

Cobble Hill Parks Commission Meeting
February 23rd, 2015
3665 Watson Avenue, Cobble Hill, B.C.

to follow Annual General Meeting

Present: John Krug – Chair, Shelley Balme, Dennis Cage, Annie Ingraham, Ruth Koehn, Alan Seal, Jennifer Symons, Bill Turner, Lynn Wilson
Also present: Matteus Clement – Regional Director Area 'C', Don Herriott – Alternate Director, some members of the public
Regrets: Gord Dickenson, Ansel Koehn

John Krug called the meeting to order at 8:14 pm

Election of officers for 2015:

- John Krug – Chair
- Alan Seal – Vice Chair
- Jennifer Symons – Secretarial Assistance

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

1. Adoption of the minutes:

Moved/seconded that the minutes of the Regular Cobble Hill Parks Commission meeting of January 22nd, 2015 are adopted as circulated. Carried

2. Business arising from the minutes

- Bike Park Modifications:

Dan Brown toured several commission members through the new layout and explained the criteria for opening and closing the park. The commission was very pleased with the work and looks forward to assisting with spring cleanup. Dan has also developed a draft '*Guidelines for Layout and Operations*'.

Regarding liability: John shared a recent Ontario Supreme Court ruling concerning a child who fell from a tree in a park and was badly injured. The municipality was not found liable as "trees by their very nature are things which can be climbed and therefore fallen from and are potentially harmful. Any danger posed by this tree was an obvious one. If you choose to climb it, you could fall and be injured."

- Boatswain Park Upgrade:

John Krug will contact Staff to coordinate with Ruth Koehn and Lynn Wilson to identify trees for removal

- Legal Agreement between the Cobble Hill Historical Society and the CVRD for the Historical Wall is signed
- Fence at north side of Common – Conceptual drawing from Staff –
Drainage: The north side fence was discussed as to the reason for its removal and the group felt that it would improve the aesthetics by clearing out the fence and underbrush that has grown through the fence, while still protecting the park from vehicle traffic. The unsightly concrete barriers have dangerous projections of steel and should be replaced by bollards. This can mainly be accomplished by volunteers

- Vandalism at Quarry Nature Park – There was an extensive discussion regarding this vandalism and the commission did not see any value in security visits by commissionaires or the gatekeeper suggestion. There was agreement that security cameras would be the best option and Director Clement is awaiting a ruling from CVRD Staff regarding the deployment of cameras. The automatic locking system, if maintained, gives reasonable protection. There was a suggestion to construct a support under the change table in the family room to prevent the damage that is occurring. Wheelchair accessibility will need to be considered. Another suggestion was to mount the change table so that it folds down on top of the counter top. This also requires assessing its practicality.
- Regular meetings of the Cobble Hill Parks Commission will be held on the first Monday of each month unless this date is a statutory holiday in which case it will be moved to the second Monday of that month.
- Horse Trailer Parking – See answer to correspondence with Jane Stone.
- Cherry Point Beach Access – This requires grading and it is noted that this is a very busy park with very limited parking that cannot be expanded. Patrons from the entire Cowichan Valley enjoy strolling on the beach, usually with their dog(s), whether it be high or low tide.

3. Delegations - None

4. Reports - None

5. Correspondence – E-mail received from Jane Stone regarding horse trailer parking. John to reply and send response to the commission.

6. Unfinished business

7. New business

- Watson Trail Surface – This surface should be brought up to CVRD standard with approximately 75 yards of cart path. This could be a volunteer job.
- Parking in General at QNP – The commission agrees with expanding the parking lot into the area where the porta potty was formerly located, but is not in agreement for the tot park and does not want to eliminate the upper parking lot or parking in front of the dog park. The commission appreciates Dan Brown's suggestions and looks forward to more discussions and site visits with Staff to address this long term concern.

8. Closed session - None

9. Volunteer Hours -16

10. Adjournment – 9:20 pm

The next Cobble Hill Parks Commission Meeting will be held April 13th, 2015 venue TBA.