

Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Meeting

Date: Thursday June 6, 2024 at 6:30 pm

Location: Lewis Centre – Craft Room A

We respectfully acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the Unceded traditional territory of the K'ómoks First Nation, the traditional keepers of this land.

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

Regrets: Irish Churchill

Minutes

Adoption of Minutes

- April 4, 2024 meeting minutes adopted

New Business

1. Safety in our Parks and Recreation Areas (Bill Green)

- Committee discussion of impacts of sheltering, substance use, and mental health issues in City's parks and recreation spaces and impact on participation of residents in recreation activities in parks.
- Discussion of PRAC's role in expressing and sharing these concerns with City Council
- Guest: Mike Kurvers, Manager of Bylaw Services, City of Courtenay, gave overview of bylaw services as it relates to parks:
 - Reviewed legislation that allows sheltering in parks 7:00pm-9:00am daily; current bylaw allows sheltering in all parks, proposed bylaw before Council recommends reducing number of parks available for sheltering
 - Certain parks are visited daily while others are on an as needed basis
 - Email bylaw@courtenay.ca with any bylaw concerns or issues
 - Email mkurvers@courtenay.ca with any follow up questions
- City also invested in and hired a Community Development Coordinator in 2023
- Action:** email suggestions / ideas towards addressing the issues to Bill for consideration at a future PRAC meeting

2. Recreation Code of Conduct – Deferred to next meeting

3. Outdoor Pool Update (Susie Saunders, City)

- 75th Anniversary of Outdoor Pool in 2024. Free swims all summer!
- Wading Pool requires significant repairs and will be closed for the summer.

Old Business

1. PRAC Committee Structure and Terms of Reference (Susie Saunders, City)

- a. Committee reviewed DRAFT Terms of Reference for discussion
 - i. DRAFT Terms of Reference reviewed including review of current PRAC Terms of Reference and best practices from other jurisdictions
 - ii. PRAC recommendation to continue advisory role, to focus on active engagement in Courtenay's park and recreation system when selecting committee members, and request for a Council member to chair the committee, or their designate.
- b. **Action:** email Susie with further feedback and comments.

2. Father's Day Kite Fly Reminder (Mary Crowley)

Next Meeting

- Thursday September 5, 2024: Location TBD