

COBBLE HILL PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, November 10th 2009 7:00 pm.
Arbutus Ridge Board Room

MINUTES

Those present: Richard Shaw, Lynn Wilson, Bill Turner, Ian Sparshu, Gordon Dickenson, John Krug – Chair and Gerry Giles Regional Director.

Regrets: Linden Collette, Alan Seal.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by the Chair.

Moved/seconded

that the agenda be adopted as amended with additions. MOTION CARRIED

Moved/seconded

that the minutes of September 21st 2009 be adopted as circulated.
MOTION CARRIED

Business Arising from the Minutes:

1. An update was provided on the Cobble Hill Parks Budget and questions were answered regarding the motion from our September 21, 2009 minutes about the surplus funds going into reserve. It was agreed that while the replacement reserve fund was an excellent program we should also accumulate funds in reserve to undertake capital projects like the washroom facility for Cobble Hill Mountain.
2. Cobble Hill Parks & Trails Master Plan update was provided by John. The plan will now not be ready until the second week of January so our next meeting should be at the call of the Chair to review the plan.
3. No action has been taken on the Fisher/Telegraph Road property. Ian, John, Lynn and Linden will follow up.

Old Business:

- With the installation of the pathway through the Farmers Institute field, the installation of the electrical work and the installation of the black steel fence, the Cenotaph project is now complete. It was noted that the fence has been donated to the project by Tower Fence.

- The Trees for Tomorrow project is now underway. Thanks to Island Irrigation for the excellent work done on replacing the railway ballast and to Gordon and John for finding the culvert at the corner of Cobble Hill Road and Empress Avenue. Gord Truswell is currently leveling the site and the tenders for the landscaping will hopefully be let within the next week or so.
- Gordon Dickenson provided an update on the area that will eventually provide Horse Trailer parking, which is located next to the dog park. The trees fell by the JOP crew were cut and removed.
- An update on the works yard was provided. Hopefully by the end of the year this will be accomplished.
- The main content of what will be the gifting brochure was presented by Lynn. Gerry will put this into brochure format while also including spaces for parks photos.
- Richard provided an update of the Bike Park which included a report on the work done by the main bike park users consisting of Richard, his two sons, Dan and thirteen other young people. The jumps were rejuvenated and the old car body covered with more dirt. The park jumps will need to be updated and expanded in the spring.
- Ian reported his information on the disc golf possibility. It was agreed that before further work would be done on this we need to identify items like minimum site requirements, the terrain required, what a use like this would do to the under story of the park and what parking requirements might be needed. By collecting that information we should be able to determine whether a suitable site exists in one of Cobble Hill's parks for this activity.
- Ian updated the members on the South Cowichan Parks Commission meeting recently held. He said that the top priority for the Commission this year will be the Mill Bay Historical Church. It is hoped a Scope of Work will soon be developed and acted upon and that by the time of the Commission's January 23, 2010 Open House this information is available. He also indicated the South Cowichan Parks Commission has offered to assume the maintenance of Memorial Park.

Moved/Seconded

that the offer by the South Cowichan Parks Commission to assume the cost for maintaining the Memorial Park grounds (Cenotaph) be accepted with gratitude.

MOTION CARRIED

New Business:

1. The parks department has now assumed ownership of the new park off of Fairfield Road and the Commission will likely need to find some funds for this park in the 2010 budget. It was agreed that John and Bill would look at what needs to be done with this space in the near future.
2. A brief discussion took place on the Kerry Park referendum. Some points of clarification were provided.
3. A complaint has been received about the trail work done on Cobble Hill Mountain. Apparently, the operator of one of the stables feels that with the trail improvements the mountain no longer offers a wilderness experience.
4. The Hatch Point Trail is in need of repair as it has become very mucky on some parts. Lynn, John and Ian are to investigate and Richard will provide a sample stabilization product at the next meeting.

Director's Report:

Director Giles provided a brief report on a several items currently being considered by the District including the Bamberton proposal, growth in the South Cowichan area and future governance issues.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

John Krug, Chair