

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO
MINUTES OF THE ELECTORAL AREA 'G' PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY
REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETING HELD
MONDAY, MARCH 10th, 2014
1:00 PM
(Oceanside Place, Multipurpose Room)**

Attendance: Brian Coath, Acting Chair
Michael Foster
Rick Horte
Anne Douglas

Staff: Wendy Marshall, Manager of Parks Services
Elaine McCulloch, Parks Planner
Kelsey Cramer, Parks Planner

CALL TO ORDER:

Acting Chair B. Coath called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

A. Douglas agreed to take minutes for the meeting. Committee members expressed their preference for rotating this duty.

MINUTES

MOVED M. Foster, SECONDED R. Horte that the Minutes of the regular Electoral Area 'G' Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee meeting held December 9, 2013 be approved.

CARRIED

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

MOVED A. Douglas, SECONDED R. Horte that the following correspondence be approved:

S. Mohan, Little Qualicum/Dashwood Emergency Preparedness, Re: Dashwood Hall Upgrades.

CARRIED

REPORTS

Monthly Update Regional and Community Parks and Trail Projects June – December 2013

Monthly Update Regional and Community Parks and Trail Projects –January 2014

Dashwood Hall Upgrades Update (verbal)

Further to the December meeting, Parks Services Manager Wendy Marshall provided an update on the requested cost estimates for renovations at the Little Qualicum Hall on Centre Rd.

Accessibility: estimated \$16,000 for a ramp, 2nd door and renovations to both washrooms. Estimated cost for plans is an additional \$3,000.

Septic: New septic field estimated at \$17,500. Currently there is no septic field in place.

The timing and sequence of renovations was discussed, as well as financing options. One option is to phase the necessary projects and finance the work over four budget years, beginning in late summer 2014 through to 2017.

There was also a discussion regarding opportunities for volunteer to participate in the renovations. Some jobs may be open to volunteers; however this has to be determined on a case by case basis, depending on whether specialized equipment or certification is required.

MOVED M. Foster, SECONDED R. Horte that staff be directed to look at financing alternatives and project scheduling, including the possibility of financing the entire Dashwood Hall project at once.

CARRIED

E & N Regional Trail Update (verbal)

Kelsey Kramer, Park Planner provided an update on the proposed multi-use rail/trail project that will result in 10 km of additional trails between Parksville, Coombs and Qualicum beach. Proposals are being received. Public and stakeholder consultation is planned.

Currently the trail width is 3 m; Mike Foster commented that equestrian use works better with a 4 m width. Federal funding is available for design and construction of these trails. Further to Mr. Foster's suggestion, Ms. Kramer will contact additional equine stakeholder groups.

Community Parks and Trails Work Plan 214

The finalized Community Parks and Trails Strategic Plan January 2014 was presented

MOVED R. Horte, SECONDED M. Foster that the reports be received.

CARRIED

COMMITTEE ROUND TABLE

There was a discussion around opportunities for having developers assist with clearing approved parkland while equipment is on site, and before homes are constructed. Staff advised that there is no provision for this under existing legislation; however developers are sometimes willing to participate in the development of community parks in addition to the land dedication.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED A. Douglas that the meeting be adjourned at 2:10pm.

Chairperson