



Cobble Hill Parks Commission Meeting
Youth Hall 3665 Watson Avenue, Cobble Hill, B.C.
March 7th, 2016 7:00 PM
Minutes

Present: John Krug – Chair, Bill Turner, Annie Ingraham, Ruth Keohn, Shelley Balme, Jennifer Symons, Alan Seal, Lynn Wilson

Also present: Matteus Clement – CVRD Regional Director, Area “C”, Aurelia McInnis, CVRD Parks Manager Ryan Dias

Regrets: Dennis Cage, Gord Dickenson

Moved/seconded *that the agenda is approved as circulated.* Carried

Moved/seconded *that the minutes of the regular Cobble Hill Parks Commission meeting of February 7th be adopted as circulated.* Carried

Reports:

Quarry Nature park Horse Trailer Parking: Subcommittee Shelley Balme and Aurelia McInnis after three site visits and measuring and marking of the parking lot and trial parking of 40’ horse trailers made the following recommendations:

- Convert the horse trailer parking parallel to Empress Avenue to car parking
- Combine and create 4 horse trailer parking spots: 2 on either side of the maple tree grove and 1 additional on the east side that would require some rock fill in the swampy area just to the right of the entrance
- Bring the signage up to eye level at all locations to prevent confrontations resulting from other drivers who claim they did not see the signage on the concrete, ground level bumpers.
- Replace the “Entrance” sign to read “Horse Trailer Entrance”

The commission felt that these are low cost items that could be completed expediently to improve conditions for the equine users of the park.

Ryan Dias pointed out that not a lot of funds should be spent because a new parking lot will be developed within the next 2 years. The Chair thanked the subcommittee for their good work and clear presentation. It was noted the people parking horse trailers have the best understanding of their requirements and the commission hopes that Graham Gidden will meet on site with the subcommittee for discussion.

Staff Action Items:

- Off Leash Dog Park: The surface has been replenished with new material and the water supply line has been electrically heat traced.

Budget Review: Ryan Dias explained that the CVRD has embarked on a new computerized asset management program with Parks and Recreation being the launch department. All facilities will be scrutinized within specified time frames as to repair, replace or decommission. This is in keeping with the long range budgeting that we are moving toward and will prevent massive, costly facility repair/replacement coming due all in the same time frame. Commission input will be sought, particularly if a facility should be decommissioned. The net result will be less funding for capital projects as the program takes effect in the coming years.

Business Arising From the Minutes:

- Boatswain Park: Contractors had their site visit February 7th. Work is slated to start by the end of March.
- Off Leash Dog Park: Covered under Staff Action Items
- Watson trail: Mike Miller has investigated the 4" drain pipes from the new houses and requested we do not proceed with any changes, as he will arrange for some minor ditching in the future.
- Hatch Point Trail: Standing water is filtering properly through the rock sub-base and the 6" culverts are for standby use only.
- Cherry Point Park: Grading of the parking lot is scheduled for this month.
- Cobble Hill Common: This is a priority for Staff to develop an overall plan and still determine a definite answer regarding housing on the site.

Delegations: None

Correspondence: E-mails from Staff answering queries on Watson and Hatch Point Trails were read out by the Chair.

Unfinished Business:

- Graham Gidden has forwarded an inventory of memorial benches in Cobble Hill and Lynn Wilson has supplied the updated Capital Regional district policy on these benches.
- Disposal of Properties: School District 79 is investigating the Fisher Road site
- The adjacent property owner has been contacted regarding Ross Park

New business:

- Syrian Refugees: Progress on the house in Satellite Park reported by John Krug
- Cobble Hill Event Society Endorsement: Members of the society will be a delegation to our next meeting to present details.
- Quarry Nature Park: Parking is a major concern and will be a costly undertaking to remedy. This past year QNP had 88,000 visitors, many from Ares "A", "B", "D" and "E" in addition to area "C" residents.

Closed Session: None

Director's Report: Director Clement explained the Cobble Hill Event Society and asked for the commission's endorsement. This was deferred until the society delegates report on April 4th

Volunteer Hours: TBA

Adjournment: 8:55 pm.

The next Cobble Hill Parks Commission Meeting will be held Monday, April 4th, 2016.