



Cobble Hill Parks Commission Meeting
December 4th, 2017
Youth Hall - 3665 Watson Avenue, Cobble Hill, B.C.
Minutes

Present: John Krug – Chair, Bill Turner, Gord Dickenson, Dennis Cage, Ruth Koehn, Lynn Wilson, Jennifer Symons, Annie Ingraham

Regrets: Allan Seal, Matteus Cement – Area “C” Regional director

Guest: Brenda Donn

Moved/seconded *that the agenda is approved as circulated.* Carried

Moved/seconded *that the minutes of the November 6th, 2017 are adopted as circulated.*

Carried

Volunteer hours: 2

Correspondence: Staff report on volunteer activities:

- Questions were asked as to the reason for a Staff member only to supervise volunteer activities when formerly it was the Regional Director or Alternate Director?
- Another question was: How was the mandated number of 7 commission members arrived at when formerly the number of members on Parks Commissions and Advisory Planning Commissions was at the discretion of the Regional Director?
- Also, the mechanics of selecting a Parks Commissioner are unclear. Obviously the Regional Board appoints these members, but that is a rubber stamp procedure only. Each Electoral Area is unique, and the number of Parks Commissioners varies greatly amongst them. The Area Director is aware of who in the community would be valuable commission member; the same holds true for APCs. These commissions are advisory groups and not overarching such as Economic Development and Environmental that encompass the entire CVRD. The rationale given for an uneven number of commission members was to prevent ties in voting. This is simply unnecessary, as in our 10 year experience, we have never had a tie, and it is unknown how many commissioners will be in attendance at a given meeting.

Further information and discussion is required.

Business Arising From the Minutes:

Cobble Hill Common:

- Motion – Moved/seconded *that gas tax funding should be used to complete the Common Project and not funds from the Cobble Hill Parks budget.* Carried.
- Band shell – A low cost, temporary band shell option was discussed as a trial, with the objective of determining the feasibility of a permanent structure.

Quarry Nature Park Traffic Study:

- The study provided some valuable information with the 51 respondents, however, to be statistically significant considering the number of visitors, 500 responses would be required. The picture of parked vehicles at the yellow gate up Empress Avenue is a separate issue from parking at QNP. These visitors are entering the Regional Recreation Area and would not park at the base of Cobble Hill Mountain if there was a parking lot the size of Costco's. If these vehicles are illegally parked, it is an enforcement issue. If they are legally parked, there is no issue.

South Cowichan Parks Meeting of October 23rd, 2017 Report:

- Lynn Wilson, SCPC Chair, reported on key items discussed at the meeting, including Graham Gidden's presentation of the Quarry Nature Park Visitor Survey and the Bright Angel Park Draft Management Plan, and a motion to ask CVRD staff to review the South Cowichan Parks Commission function in 2018.

Unfinished Business:

- Motion – *that Staff approach MoTI to determine if the right-of-way on the north side of the Common could be purchased, and further that the information be given to the Area Director.*

New Business:

- John Krug will be taking a sabbatical from the Cobble Hill Parks Commission while he assists the Heritage Museum Project. He requested that Lynn Wilson assume the Chair in his absence. Lynn agreed, providing that she stands for election at the January meeting. An election will be held on January 8th for the positions of Chair, Alternate Chair and Secretary.
- The project on William Shearing Park has been largely completed, although there is some grass planting and other minor items to be finished as the weather allows in the spring.

The next regular meeting of the Cobble Hill Parks Commission will be held Monday, January 8th, 2018 at 7:00 pm in the Youth Hall on 3665 Watson Avenue

Adjournment: 8:30 pm

Submitted by John Krug