

Minutes of the CVRD Electoral Area E Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting held on October 7th, 2014, at 7 p.m. at the Glenora Community Hall.

Present: Frank McCorkell, Chair; Ron Smith, Secretary, Howard Heyd, Director Loren Duncan, Irene Evans, Larry Whetstone, Roland Brown, Paul Slade, Mike Lees and Brian Farquhar, Manager, CVRD Parks & Trails Division.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Minutes: The minutes of the June 24th 2014 meeting were distributed and reviewed.

Business Arising:

With respect to the playground facilities at **Maplewood Park** they will remain as is until 2016 and a neighbourhood survey will be taken to see what the residents would like to see replaced or changed. The playground facilities at **Keating Park** will be removed in 2015.

Brian Farquhar also mentioned that the access to the back of the **Glenora Trails Head Park** through a portion of the Cowichan River Provincial Park as outlined at the previous meeting will be discussed with B.C. Parks. Director Duncan indicated that he will be looking at this in a more 'vigorous' manner and briefly outlined the past financial support by the electoral area to B.C. Parks to enhance the provincial park through Area E.

New Business:

1. PARKS UPDATE

Chairman Frank McCorkell briefly reviewed some of the major projects undertaken at four parks.

a. **Currie Park:** During the past few months the improvements included the installation of a water storage tank and not a screen in the, irrigation system, new trees, and the installation of a large slide. All work undertaken was within budget.

b. **Glenora Trails Head Park:** This included a grassed area between the caretaker's residence and the outer parking lot, more rail fences along the access road and around the residence, a screen in the well, a new ¾ inch waterline to the washrooms and an expansion of the cookout shelter. Again all work was accomplished within the allocated budget.

c. **Hanks Road:** Approximately 120 metres of fencing was installed and more work will be undertaken in 2016.

d. **Bright Angel Park:** There has been a major transformation of the park during the past 8 months. This includes the installation of new washrooms, a new parking lot, new signage, more landscaping at the entrance to the park, new trails, areas cordoned off for vegetation rejuvenation and new picnic tables. In addition work is now underway on the upper field.

2. NEW WAYS TO FUND COMMUNITY PARKS

There was a short discussion with respect to acquiring funding for community parks other than the general tax base. A number of ideas were put forth and could be looked at in the future.

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3. BUDGET REVIEW AND PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2015

Brian Farquhar explained how the Parks and Trails Division would like to plan for future work undertaken at the various community parks within the electoral area. He mentioned it would be good to not only have a single year budget but also project up to three years in advance where major new capital work would be proposed and a general dollar figure allocated.

Mr. Farquhar then provided a more detailed review of revenues and proposed expenditures for 2015. A budget outline was provided to each Commissioner.

The following are some of the suggested alterations or projects to be undertaken at various parks in 2015.

a) Wake Lake: It was requested that a small garbage can (with a small opening) be put at the park as well as a doggie bag dispenser. It was requested that the maintenance staff monitor the amount of garbage and type of garbage being disposed at the nature area. If household garbage is being dumped at the park, staff will inform the Commission that changes will be required.

b) Sunrise Road Park: Because of the addition to the park and a need to improve the access, an additional \$10,000 will be allocated to undertake a plan to determine what work will be required.

c) Community Parks Major Capital Projects: There was a discussion with respect to the paving of the Glenora Trails Head Park inner parking lot and a portion of the access road in front of the caretaker's residence. Because this is a major capital expenditure the Chairman explained that alternative funding sources were being explored.

d) Currie Park: There was a general discussion regarding the next phase of the development at the park which would be a major capital expenditure. It was felt that should a picnic shelter be constructed that better washroom facilities than are presently on site may be required. Some felt that a shelter would increase the park use considerably. It was decided that more investigation should be undertaken and the staff explore options that may be available for washrooms. Furthermore, it may worthwhile to get feedback from the community.

4. AREA E COMMUNITY PARKS/PATHWAY MASTER PLAN

Brian Farquhar concluded the review of the budget by mentioning that over the next year some funds should be set aside to start the master plan. This plan would guide the development of the parks and trails over the next ten to twenty years.

5. OTHER PROJECTS: A number of other projects that should be planned for were also discussed including holding special events at certain parks and additional public relations.

This concluded the review of the budget. The Commission thanked Brian for attending the meeting and explaining in detail the Area E Community Parks and Recreation 2014 expenditures and 2015 proposed budget.

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5. Other Business

Director Duncan briefly mentioned his concern about the blocking of legal right-of-ways within the Electoral Area by a land owners and said this matter looked into and will report back to the Commission at a later date.

6. Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 4th, 2014 at 7 p.m. at the Sahtlam Fire Hall.

8. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

File: Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting,
October 7, 2014