



PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 27, 2016
Anvil Centre, Room #401/403

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor Jaimie McEvoy	- Chair, City Council Member
Casey Cook	- School District #40 Representative
John Davies	- Community Member
Bruce Clark	- Community Member
Michael Folka	- Community Member
Andrew Hull	- Community Member
Melissa Maltais	- Community Member
Michel Roy	- Community Member
Karl Sturmanis	- Community Member

MEMBERS REGRETS:

Shawna Barkley	- Community Member
Jacqueline Buchanan	- Community Member
Ted Garbutt	- Community Member

GUESTS:

Lynn Roxburgh	- Planner
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STAFF PRESENT:

G. Dean Gibson	- Director of Parks, Culture and Recreation
Diane Perry	- Manager of Community Development
Lynn Roxburgh	- Planner, Development Services Department
Lauren Blake	- Committee Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

1.0 ADDITIONS / DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

Item 4.3: Rogers Hometown Hockey was added to the agenda.

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Adoption of the Minutes of December 3, 2015

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the December 3, 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 Ecological Inventory of New Westminster Overview

Lynn Roxburgh, Planner, provided an on-table PowerPoint presentation regarding the Official Community Plan (OCP) process and ecological inventory of New Westminster. The data contained in the Inventory will ultimately be used to help inform the Environment and Natural Areas goals for the OCP.

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

- The OCP is generally directed towards private development, however, the Planning department would work with the Parks department to determine parks inventory adequacy standards;
- The standard for park space recommended in the Parks & Recreation Master Plan for New Westminster is 2.2 hectares per thousand people; and,
- At the current rate of growth, New Westminster will not likely be able to achieve the recommended ratio of parkland to population.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee suggested that small spaces or corridors of green space within the city could be reviewed as part of the OCP process. The Committee also noted the importance of connectivity between green spaces and that there could be opportunities to build green spaces into new and existing developments, including single family housing.

4.0 REPORTS

4.1 Queen's Park Masterplan Overview

Dean Gibson, Director of Parks, Culture & Recreation, summarized the report regarding the Queen's Park Master Plan relating the plan recommendations to the Committee's ongoing consideration of the continued hosting of the Cyclocross event in Queen's Park.

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

- The Queen's Park Masterplan has not been adopted by law, and the City is not be obligated to complete all of the projects as outlined in the plan;
- The Masterplan helps guide future decision making;
- City planning can try to mitigate environmental impacts of facilities, such as pools and ice rinks;
- Funding has been provided to address water re-use and conservation issues at the Queen's Park Arena, including capturing roof water and recycling arena water; and
- The future redevelopment of the Pattullo Bridge may impact portions of Queen's Park due to its proximity to McBride Boulevard.

Discussion ensued, and the Committee noted the following comments:

- Parks can have a balance of recreational and passive uses;
- Queen's Park could be considered as a potential location for a new pool facility and the pool site could be returned to more naturalized condition;
- It was suggested that the road near Centennial Lodge could be deactivated in order to reclaim additional park space; and,
- It was suggested that pedestrian bridges could be implemented in New Westminster.

4.2 Urban Forest Management Strategy and Tree Protection Bylaw

Dean Gibson, Director of Parks, Culture & Recreation, summarized the report regarding the Urban Forest Management Strategy and Tree Protection Bylaw, noting that the bylaw was adopted by Council on January 13, 2016.

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

- The bylaw outlines the percent of a tree canopy that can be pruned at any one time and the standard by which pruning is permitted;
- There are penalties for bylaw infractions;
- The bylaw does not inhibit development rights in the city but may require developers to look at site planning in a different way ;
- The City's Arborist would be able to direct residents to arborists that would have an understanding of the bylaw;
- The schedule of the bylaw includes a comprehensive list of suggested trees for replanting, which would be suitable for New Westminster; and,
- The Urban Forest Management Strategy suggests that a variety of tree species be planted to avoid vulnerability to specific diseases.

4.3 Rogers Hometown Hockey Tour

Procedural note: Item 4.3 was considered prior to Item 3.1.

Diane Perry, Manager of Community Development, advised that the Rogers Hometown Hockey Tour has been scheduled for February 13 and 14, 2016 in Queen's Park. All Committee members are invited to attend.

5.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No items.

6.0 CORRESPONDENCE

No items.

7.0 NEW BUSINESS

No items.

8.0 FACILITY TOUR

8.1 Anvil Centre Cultural Services Tour - "A Peek Behind the Scenes"

Rob McCullough, Manager of Cultural Services, provided a tour of the Anvil Centre.

9.0 NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, February 24, 2016 – Location TBD at 6:00 pm

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting was concluded at 7:53 p.m.

Certified Correct,

Councillor Jaimie McEvoy
Chair

Lauren Blake
Committee Clerk