



**REVISED** Minutes of the Regular meeting of the Area I (Youbou/Meade Creek) Parks Commission held in the Lower Community Hall, 8550 Hemlock Street, Youbou, BC, on Tuesday, October 11, 2016 at 7:06 pm.

**PRESENT:** Marcia Stewart, Chairperson  
Rob Somers, Vice-Chair  
Rose Davidson, Recording Secretary  
Duncan Hume

**ALSO PRESENT:** Klaus Kuhn, Area I Director  
Ryan Dias, CVRD Parks Operations Superintendent

**APPROVAL OF  
AGENDA**

**It was moved and seconded that the agenda be approved**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ADOPTION OF  
MINUTES:**

**It was moved and seconded that the revised minutes of the Regular Area I (Youbou/Meade Creek) Parks meeting of September 13, 2016 be adopted.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**BUSINESS  
ARISING**

Marcia Stewart reported that Brian Farquhar confirmed **Christopher Rock** is neither part of CVRD Parks, nor part of Regional Parks.

**REPORTS:**

**AREA I  
DIRECTOR  
KLAUS KUHN:**

Klaus recently had a meeting with **Jeffrey Zweig, CEO of Timberwest, and the Chief Forester** and discussed with them the possibility of allowing that a public trail be built to go up **Christopher Rock**. Ryan Dias mentioned that CVRD could enter into a 5-year agreement with Timberwest, which would restrict logging near the trail and it would be covered by the CVRD insurance umbrella. Similar arrangements have been reached in other areas, however, there is no guarantee that, after the expiry of such an agreement, Timberwest would want to renew it. In any case, the Chief Forester expressed to Klaus that he would like to attend the next Town Hall Meeting. Klaus thinks Timberwest want to improve their public image. Jeffrey Zweig recognizes that, at the very minimum, they need to acknowledge that there have been problems.

**Regional Recreation Group** - Discussions have started with the aim to have a Regional Recreation Policy, which is not easy to do because some areas are too far spread apart; also, while Areas F and I constitute some of the highest paying areas, they might get the least use out of such an arrangement.

**Area I Parks Commission AGM** - Klaus would like to combine it with a **Town Hall Meeting** and will decide on a date for sometime in November. He also would like to organize a **Volunteer Appreciation Night** sometime in November as well.

**Mile 77 Picnic Shelter and improved beach access** - Work on the shelter should start in November. Klaus also has had discussions about opening up three “beach pockets” in the park.

**COWICHAN LK RECREATION  
L.BLATCHFORD:**

Cowichan Lake Recreation has had a great response to fall programs with 273 registrations thus far; in addition, people make use of the drop-in programs they are also running.

Hockey is in full swing. Curling started this week and both league nights are full. The bowling league programs are getting off the ground and are looking for more bowlers. There are three league programs: Sunday Mixed; Tuesday Men’s and Thursday Ladies – new bowlers always welcome…… otherwise open Friday nights for drop-in family bowling and Saturday night drop-in adults. Saturday nights have been doing especially well.

Budget meeting will be held` October 27<sup>th</sup>.

None

**CHAIRPERSON  
M. STEWART:**

**OB 1**

**Sunset Beach “Public Access”** - The Tourist Office corrected the maps it hands out and blacked-out all information referring to this area. They will also make sure it will be corrected when new maps go into print. It is a difficult situation to control because CVRD has no jurisdiction over parking or the beach itself. It was suggested that installing a much larger and prominent sign for the Spring Beach Recreational Forest Services Park, which is further down the road, might help direct people there.

**OB 2**

**Arbutus Park Revitalization -**

Graham Gidden reports that, for the remainder of 2016, efforts will be put into planning and pre-construction to develop information that can be provided to a contractor:

1. Property survey
2. Assessment of existing septic system and utilities to determine the scope of upgrades necessary to achieve our goals.
3. Conduct a Hazmat inspection of the washroom building which will better define cost of demolition.
4. Develop detailed construction drawings for the washroom building.
5. Prepare the contract for January 2017 which includes demolition and construction of all new utilities and amenities.

Washroom building design work should be done this fall. Design work will be put out for RFP this week; some Hazmat work is also still planned this fall on the old building, as well as investigating the water and septic systems so that we comprehend exactly what is needed. The aim is to have a contract ready to go to tender in January 2017.

Duncan Hume asked Ryan Dias why, on the west side of the Arbutus Park dock, some of the boom logs have been doubled up and he expressed his opinion that this is dangerous. Ryan: most likely because that's the side most affected by storms and they might have used left-over logs. He is hoping there will be enough money left in the Arbutus Revitalization budget to reconstruct portions of the dock. Ryan also asked to spread the word that it would be very instructive, if people could video the wave action during the next winter storms – it would help him when explaining the situation to the insurance company.

**NB 1**

**Budget Discussion for 2017 -**

Ryan Dias handed copies of the draft budget to the members of the Area I Parks Commission and pointed out that it is based on previous years' knowledge and upcoming projects and the only person that can make changes is Klaus Kuhn. Final approval is expected in December to start spending in January of 2017. Also, this is the last year surpluses can be used, as of next year they will have to go into "Operating Reserve". Asset management program will forecast life of buildings and use the operating reserve to fund.

A review of all items in the draft budget and lengthy discussion ensued. Some of the questions that came up:

1. How much use does the Little League Park actually get (Marcia Stewart will check with Linda Blatchford); if not enough use, could it be converted into an "off-leash" doggy park?
2. Would it make economic sense to cut back on mowing costs i.e. leave the grassy area surrounding the Horseshoe Pit uncut? Or parts of Mile 77 and Stoker? Or reduce mowing frequency?
3. Is the pedestrian bridge in Swordfern Park (replacement cost \$25,000) really needed?

At the end, **Klaus Kuhn asked Ryan Dias to see if the 2017 budget could be cut by \$14,000 and to present us with options.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**It was moved and seconded that the Regular Meeting of Area I (Youbou/ Meade Creek) Parks Commission be adjourned.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm**

**The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 15, 2016.**