



REGULAR MEETING OF PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

**Wednesday, June 28, 2017, 6:00 p.m.
Queens Park Arena, North Meeting Room**

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Councillor Jaimie McEvoy | - Chair, City Council Member |
| Shawna Barkley | - Community Member |
| Brynn Bourke | - Community Member |
| John Davies | - Community Member |
| Andrew Hull | - Community Member |
| Vince Kreiser | - Community Member |
| Marjorie Staal | - Community Member |

MEMBER REGRETS:

- | | |
|-------------|--------------------|
| Ted Garbutt | - Community Member |
|-------------|--------------------|

GUESTS PRESENT:

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| Sloane Elphinstone | - Recreation Programmer |
| Steve Kellock | - Senior Manager of Recreation Services and Facilities |
| Jay Young | - Manager, Recreation Facilities, Queen’s Park Arenex |

STAFF PRESENT:

- | | |
|-------------|------------------------------------|
| Dean Gibson | - Director of Parks and Recreation |
| April Darke | - Committee Clerk |

The meeting was called to order at 6:20 p.m.

1.0 ADDITIONS / DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions.

PROCEDURAL NOTE: Item 6.1 was addressed following item 1.1

2.0 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

2.1 MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT pursuant to Section 90 of the Community Charter, this meeting is closed to the public on the basis that the subject matter of all agenda items to be considered relates to matters listed under Sections 90(1) of the Charter, and specifically matters listed under Section 90(1)(k).

CARRIED.

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

3.0 ADJOURNMENT

3.1 MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting be adjourned and proceed to Closed Session. (Time: 6:45 p.m.)

CARRIED.

4.0 RECONVENE TO REGULAR MEETING

4.1 MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Parks and Recreation Committee be reconvened to the Regular Meeting. (Time: 6:55 p.m.)

CARRIED.

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

5.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

5.1 Adoption of the April 26, 2017 Minutes

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the April 26, 2017 Parks and Recreation Committee Minutes be adopted.

CARRIED.

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

PROCEDURAL NOTE: item 8.1 was addressed after item 5.1

6.0 PRESENTATIONS

6.1 Queen's Park Learning Circle and Naturally New West 2017 Programming

Sloane Elphinstone, Recreation Programmer, Parks and Recreation, provided the following presentation:

- Learning Circle
 - Featured on the cover of Naturally New West 2017
- Wood Cookie demonstration:
 - Made from the fallen Moody Park tree
- Pollinators
 - The City of New Westminster has applied to be a Bee City within the Bee Canada Project, the goal of which is to increase awareness and appreciation of pollinators across Canada through education and programs
- The Learning Garden, started by Century House with a grant of \$25,000 received from New Horizons, built garden boxes in Century House's courtyard to fund educational programs. Produce grown is sold and the funds are reinvested into the program. This program could not have happened without the support from City departments in Building, Design and Horticulture
- Photo Contest

In response to questions from the Committee, Ms. Elphinstone provided the following information:

- Signage will be installed to help with wayfinding to the Learning Circle in Queen's Park
- The Learning Circle is used by nature programs, daycares and child day camps, play leaders and registered users of the City of New Westminster recreation programs

Vince Kreiser, Community Member, thanked the committee for holding a portion of this meeting in Queen's Park and encouraging the Committee to connect with nature.

PROCEDURAL NOTE: the meeting was recessed at 6:30 p.m. and reconvened at 6:44 p.m. to allow members to relocate to the North Meeting Room of Queen's Park Arena

PROCEDURAL NOTE: item 2.1 was addressed after reconvening at the North Meeting Room of Queen's Park Arena

6.2 Moody Park Small Dog Off Leash Area

a) Delegation Presentation

Catherine McEwen, Tammy Trimble and Melanie Fontana, Residents, noted the following comments:

Queen's Park:

- Installation of the Temporary Small Dog Only Area within the Queen's Park Dog Off Leash Area resulted in owners of large dogs being angered that a portion of this area was given to small dogs
- The Small Dog Off Leash Area in Queen's Park:
 - Is too small to accommodate small dogs and their owners
 - Seniors and those without transportation cannot access it
 - Is used as a walkthrough by large breed dog owners and their dogs

Moody Park:

- Installing a fence within the existing dog park will result in 2 spaces too small to meet the needs of both big and small dogs
- The Committee consider the area located behind the lacrosse box that is currently being used as a walkthrough, be used as a small dog off leash area

Suggestions:

- A small dog off leash area is a place for people with small dogs to socialize and enjoy the outdoors
- The area of 6th Avenue and 10th be designated as a small dog off leash area
- The Committee look at the City of Langley who have installed a fenced small dog off leash area that is separate from the large dog off leash area in their community

b) Committee Discussion

- With the increase of large residential building developments within the city there is an increasing need for dog off leash areas
 - Currently there are no city regulations for developers to provide dog amenities to residents living within their developments. More recent developments have been requested to voluntarily include on-site dog relief stations.
- Hume Park and Moody Park should be considered as a locations for small dog off leash areas given the number of residences within these areas
- Explore Burnaby to determine where green space may be available for a small dog off leash area
- Queen's Park Small Dog Only Off Leash Area and its possible expansion complies with the purpose, policies and processes outlined within the City of New Westminster 2014 Dog Off Leash Management Plan

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Staff explore Moody Park as a potential area for a small dog off leash area.

CARRIED.

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

PROCEDURAL NOTE: Item 8.1 was recalled at 7:54 p.m.

7.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There were no items.

8.0 REPORTS

8.1 Mercer Stadium Skatepark Relocation

Dean Gibson, Director of Parks and Recreation, provided a PowerPoint presentation which highlighted details of the proposed Mercer Stadium skatepark relocation. Mr. Gibson advised the Committee that suggestions collected from both the Committee and the public will be presented to Council in the fall.

In response to questions from the Committee, Mr. Gibson provided the following information:

- Queen's Park former Arenex Site
 - Feedback and suggestions from the public included:
 - Feedback:
 - Parking is available
 - Centrally located and easily accessible
 - Near the hockey arena
 - Safe location for children to attend
 - Sheltered by trees
 - Suggestions:
 - That lighting, waste and recycle bins and a permanent shelter be installed
 - Ensure that vendors or services are nearby
 - Ensure the continued maintenance of the greenspace and the buildings
- Under the Parkade at Fourth Street
 - The newly installed pedestrian staircase connects to Front Street and the Columbia Skytrain Station and encourages people into the area

- This area is in transition with the continued development of the Front Street corridor and ongoing improvements
- Consider purchasing properties for the purpose of installing a skatepark
 - The City's Development Cost Charges Bylaw generates revenue used to subsidize the development of parks
 - The City focuses on connections between existing sites for cost efficiency
 - Would likely require at least three single family size lots to accommodate one skatepark
- Generate revenue by attracting developers to the city due to its central location and the need to develop the 5 Skytrain stations in the city
- Continuity of service will be disrupted - Queensborough skatepark will be the sole remaining facility available until relocation of Mercer Stadium skatepark is complete

PROCEDURAL NOTE: Item 6.2 was addressed at 7:00 p.m.

PROCEDURAL NOTE: Item 8.1 was recalled at 7:55 p.m.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee noted the following comments:

- Queen's Park – Arenex Site:
 - Is the most central and accessible location of all
 - Is not the best use of the limited space available there
- Under the Parkade at Fourth Street
 - Does not offer a pleasurable and safe environment
 - Does not offer access to amenities
 - Plans for a commuter ferry between Queensborough and the Quay may attract skateboarders
- Hume Park
 - Not centrally located/accessible
 - Does not offer the convenience of stores or transit
- Asked to be provided with alternative sites, such as the Youth Centre or a city pool location, that offer a central accessible location, amenities and transit
- Determine where the majority of the youth population is located within the city and then determine what means the youth travel to Mercer Park skatepark
- Previous experiences in relocating amenities have proven that:
 - Displacing one amenity for another - space is very limited in the city
 - A limited number of locations fit the criteria required for a skatepark
 - Relocation has been costly

The Committee requested that staff contact the City's Development Department and Parks & Recreation Department and schedule a presentation for the Committee on the City's future development plans.

The Committee requested that staff schedule a presentation for the Committee by the Parks & Recreation Department's Open Space Planner, in September, to provide further information on the locations presented, how each location met the site location evaluation criteria and to include any information that would assist the Committee in prioritizing the sites presented. The Committee also requested that staff provide the Committee with locations not listed or presented for their consideration.

The Committee requested that staff report back to the Committee the overall vision of the Under the Parkade at Fourth Street site for the future.

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Staff of the Parks and Recreation Committee provide the Committee with information on alternative sites than those presented for the proposed Mercer Stadium skatepark relocation.

CARRIED.

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

8.2 Information Reports to City Council

a. Queen's Park Washroom and Concession Building

Dean Gibson, Director of Parks and Recreation, provided an update on the Queen's Park Washroom and Concession Building report which was presented to Council on June 12, 2017. Council supports the recommendations outlined within the report and has given its approval to proceed with the design and replacement of the structure. Architects have now been engaged to complete the design of the facility. Mr. Gibson will provide the Committee with an update on the progress of this project in September 2017.

b. Queen's Park Interim Gymnastic and Multi Sport Facility

Dean Gibson, Director of Parks and Recreation, provided an update on the Queen's Park Interim Gymnastic and Multi Sport Facility report which was presented to Council on June 12, 2017. Council supports the recommendations outlined within the report. Completion of this project is expected to take 10 to 12 months. Proposals for a design-build project delivery approach will be obtained to help manage the time line for completion of this project.

2018 marks the Gymnastics and Trampoline Program's 50th Anniversary. Completion of the Gymnastic and Multi Sport Facility is important to ensure operation of the facility during the Gymnastics and Trampoline Program's 50th Anniversary.

9.0 CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items.

10.0 NEW BUSINESS

There were no items.

11.0 NEXT MEETING

There were no items.

12.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Certified Correct,

Councillor Jaimie McEvoy
Chair

April Darke
Committee Clerk