- Most pump tracks are bike oriented, and cannot be accessed by vehicles;
- Pump tracks are intended for a single rider;
- Staff could investigate with TransLink routes that bikers are utilizing in New Westminster;
- The City has committed to relocating Mercer Stadium Skate Park when the New Westminster Secondary School is redeveloped;
- Ryall Park is currently under-utilized and requires upgrading; and,
- A film company has expressed interest in utilizing Ryall Park and may provide upgrades to the bike trials course.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee noted the following comments:

- It was suggested that the park be developed along a bike trail;
- A pump track could be a good opportunity to expose local youth to biking;
- Westminster Pier Park is not easily accessible by bike and is heavily utilized by pedestrians;
- Implementing a bike park would complement the City's healthy lifestyle goals; and,
- It was suggested that Grimston Park could be considered as a potential location, as there is greenspace available and it is located along a bike path; and,
- There is interest in exploring further collaboration with Dirtwest as opportunities may arise.

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There were no items.

5.0 REPORTS

5.1 Aquatic Facility Allocation Policy

Hilary Knowles, Manager, Canada Games Pool, and Cidalia Martin, Assistant Aquatic Manager, provided a PowerPoint presentation and spoke to the staff report dated June 16, 2015 regarding the aquatic facility allocation policy.

In response to questions from the Committee, Ms. Knowles, Ms. Martin and Dean Gibson, Director of Parks, Culture and Recreation, provided the following information:

- The presence of private coaches could result in other swimmers utilizing inappropriate lanes, which could affect other swimmers;
- The policy would provide structure for staff to address these situations when they occur;
- Lanes would be required to be booked 30 days in advance for commercial users in order to keep the availability of the pool open;
- The commercial rate to rent a lane would be approximately \$50 an hour per lane, which would include staff costs; and,
- The policy could be revisited upon the rehabilitation or expansion of the pool facilities.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee noted the following comments:

- It was suggested that Hyack Swim Club could be provided the first right of refusal if additional pool space is made available for coaching;
- The disruptive, private use of a public space during a public swim is an unacceptable practice; and,
- It was suggested that the policy could explicitly indicate that private coaching is prohibited during high demand public drop-in swims; and,
- The distinction between “charitable” versus “Society” status was noted with the Committee preferring the use of the term “registered society”.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Parks and Recreation Committee support the 2015 Aquatic Facility Allocation Policy, with the inclusion of the following implementation plan:

- *Prepare Coaches and their clients for the new policy implementation;*
- *Review with staff process and approach with Coaches to include:*
 - *Rental options available at commercial rate;*
 - *Timeline as to the dissemination of private coaching in lane areas;*
- *Confirm fees and charges as part of the implementation to ensure that we are recovering our cost with these individuals; and,*
- *Monitor lane usage on an ongoing basis.*

CARRIED.

All members of the Committee present voted in favour of the motion.

6.0 CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items.

7.0 NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Parklet Update

Dean Gibson, Director of Parks, Culture and Recreation, advised that a pilot parklet will be located in Sapperton in front of Fratelli's bakery.

7.2 Westminster Pier Park Concert Status

Dean Gibson, Director of Parks, Culture and Recreation, advised that the Beyond Marketing organization is still actively planning a concert series for Westminster Pier Park; however, the event may not occur in the summer of 2016.

7.3 Parks Ground Maintenance Approach

Dean Gibson, Director of Parks, Culture and Recreation, provided an overview of the parks ground maintenance approach.

In response to questions from the Committee, Mr. Gibson advised that community and Committee members can identify park areas that require maintenance. Mr. Gibson noted that the division of maintenance between the Parks and Engineering department occurred in 2012.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee suggested that the tug boat by the River Market, which was installed for Expo '86, requires maintenance. It was suggested that the Director of Engineering Services could be invited to a future meeting to provide additional information regarding the role of the Engineering department with respect to parks maintenance.

7.4 Opening of "Our Working Waterfront"

John Davies, Community Member, advised that the "Our Working Waterfront" exhibit will open on July 9, 2015 at the New Westminster Museum & Archives at Anvil Centre.

8.0 NEXT MEETING

**Wednesday, September 30, 2015 – Queen's Park Arena, North Lobby (upstairs),
6:00 pm**

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting was concluded at 8:42 p.m.

Certified Correct,

John Davies
Acting Chair

Lauren Blake
Committee Clerk