

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

Wednesday, June 19, 2013, 5:30 p.m.
Queensborough Recreation Centre

Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor Jonathan Coté	- Chair, City Council Member
Shawna Barkley	- Community Member
John Davies	- Community Member
Ted Garbutt	- Community Member
Andrew Hull	- Community Member
Melissa Balfour	- Community Member

REGRETS:

Jacqueline Buchanan	- Community Member
Jonina Campbell	- School Board Representative
Catharine Ouellet-Martin	- Community Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Renée Chadwick	- Director, Queensborough Recreation Centre
G. Dean Gibson	- Director Parks, Culture and Recreation
Jason Haight	- Manager of Business Operations
Diane Perry	- Manager of Community Development
Terry Dunlop	- Recording Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 5:50 p.m.

WELCOME:

Renée Chadwick, Director of the Queensborough Recreation Centre welcomed committee members to the “Great Room” of the newly renovated facility. The Centre now has a fully licensed kitchen (a source of revenue for the centre), New Westminster’s first branch library and child care facilities. The design focus was intended to bring the outside in with focus on multi-use opportunities. The official Open House and ribbon cutting ceremony will be held on July 6, 2013.

1.0 ADDITIONS / DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

No changes were brought forward.

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Adoption of the Minutes of April 24, 2013

The following correction to the minutes was noted:

- *Jonina Campbell was present for a portion of the meeting and her name should therefore be removed from the “Regrets” column and entered under “Present.”*

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting minutes held on April 24, 2013 be received and adopted as amended.

CARRIED.

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

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Bodily Fluid Spills at Canada Games Pool

Hillary Knowles, Manager of Aquatics and Nancy Barberie, Instructional Supervisor, jointly reviewed a presentation on bodily fluid spills at the Canada Games Pool. Dean Gibson, Director of Parks, Culture and Recreation commented that the presentation was intended to help committee members understand the implications of pursuing various renovation/construction options for future infrastructure improvements at the pool.

One spill can affect the entire pool but there are technologies to minimise impacts on users; however, there are considerable economic and customer impacts involved in any spill. Such occurrences, requiring closures affect revenues and programs.

The presentation highlighted information relative to recreational water illnesses from fecal contamination and strategies for fecal incident prevention, response and reporting. With the aid of graphs, charts and text summaries, Nancy Barberie provided technical details of the specific issues arising from contamination as a result of fecal/body fluid accident events. Pool operators must observe strict BC Health Act Pool Regulations. Other key aspects of the presentation were as follows:

- Graph illustrating incident increases between 2010 and 2012
- Recreational water illnesses and risks involved with formed versus loose stool
- Model Aquatic Health Code Research and Findings from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) [Atlanta, Georgia]
- Description of Giardia
- Description of Cryptosporidium
- Differences between the two [above] germs

- Corresponding charts regarding inactivation time for above germs during incidents
- Water Quality Proactive Measures
- Health safety flyer
- Procedures and Reports for Fecal Incidents at Canada Games Pool
- Formed Stool Accident Report, Body Fluid Procedure, Loose Stool Reports and Contamination documents
- Future Considerations

The most significant occurrences of contamination involve younger children during the lesson programs. Considerable research has been done regarding the two main germs, giardia and cryptosporidium. High levels of chlorine are required for certain responses, which may involve pool closure for at least 25.5 hours to achieve chlorination levels of 10 parts per million. Other cleansing requirements were reviewed in detail.

The Fraser Health Authority has entrusted pool quality testing to the City, which carries out frequent double testing throughout the day. Chemical systems are electronically controlled and treatment is added automatically. Instructors are briefed on evacuation procedures, First Aid requirements and accident reports/documentation. There is a two to three day follow-up with individuals involved in specific incidents.

In ensuing discussion, other points were addressed as follows:

- In cases involving vomiting, stomach acids are so strong that extensive chlorination is not required. In such instances, particularly when young children are involved, parents are asked to take their children home for recovery.
- It would be difficult to retrofit the pool's shallow end with different and/or separate filtration systems without spending considerable funds, possibly in the millions of dollars.
- Much information has been gathered that will affect future decision making for pool operations. Changing health sector responses and requirements might result in more future pool closures for more than 25 hours.
- It remains unknown whether or not there is greater prevalence of parasites and contamination among the general population such as is experienced in the cruise ship industry.
- Staff has a heightened awareness and training in order to respond to incidents in the most effective manner. Staff is also proactive in sending out its laboratory samples and it continues to work closely with the Fraser Health Authority, which has a high level of confidence in the City's execution of monitoring and response.

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No items presented.

5.0 REPORTS

5.1 Proposed New Westminster Tennis Club License Agreement Renewal

Dean Gibson, Director of Parks, Culture and Recreation submitted a proposed renewal of the License Agreement between the City and the New Westminster Tennis Club. The club has been a reliable licensee since 1997 and staff recommended forwarding the agreement for Council consideration and approval.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Parks and Recreation Committee recommend that Council approve the License Agreement between the City and the New Westminster Tennis Club for the period October 1, 2013 to September 30, 2018.

CARRIED.

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

5.2 Museum & Archives Update

John Davies, Committee Member, reported orally on the restoration of the 17m long model of the Pattullo Bridge, which will be displayed at the new Anvil Centre when it opens in 2014. The project has been overseen by the model-maker who first constructed the piece 73 years ago. Also, the newly appointed Manager of the New Westminster Museum & Archives, Rob McCullough, will meet with the *Friends of the Museum*, which is to be launched as a society to support the museum and its initiatives. The Chair suggested that Mr. McCullough be invited to a future committee meeting to illustrate and discuss the layout of the new museum.

5.3 Air Cadet Use of Queen's Park Arenex

Jason Haight, Manager of Business Operations, introduced a Discussion Paper, which proposes a value-based review of the Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron's (RCACS – "the Cadets") historical and future use of the Queen's Park Arenex. The paper outlines changes in Arenex facility usage over the recent decade since the Cadets were granted free access in 1976. More recently, gymnastics and trampoline programs have experienced a record 29 percent increase in participation and customer demand is not fully met.

The City acknowledges and values Cadet use of the Arenex while at the same it struggles to accommodate other users such as the gymnastic and trampoline programs. It has only been in recent years that impacts associated with facilitating the Cadet's weekly use of the Arenex have presented challenges. Some of the challenges relate to the time and cost involved in dismantling and setting up of equipment to provide the necessary space for Cadet usage. The following factors were noted:

- **Foregone Rental Revenue** – the New Westminster Cadets receive 55.5 annual hours of Arenex gym use and unlike other Cadet groups, the 513 Squadron does not pay rental fees for its marching program;

- **Staff Cost** – Arenex staff need to remove and then replace the gymnastics and trampoline equipment 37 times per year at cost of \$11,000 annually in order to accommodate Cadet bookings. Also, there are additional staff costs to supervise the facility during Cadet use;
- **Loss of Service & Revenue** – If the Wednesday night time-slot was available, the Arenex would help meet customer demand by offering gymnastics and trampoline programs that would conservatively generate approximately \$7,400 annually.

Staff sought committee input and advice on how to address increasing customer demand for gymnastic and trampoline services while maintaining support for the Cadets’ delivery of valuable community services for youth.

Staff offered the following suggestions that might support both organizations while increasing revenue and services and/or reducing costs:

- Reduce Booking Time
- Reduce Booking Term
- Partial Equipment Removal

There was considerable ensuing discussion of various alternative options for use of the Arenex that would accommodate all programs without undue disruption, hardship or cost. A possible solution to dismantling and restoring equipment might be to configure half the space, provided this could accommodate the Cadets’ marching space requirements. Discussion concluded with the suggestion that staff approach the Cadets to make them aware of details of some of the City’s operational, labour and cost factors presented to the committee and to seek Cadet feedback on possible options and solutions.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Parks and Recreation Committee encourage staff to move forward with discussions with the Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron on the use of Arenex based on the contents of the staff Discussion Paper dated June 19, 2013.

CARRIED.

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

6.0 CORRESPONDENCE

No items presented.

7.0 NEW BUSINESS

No items presented.

8.0 NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, September 25, 2013, 5:30 p.m. Century House

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting was concluded at 7:15 p.m.

Certified Correct,

Councillor Jonathan Côté
Chair

Terry Dunlop
Recording Clerk