

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, October 8, 2013 at 7:00 pm.

PRESENT: Chairperson Marcia Stewart
Vice-Chairperson Gerald Thom
Rose Davidson
Dan Nickel
Rob Somers
Director Pat Weaver

ALSO PRESENT: Al Capeling
Ryan Dias, Operations Superintendent,
Parks & Trails Division
Recording Secretary Tara Daly

M. Stewart introduced and welcomed Ryan Dias from the Cowichan Valley Regional District Parks & Trail Division and Al Capeling, gate keeper for the Little League Park.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved and seconded that the agenda be amended with the addition of one New Business item:

NB4 Cowichan Lake Shoreline Management Workshop PowerPoint presentation, and

that the agenda, as amended, be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

M1 It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the Regular Area I (Youbou/Meade Creek) Parks meeting of September 10, 2013 be adopted.

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING

- Power pole has been replaced at Arbutus Park and is now situated on Regional District Area I Parks property.

REPORTS

AREA I DIRECTOR

- Director Weaver
- The recommendation made by the CVRD Board to move through the process of potentially providing TimberWest with \$5,000 towards the installation of a Truck Wash was rescinded; TimberWest has not made any further decisions concerning the installation of the Truck Wash; residents on North Shore Road (TimberWest haul road) told Director Weaver they were hopeful that the Truck Wash would move forward as they saw it as a solution to

their ongoing problems with the dust

- The storage shed on the south side of the hall has been demolished, it contained asbestos
- There was a tour of the south end of the Regional District for the directors Friday, October 3rd; touring the different areas of the Regional District is advantageous when determining decisions around the Board table

COWICHAN LAKE RECREATION

L. Blatchford

- J. Cummings is no longer working for Cowichan Lake Recreation
- Pickle Ball tournament at Youbou Hall on November 19-20
- Halloween – anyone interested in decorating a room for the haunted house is asked to call Vicki at the Youbou Hall; Youbou Volunteer Fire Department will be responsible for the fireworks again and this year will also barbeque hotdogs
- Youbou Lanes – Ladies bowling on Thursday evenings could use more participants; drop-in adult bowling is Saturday evenings and drop-in family bowling is Friday evenings; Men's bowling is starting in November; Mixed 10-pin is on Sunday evenings
- Efficient heat pumps have been installed in the Youbou Hall with temperature controlled by computer from Lake Cowichan
- Landscaping will complete the project of the demolition of asbestos shed
- \$160,000 was the cost of the removal of the shed and the installation of the heat pump

CHAIRPERSON

M. Stewart

- In an email sent to the Manager, Cowichan Lake Recreation asked that the Cowichan Lake Recreation Commission consider, in budget discussions, the possibility of adding funding to assist Area I Parks with the construction of a new washroom/lifeguard facility at Arbutus Park
- Wrote letter to B. Farquhar re: process to access reserve fund and selling of parks property – reply (as delivered by R. Dias): current reserves have been earmarked for matching grant funding (\$117,000) for washroom/lifeguard facility at Arbutus Park; with regards to the Creekside property (purchased for the potential extension of the sewer field), the Engineering Department has been asked to give a feasibility/update of future needs, the property could be purchased if it is deemed needed; Meade Creek Road (Greg Adams) park property – B. Farquhar had no response; rule of thumb is if Parks Commission chooses to sell parkland, the profit must be placed into the reserve fund to purchase future park land
- The proposal being considered is that any monies realized through the sale of park land would go towards purchasing of land for sale at Shaw Creek; Habitat Trust Fund, among other groups, are also interested in purchasing, it would be a group purchase but is in its infancy as to direction to be taken; if the Commission's wish is for a Regional Park, there could be access to a larger amount of money

It was moved and seconded that Area I (Youbou/Meade Creek) Parks Commission recommend to the Electoral Area Services Committee that CVRD Parks staff investigate the options and the requirements of disposing of Area I Parks’ lands, specifically at Creekside (sewer expansion) and Meade Creek (Palmer Way), to have funding available to purchase property at Shaw Creek.

MOTION CARRIED

CVRD

Ryan Dias

- Information given during budget discussions

OLD BUSINESS

OB1

Woodland Shores playfield – broom pulling update: R. Somers will organize a work party of residents and other interested parties, Brent Wilson has offered to provide a bin for disposal at no cost, 3 broom pullers available – R. Dias said that cutting as low as you can is preferable to pulling; getting the broom under control so that it is able to be mowed is probably the easiest; possibly a small excavator (backhoe) used to flatten the area then plant fast growing trees would be ultimate goal; it would be best to continue with the ground work now but research future strategy

NEW BUSINESS

NB1

Memorial Bench request for Helen Ann Croteau (Falen) – installation will start this week

NB2

Memorial Bench request for Gillian Irene Scott – R. Somers will contact Alan Scott for permission to install; should be able to get a donation of wood (G. Thom); the plaque will be personal donations by the Parks Commission members

NB3

Budget for 2014 – Ryan Dias

- The initial budget for 2014 will be presented to Finance by Friday, October 11th; Director Weaver can tweak any time before March 2014
- Only received \$117,500 in Federal Grant funding for 2013, only half of what was expected
- Projected surplus of \$4321 for 2013 would be carried forward to next year; requisition remains the same at \$116,000
- 2014 general expenditures will probably increase
- 5% increase projected for maintenance contract
- Operating budgets for individual parks will remain the same
- Future year proposed projection: washroom/lifeguard building at Arbutus Park – draw monies from reserves to get architectural drawings during budget year 2014

It was moved and seconded that the Area I (Youbou/Meade Creek) Parks Commission recommend to the Electoral Area Services Committee that no more than \$5,000 be removed from the Community Parks Area I Capital Reserve Fund and used for architectural drawings for a new washroom/lifeguard facility at Arbutus Park.

MOTION CARRIED

R. Dias, having only found out about the concern with the lip edge (the difference in height between the infield and outfield) at Little League Park, said it will be repaired before the beginning of the ball season

R. Dias also said leveling out around root areas, covering as much as possible will be completed in Price Park

The Park Maintenance Contract will be advertised as a year-round contract rather than 8 month; the Commission should consider any improvements/additions/deletions wanted on the maintenance contract

It was moved and seconded that the Area I (Youbou/Meade Creek) Parks Commission recommend to the Electoral Area Services Committee that the 2014 Area I (Youbou/Meade Creek) Parks budget, as presented, be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

NB4

G. Thom, in his capacity as president of Cowichan Lake and River Stewardship Society provided a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the fundamental issues and concerns identified by key stakeholders at the recently held Cowichan Lake Shoreline Management Workshop.

ADJOURNMENT

9:17 pm

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

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 pm.

The next Regular meeting of Area I (Youbou/Meade Creek) Parks Commission will be held on November 12, 2013 at the Youbou Upper Hall at 7:00 pm.