



Minutes
Electoral Area A – Mill Bay/Malahat Parks & Recreation Commission
November 9, 2017

Present: April Tilson, Brook Adams, Sharon Arnold, David Keir, Bonnie Mills,
Director Kerry Davis

Absent: Libby Connor and Nancy Crichton

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by April Tilson

Discussion of Draft Bylaw No. 4153-the establishment of Parks Commissions in CVRD:

No formal action has been taken to adopt the draft of Bylaw No. 4153 for 2018 as there is no clear wording on volunteer participation and coordination for parks to support this bylaw at this time.

There is wording to reflect the need for paid staff member to attend each meeting for purposes of communicating recommendations to the CVRD. This seems to obviate the loss of our Area Director to our membership and increase the CVRD budget with an additional salaried employee. Is the salaried staff member to be the Chair?

After a lengthy discussion regarding the function of our Area Director as it was recommended that the bylaw reflect the real mission of our advisory committee by continuing the membership of our Area Director so that he can continue to report our recommendations so as to control the growing bureaucracy of the CVRD.

Description of South Cowichan Parks Commission meeting October 23, 2017:

The Chair reviewed the survey regarding Cobble Hill/Quarry Nature Park. The parks are well used by a variety of age groups and for a variety of recreational activities. New signage is up to allow for trail difficulty (rabbit, hare and elk). However, there are 5 separate and adjoining parks in the Cobble Hill recreational area; each administered separately.

Discussion of Bright Angel Park Draft Management Plan:

It was noted that this is a 2017 to 2032 lease from the Provincial parks and the park is in need of significant capital improvements. Will this continue to provide recreational use for our communities? After the significant and costly improvements are made, will or could this property be sold to private group for development? No recommendations were made.

Budget addition:

In addition to the above planned agenda the Director informed the group of the \$20,000 added to the budget (estimated \$1.68/100,000 assessed property value with the average residential value being \$450,000 it would amount to \$8.00 tax increase) and transferred into capital reserves to be set aside for trail developments when we are allowed to pursue trail development. No motion was needed but the transfer of \$20,000 to the capital reserve funds for the purpose of future trail development was readily supported.

There is in the future a date to be set for "Volunteer Appreciation Dinner". The recommendation is that it be either February but preferably a January event, considering the increase of social activities we all have in the month of December.

It was moved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Bonnie Mills