

Minutes of the Regular meeting of the Area I (Youbou/Meade Creek) Parks Commission held at Youbou Lanes, 8550 Hemlock Street, Youbou, BC, on Tuesday, June 11, 2013 at 7:01 pm.

PRESENT: Chairperson Marcia Stewart
Vice-Chairperson Gerald Thom
Rose Davidson, Dan Nickel, Rob Somers

ALSO PRESENT: Director Pat Weaver
Recording Secretary Tara Daly

REGRETS: Ken Wilde

GUESTS: George deLure, Bill Gibson, Mike Marrs, Karen Dunnigan

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved and seconded that the agenda be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of May 14, 2013 be adopted.

MOTION CARRIED

DELEGATION

D1

George deLure Re: Proposed Truck Wash

G. deLure expressed an awareness of the meeting of the Nature and Habitat Fund Advisory Committee on Thursday June 13th. G. deLure provided information on research that he has done on his own with respect to truck washes and wanted to voice his concern about the type of truck wash that would be installed and the fact that it may or may not solve the problem with the dust and dirt.

G. deLure also spoke of the Cowichan River and Lake Stewardship Society and their constant search for funds. They continually seek grants and any other funding would be beneficial to their continued efforts.

There are currently two funds in Electoral Area I (Youbou/Meade Creek) focusing on the health of Cowichan Lake. In the first one, only the interest can be spent and is estimated to be \$3000-\$6000; the second one is at \$30 000.

Another source of funding could be \$50 000 given by the developers of Marble Bay, currently dedicated to be used for upgrading roads and pathways in the Meade Creek area. G. deLure suggested that those funds could be directed elsewhere.

G. deLure also suggested that by moving the truck wash to land by the Youbou Firehall or Youbou Lands property, some savings could be had – community water could be used thus the cost of a well would be gone; hydro would be available without high costs of installation; better security because the area would be more visible. Always looking for ways to

increase employment for our depressed area, G. deLure suggested the truck wash could be managed by a contractor and a 'bun-wagon' offering coffee and light snacks could be put in place.

REPORTS

**AREA I
DIRECTOR**

- Director Weaver
- The Nature and Habitat Fund Advisory Committee is meeting on Thursday, June 13th, in the lower Youbou Community Hall; although a committee meeting, everyone is encouraged to come
 - The no smoking bylaw recently put in place for CVRD buildings and land is proving problematic for Cowichan Lake Recreation. Within the buildings and land for CLR, some properties belong to the Town of Lake Cowichan. CVRD staff continue to work on a solution.

**COWICHAN LAKE
RECREATION**

- L. Blatchford
- Lake Days last weekend; dance with Maxwell Smart celebrating their Silver Anniversary
 - Chamber of Commerce bowling mixer July 24; anxious to show facility to Chamber members
 - Cowichan Lake Recreation will again hold July 1st celebrations at Mesachie Lake
 - Youbou Regatta will be August 10th; Parks Commission members have again been asked to volunteer cooking in the concession
 - *Members of the Commission suggested that the profits raised at the Youbou Regatta concession be targeted to help pay for a new lifeguard/washroom building at Arbutus Park*
 - Lifeguards will be on duty from July 2 to August 31; they start planning at the end of June

CHAIRPERSON

- M. Stewart
- Flag raising at Arbutus Park on July 1st at 11 am
 - Ken Wilde's resignation was received

It was moved and seconded that a letter be written to Ken Wilde, thanking him for the time he spent as a member of the Area I (Youbou/Meade Creek) Parks Commission.

MOTION CARRIED

- Parks Chairs meeting has been postponed to June 19th

CVRD

- Ryan Dias
- M. Stewart presented the Staff Action Items from notes at the Parks and Trails Division Staff Meeting of May 28th, which reviewed the Area I Parks Commission minutes:
- Brent Wilson will assess the cuts logs on Price Park Trail and have the maintenance contractor install gravel around the showing roots on the trail as required
 - Brain Farquhar will contact G. Thom regarding the Woodland Shores rezoning application ~ *done*

- Brent Wilson has dealt with the encroachment issue at Swordfern Park
- Ryan Dias will provide the Commission with a cost for removal of invasive species, as well as for managing the reforested area within the Bald Mountain Community Upland Park ~ *not sent as yet*
- Ryan Dias will send, by email, the Commission pictures of the current CVRD standard for public washroom structures ~ *not sent as yet*

OLD BUSINESS

OB1

Dhillon Road – G. Thom met with MoTI and Doug Dhillon on site: MoTI had no idea the damage was as bad as it was and will have to investigate mitigation; the infractions are so deep that litigation is a possibility; process will be followed with a report coming back to Mr. Dhillon, G. Thom, and Director Weaver. The Cowichan River and Lake Stewardship Society would like to partner. MoTI would be responsible for the remediation of the riparian area with the Stewardship group improving the area.

NEW BUSINESS

NB1

Bald Mountain – G. Thom informed the Commission that there is a possibility that a section of Crown Land remaining on Bald Mountain could be logged by Lakefor Resources. The developers of Woodland Shores need subdivision approval for further development and one of the conditions from MoTI could be a right-of-way for log hauling. A public road would make it difficult to stop logging trucks from utilizing.

It was moved and seconded that the Area I (Yubou/Meade Creek) Parks Commission recommends to the Electoral Area Services Committee that they vehemently support the CVRD Parks staff and General Manager, Brian Farquhar, in their quest to quash the re-activation of a road, which would allow logging trucks access from the North Arm (Scout Camp), Block 170 area, permitting Lakefor Resources to remove logs logged from Crown Land.

MOTION CARRIED

NB2

Arbutus Park Lifeguard Hut – the Commission held a discussion with some ideas suggested for a new lifeguard/washroom facility at Arbutus Park.

Cowichan Lake Recreation forwarded their wish list which includes separate areas for summer equipment and maintenance equipment; upgraded washrooms including accessible/family washroom.

The Commission discussed whether a facility should be built for a decaying area or for growth in the area.

Some suggestions included:

- No family washroom – put change tables in both men and women
- Loft area for storage – current washroom buildings in the area have high ceilings making it possible
- Lifeguards – area for first aid, small table and chairs, microwave, kitchen sink, some storage for activities’ supplies – there may be minimum requirements from WorkSafe
- M. Stewart suggested that Commission members bring forward

spec drawings to next month's meeting

NB3

Commission Member's Reports on Individual Parks

- Nantree Park/Sunset Access (D. Nickel) – (Nantree) swim float needs cleaning, cross bars nailed to piling need to be removed to avoid injury, a new garbage can hasn't been installed – (Sunset) beach access has been breached, the lock on the bollard has been broken and the bollard removed, a derelict wharf has been launched posing a hazard
- Swordfern Park (R. Davidson) A woman living with her family nearby is concerned with the leaf blower used by the maintenance contractor, which seems to be damaging the root systems, she wonders if they are doing more harm than good, it used to be a spring and fall clean with clearing of branches as needed, seems to be done every two weeks – possibly some education for the maintenance contractors needs to be provided – similar problem in Price Park is probably the result of the same type of maintenance
- Mile 77 Park (G. Thom) Everything seems to be fine, washrooms have been cleaned regularly
- Stoker Park/Playfield (R. Somers) The CVRD contractor, Easy Living Holdings, tested sprinklers at Playfield and Stoker Park on April 9th, trails were cleaned and some mowing done; a concrete pad was poured and the park bench installed around April 19th on the beach at Stoker Park - looks great; dispensers for canine clean up containers were installed at Stoker Park, Playfield and on the sign in the parking lot across from Stoker Park (Bald Mountain Park); one of the garbage containers was removed from Stoker Park and concrete pads were poured for single containers at the Playfield and next to the sign in Bald Mountain Park so there's a net gain of one garbage container for the area; some alders were cut down and left near the new park bench at Stoker Park – R. Somers asked Brent Wilson, the Parks Field Operations Supervisor why, and was told that it had been decided that the trees were dead or dying and too close to what he called a target (the new bench), it was also the reason for cutting three or four trees near some picnic tables behind the washrooms that M. Stewart had asked R. Somers to check on, the liability was too great to leave them, it is the opinion of R. Somers that these trees should have been cut up and removed, not left where they were, there is plenty of organic material already rotting on the ground in the park, and these cut trees not only look bad, but they make it impossible for anyone to walk through the area off the trail; the water was turned on in the washrooms at Stoker Park and they are being unlocked daily for the summer; on May 9th, both parks were mowed for the first time this season; Playfield Park is in reasonable condition but Stoker Park is very wet and soggy, R. Somers sent an email to Brent Wilson on April 30th to voice his opinion on the drainage, plus suggested the removal of the cut trees – no reply, improving the drainage in the park would probably be very expensive and we'll be entering the summer drought period soon enough; R. Somers also mentioned that he had met a couple, Debbie and Joe, residents of Sunny

Beach Estates and friends of G. Thom, with their dog, walking on Marble Bay Road, carrying a garbage bag and picking up litter between the top of the hill and Stoker Park, they had gathered a bag full and put it in the garbage container at Stoker Park – R. Somers thanked them for being such good citizens

- Arbutus Park (M. Stewart) The grass is growing in well, the gardens look good, the sand has been raked on the beach but needs to be pushed towards the cement ramp to make it flush, a dead arbutus tree near the waterfront needs to be removed (G. Thom knows someone who may be interested in the arbutus tree and will remove the cut pieces), birch trees at park entrance need to be cut out
- Hard Hat Shack (M. Stewart) The maintenance contractors are trying to maintain the trail

NEXT MEETING

The next Regular meeting of Area I (Youbou/Meade Creek) Parks Commission will be held on July 9, 2013 at Youbou Lanes at 7:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

9:15 pm It was moved and seconded that the Regular Area I (Youbou/Meade Creek) Parks Commission meeting be adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.