

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

**MINUTES OF THE ELECTORAL AREA 'A' PARKS, RECREATION AND
CULTURE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
HELD WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2014
7:00PM
(CEDAR HERITAGE CENTRE)**

Attendance: Alec McPherson, RDN Director, Chair
Jim Fiddick
Kerri-Lynne Wilson
Patti Grand
Bernard White
Andrew Thornton
Angela Vincent

Staff: Dean Banman, Manager of Recreation Services
Hannah King, Superintendent of Recreation Program Services
Elaine McCulloch, Parks Planner
Ann-Marie Harvey, Recording Secretary

Regrets: Eike Jordan
Carolyn Mead

CALL TO ORDER

Chair McPherson called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

Chair McPherson introduce new Commission member Andrew Thornton who is from the South Wellington Area.

MOVED Commissioner Fiddick, SECONDED Commissioner White that Commissioner Grand be appointed to Deputy Chair.

CARRIED

MINUTES

MOVED Commissioner Grand, SECONDED Commissioner White that the minutes of the Regular Electoral Area 'A' Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission meeting held November 20, 2013 be received.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Beach Accesses and Underdeveloped Rights of Way

Commissioner Fiddick handed out beach access maps for the other Commissioners to review. The Commission members set a date of March 8 at 1:00 pm meeting at CoCo's Café to visit some of the beach accesses and review and photograph the sites.

REPORTS

PARKS

Monthly Update of Regional and Community Parks and Trail Projects -June –Dec 2013

Ms. McCulloch gave an update of the parks projects from June – Dec 2013.

Community Parks & Trails – 2014 Work Plan (*verbal*)

Ms. McCulloch explained the work plan sheet that highlighted the work plan for Electoral Area 'A'. Items include the completion and opening of the Cedar Skate Park, Morden Colliery Trail Bridge, and beach access plan for development.

Skate Park Construction Update (*verbal*)

Ms. McCulloch updated the Commission that substantial completion of the skate park was on January 31 and a soft opening took place February 1. She noted the final cost came in at approximately \$590,000, that being about \$35,000 under the projected budget. The breakdown of funding was 75% from the Provincial grant, 8.5% in donations and 17% from EA 'A' park reserves.

Ms. McCulloch informed the committee that the Wallace-Tarry family requested a plaque be placed on the bench in the skate park. They will provide wording to Elaine, to which she will bring to the Commission. There may also be another request for a second memorial at the park and Ms. McCulloch is awaiting a formal request.

Commissioner Vincent commended Ms. McCulloch on her work and efforts on the construction of the Cedar Skate Park.

RECREATION

Skate Park Official Opening Update (*verbal*)

Ms. King advised the Commission that the official Cedar Skate Park Opening will be on May 24th. Subcommittee members will meet in March to organize the opening details.

MOVED Commissioner Vincent, SECONDED Commissioner White that the reports be received.

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

2014 Recreation Planning Session

The Commission discussed that they would arrange a tour of the school facilities and the following Saturday meeting for a recreation planning session. Ms. King will email the Commission to confirm dates and times.

2014 Budget Update

Mr. Banman gave an update of the Budget and its proceedings with the Board. Chair and EA 'A' Director McPherson provided more details specific to the Electoral Area 'A' budget.

Appointment of 2014 Grant Committee

Commissioner Vincent, Commissioner Grand and Commissioner Fiddick volunteered to sit on the EA 'A' Grant Sub-Committee and were appointed to those positions.

BCRPA Symposium 2014

Mr. Banman explained to the Commission that this year's BCRPA is in Kelowna April 23-25 and that the RDN sends two Commission members to attend each year. Commissioner White and Commissioner Grand expressed an interest to attend and will check their schedules. Ms. Harvey will email them with details for registration.

Morden Colliery Trail Bridge

Chair McPherson handed out a map and bridge drawings showing the Morden Colliery Trail from a 1999 engineering report showing a steel truss and a suspension bridge design. He noted that this report is being updated to current standards and when funds are ready, the project will be shovel ready for other grant application and funding.

COMMISSIONER ROUND TABLE

Commissioner Vincent – Voice her concern about speed of cars and the lack of visible signage at Woodbank Road where Morden Colliery crosses.

Commissioner Thornton – Will be interested if the E & N will be a green path or a rail line as it is in his backyard.

Commissioner Wilson - Surprised at the number of kids using the skatepark and nice to see.

Chair McPherson - Noted that MoTI took down the playground signs when South Wellington closed and there will be a motion at the next Board meeting to have the RDN to contact MoTI to reinstall the signs for safety as the same thing will happen with the other school closures.

IN CAMERA

MOVED Commissioner White, SECONDED Commissioner Grand, that pursuant to Section 90(1) (e) of the Community Charter the Commission proceed to an In Camera Commission meeting to consider items related to land issues.

TIME: 9:10pm

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED Commissioner Vincent that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

TIME: 9:27pm

Chair