

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

**MINUTES OF THE ELECTORAL AREA 'A' PARKS, RECREATION AND
CULTURE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
HELD WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2016
7:00PM**

(CEDAR HERITAGE CENTRE)

Attendance: Alec McPherson, RDN Director, Chair
Jim Fiddick
Patti Grand
John O'Connor
Bernard White
Angela Davies
Andrew Thornton

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

Regrets: Kerri-Lynne Wilson
Graham Gidden

CALL TO ORDER

Chair McPherson called the meeting to order at 7:07pm.

ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIR

Commissioner White nominated Commissioner O'Connor for Deputy Chair.

There being no further nominations, Chair McPherson declared Commissioner O'Connor Deputy Chairperson of the EA 'A' Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission for 2016.

ELECTION OF GRANT SUB-COMMITTEE

Commissioners White, O'Connor volunteered to serve as the EA 'A' Grants Sub-Committee for 2016. An email will be sent Commissioner Gidden to ask him to continue on the Sub-Committee for 2016.

DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATION

None

MINUTES

MOVED Commissioner White, SECONDED Commissioner O'Connor that the Minutes of the Regular Electoral Area 'A' Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission meeting held November 18, 2015 be adopted.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

NONE

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

NONE

REPORTS

PARKS

Monthly Update of Regional and Community Parks and Trail Projects

Ms. McCulloch took questions about the reports from Commissioners.

MOVED Commissioner O'Connor, SECONDED Commissioner Davies that the Monthly Updates be received.

RECREATION

Sport Court Update

Director McPherson updated that when the newly elected Snuneymuxw council is place the agreement process for the sport court will continue to be developed.

2016 Budget Timeline and Process (handout)

Chair McPherson reviewed the budget handouts. Ms. McCulloch noted the parks projects set for 2016.

MOVED Commissioner White, SECONDED Commissioner O'Connor that the Recreation and Budget reports be received.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM DELEGATIONS OR COMMUNICATIONS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

BCRPA Symposium – April 2016

The commissioners discussed attending the BCRPA Symposium and decided that Commissioner Thornton and Commissioner O'Connor would attend on behalf of the Commission.

Canada 150 – Sub- Committee Terms of Reference

Commissioner Grand and O'Connor volunteered to sit on the Canada 150 Sub-Committee. Ms. King will email Commissioners Wilson and Gidden to ask if they would like to sit on this committee.

COMMISSIONER ROUND TABLE

Commissioner Davies – She had her baby in October and is enjoying her time off in the community. She noticed the horse trail sign at Hemer Park was missing.

Commissioner White - Fire department has a building that will be burned down in a couple of months. He noted the Rainwater Harvesting book that the RDN provides and pointed out the resource publications that are available from the RDN and other sources that are good tools. Looking forward to gardening season.

Chair McPherson – He provided some information about Rainwater Harvesting and Emergency preparedness in response to Bernie's comments. He noted the need for Emergency Services volunteers in the area.

Commissioner O'Connor – He enjoyed a trip to Budapest and Vienna and was amazed by the giant festivals in the parks and wondered how something similar would happen here.

Commissioner Grand – Asked about the possibility of the committee meeting socially. She noted that the Canada 150 could be the start of what John was speaking about for a festival.

Commissioner Thornton – He told the Commission that he is transitioning his career and pursuing social work. He will be completing a program this year.

Commissioner Fiddick – He is trying to organize a Farm/Rural safety information session with Tom Armet, fire department and Forest Services in the spring at the Cedar Hall.

There has been a new group formed called the Cedar Trail Stewards to look at all the trails in the Cedar area and access. They have a meeting on March 10th at the Cedar Community Hall. Boat Harbour area is their main concern.

Commissioner Fiddick mentioned the vandalism, dumping and gun shooting happening at the end of Spruston Rd. It has been reported to the Nanaimo RCMP. Chair McPherson suggested reporting to the Ladysmith RCMP as it would be their jurisdiction.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED Commissioner Fiddick that the meeting be adjourned at 8:15pm.

CARRIED

Chair