

Present: Frank McCorkell, Chair, Ron Smith, Director Loren Duncan, John Ramsey, Mike Lees, Larry Whetstone, Howard Heyd, Patty John, Irene Evans, Brian Farquhar, CVRD Parks & Trails Manager

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

Minutes: The minutes of the August 30, 2011 meeting were distributed prior to the meeting and reviewed by all commission members. Frank McCorkell mentioned that the community picnic held at the Glenora Trails Head Park was very successful and there was an overwhelming positive feed back with respect to the park's development from those attending. Brian Farquhar added that of all the Commissions that hold a similar appreciation event ours seems to be the best attended.

Business Arising:

1. Boys Road Kiosk: The Commission was informed that the kiosk has not been built yet (but the material has been acquired), nor has the final format for the presentation of the information on the panels. This will be done in the near future. There was also discussion about the trail between Boys Road heading south to Allenby Road and on the south towards Miller Road.

2. Cowichan River Bridge Crossing Study: There was a feeling that this study should be put on hold. However, there may be an opportunity to acquire additional parkland to assist with this project. This and other matters regarding this project should be discussed in greater detail at another Commission meeting.

New Business:

1. 2012 Draft Budget

Brian Farquhar presented the Commission members with the draft budget. He first outlined what was spent and on the various major projects during the present fiscal year. In the upcoming (2012) budget there is a proposal for a slight increase in the tax requisition. Also, Ron Smith suggested the Fairbridge Park budget be increased to \$2,000 so some additional work could be tackled over and above that undertaken by the summer staff.

The maintenance for the grass play field at Cowichan Station was also discussed and the Commission was in agreement that the grass be only cut 10 times in 2012 instead of 20 times with more cuttings taking place earlier in the year (during the growing season) and fewer later in the fall. The Commission also said the maintenance contract will only be for the field on the south side of Koksilah Road.

At this point there was discussion about both the major and minor projects that were undertaken in 2011 and the Commission outlined a number of projects that could be done with the proposed budget of \$137,835. The Commission presented a number of projects that could be tackled and these were duly noted by Brian Farquhar and will be reflected in the budget.

2. Sahtlam Community Meeting

Mike Lees suggested that the CVRD mail the survey to all households on the Sahtlam rural postal route. It was suggested by the Commission that the survey be slightly revised. Since it will not only include those living within Electoral Area E that another question be added asking the respondents to mention where they live. Also, that residents be requested to return the questionnaire as soon as possible and that they could be dropped off at the Sahtlam Fire Hall on

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specific days. The Commission was in agreement with this suggestion and it is requested the parks department assist Mike in getting the survey distributed as soon as possible so the results could be reviewed at the next Commission meeting in late November.

3. Area D Parks and Trails Master Plan

There was a brief discussion regarding the master plan for Area D (Cowichan Bay) and the possibility of linking their trails system to ones in the Cowichan Station community (Area E). The map for their plan indicated three locations and the Area E Parks and Recreation Commission will consider joining our trails to theirs when our plan is being prepared in the future.

4. Rural Road Right-of-Way and Shoulder Improvements

This matter was brought up at the last Commission meeting and Brian Farquhar suggested that this would be an opportune time to do a 'shoulder widening vision' outlining work that could be undertaken as each of the major roads (or sections of roads) are repaved or improved. This will be undertaken at our next meeting.

The meeting moved into closed session.

The closed session meeting rose without report and returned to regular session.

5. Proposed Rezoning of 4695 Cowichan Lake Road

The memorandum on this application was distributed and reviewed by the Commission. After review the Commission was in agreement with the recommendation and that there be a 10 metre wide park/trail dedication made on the east side of the property and deeded to the CVRD as a fee simple title. Furthermore, it was recommended that an appropriate fence be constructed by the present property owners, at their cost, along the length of the parks boundary in a location and of a standard that meets the CVRD specifications.

6. Petition from Some Residents near the Eagle Heights Park

A petition was received from home owners, all who lived on Dogwood Road in the Eagle Heights area with regard to the small pocket park in their neighbourhood. Prior to making any decision on the park's future use or uses the Commission will do an on-site review at a later date.

7. Expansion of the Glenora Trails Head Park Public Parking

With the popularity of the park there is a need to provide another 'overflow' parking area. This could be located just to the east of the pump house and the project will be undertaken in 2011, and costs reflected in the budget.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 22nd at the Glenora Community Hall.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.