

**Minutes of a Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission Meeting
Held at Lewis Centre – Craft Room B, July 6th, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.**

Attending: Mary Crowley
Allan Douglas
Erik Eriksson
Iris Churchill
Bill Green
Michael Lynch
Carolyn Janes
Melanie McCollum (Council Representative)
Susie Saunders (Ex Officio)

Regrets: Tom Demeo

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Acknowledgements

The group acknowledged that the land on which the meeting is conducted is the Unceded Traditional Territory of the K'ómoks First Nation, the traditional keepers of this land.

Adoption of Previous Meeting Minutes

MINUTES Moved by Carolyn and seconded by Mary that the minutes of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission meeting on Thursday, July 6th, 2023, to be adopted as read. **Carried**

New Business

AQUATIC STRATEGY: PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT RE: OUTDOOR POOL Draft Aquatic Services Strategy went to Council earlier this year then posted online for public input, received 70 responses in total. Additional input is required on recommendations specific to outdoor pool. Plan is to get input from public in August and take input to Council mid-fall. Pool requires substantial investment in maintenance and repair.

BUDGET 2023 OUTCOMES: MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION & PLAYGROUND INVESTMENTS: Portion of funding received from Province's Growing Communities Fund has been allocated to playground renewal and Parks and Recreation Master Plan implementation. Riverside Fit Park is funded in 2023 capital budget for renewal.

Playground Standards Guideline – consultant will be hired to develop guidelines to support playground planning (accessibility issues, adventure playgrounds, shade etc.). **Note:** this does not include sports playing fields but does include amenities that would be found at playgrounds.

PUBLIC WASHROOMS IN PARKS General discussion on operations of public washrooms in parks. Currently operated in two different ways (open daily dawn to dusk or open during

permitted bookings). Discussion regarding operating models and managing access and vandalism.

CANADA DAY

Was an amazing success! There is a volunteer committee that organizes the event. We need to consider how to keep this event running well in coming years.

Old Business

STAN HAGEN NATURE PARK

Renaming event will be held at end of August.

CULTURAL STRATEGIC PLAN

Entertainment at Courtenay Downtown Summer Market 2- 5:30 pm
Wednesday, July 12, 2023

Next Meeting

Thursday, September 14th at 6:30 PM, location to be determined.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.