

Minutes of the Cobble Hill Parks and Recreation Commission meeting held on Tuesday, March 26th 2013 at 7 pm in the Youth Hall on Watson Avenue in Cobble Hill.

Those present: John Krug – Chair, Annie Ingraham, Jennifer Symons, Bill Turner, Gord Dickenson, Al Garside, Alan Seal, Lynn Wilson and Director Gerry Giles.

Apologies: Ruth Koehn, Dennis Cage

Moved/second

that the agenda be accepted as amended by adding the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, Volunteer Form, Boatswain Park, Mural and meeting night to it.

MOTION CARRIED

Moved/second

that the minutes of the Cobble Hill Parks and Recreation Commission Annual General Meeting held on March 7th, 2013 be accepted as distributed.

MOTION CARRIED

Moved/second

that the minutes of the Cobble Hill Parks and Recreation Commission meeting of January 24th 2013 be accepted as distributed.

MOTION CARRIED

New Business:

- 1) A concept plan for Quarry Nature Park, drafted by Graham Gidden of the CVRD Parks department, was presented and briefly discussed. The parks commission agreed to revisit this plan once the washroom was finished and it could be determined how much soil will be disposed of on site.
- 2) Comments have been received over the years about smoking in Quarry Nature Park and Cobble Hill Parks in general. Extensive discussion took place after which it was

Moved/second

that Quarry Nature Park be designated as a no smoking area and that the appropriate signs be displayed.

MOTION CARRIED

- 3) The bike park is in need of repairs and it was noted that Matthuw Ronald-Jones is trying to arrange a meeting with the young people in the area to determine what they would like to see in the park. After this is determined then work parties will be scheduled. It is unfortunate the park was not be open during spring break.
- 4) The Special Event bike race function was discussed after which it was

Moved/second

that the Cobble Hill Parks and Recreation Commission approve of the Cowichan Valley Cycling Club application to hold a cross-country mountain bike race using

Quarry Park as their base on Sunday, April 21st 2013 subject to the conditions set out by CVRD Parks staff. MOTION CARRIED

- 5) It was agreed top dressing was needed on the Hammond Way trail near McAlpine and Lefran Roads. To be followed up either by summer students or by volunteers.
- 6) Lynn presented photos and detailed concerns about the Ratcliffe to Telegraph Road trail and some areas within the Manley Creek trail system. It was agreed these photos would be provided to parks staff and that, if possible, summer students should address the areas shown as part of their work program.

Of particular concern was the blow out in Manley Creek that is eroding the trail and needs a culvert and the trails that need top dressing. Also needing attention are areas of Ratcliffe trail that continue to be muddy and have exposed tree roots.

- 7) Bill expressed concern at the meeting nights fluctuating between Tuesday and Thursday nights. He would like to see them set at the fourth Thursday of the month. It was agreed every attempt will be made to accommodate this request.
- 8) Commission members signed the Volunteer Forms provided by the CVRD Parks department.

Old Business:

- 1) Work will begin next week on the washroom in Quarry Nature Park. Director Giles mentioned the Dyson Hand Dryers and Electric Door Timers had been excluded from the tenders by parks staff to ensure the quotes came in below budget.

Moved/second

that the Cobble Hill Parks Commission direct these items be installed during the washroom construction and not be put off to a later date. MOTION CARRIED

- 2) An update was provided on the Dog Park's new bench installation along with proposed fountain improvements. Drafting a thank you letter to the dog park users expressing the appreciation of the parks commission for their efforts in keeping the park clean was discussed and agreed upon.
- 3) Top dressing of the Watson trail has not been done. Hopefully, this work can be undertaken by the volunteers soon with the help of a machine to move the material.
- 4) The commission was updated on the work planned for the Common. This includes: planning around the new kiosk, spreading topsoil and planting grass in a half moon shape around the sign to help retain winter water on site and installing the historical wall. The commission viewed the sample backing for the wall and it was agreed the concrete needs to be lighter in colour than the terrazzo shown. John will take the

commission's comments back to the Historical Society and report back on the colour scheme.

- 5) The parks questionnaire has been mailed to residents of Aros Road. It is hoped many responses will be received so they can help guide future improvements of this park. It was noted this park is among the oldest in our park holdings.
- 6) It was reported that TELUS has given permission to mount the Evergreen Independent School mural on the side of their building. Gerry and John will coordinate this effort.

Directors Report:

The Director reported on the current situation regarding possible tax increases / decreases to Cobble Hill residents. She indicated whether your CVRD tax will increase or decrease depends entirely upon whether your assessment has gone up or down and by how much. She also reported on the SIA meeting held in Shawnigan Lake and on the situation with Dirty Dirt facing the entire Cowichan Valley. Gerry also reported she had yet to hear from Vicki.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 am.

John Krug - Chair