

Cobble Hill Parks Commission Meeting
September 14th, 2015
Arbutus Ridge Golf Club Boardroom,
3515 Telegraph Road, Cobble Hill, B.C.

Present: John Krug – Chair, Dennis Cage, Annie Ingraham, Ruth Koehn,
Jennifer Symons, Bill Turner, Lynn Wilson
Also present: Matteus Clement – Regional Director Area 'C', Brian Farquhar –
CVRD Parks and Trails Manager
Regrets: Gord Dickenson, Shelley Balme, Alan Seal

Chair Krug called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm

Moved/seconded **that the agenda is approved as amended to make the budget discussion the first item.** Carried

Moved/seconded **that the minutes of the general meeting of June 1st, 2015 are adopted as circulated.** Carried

New Business:

Budget –

- Brian Farquhar explained a number of changes in the budgeting process for 2016, 17 & 18:
 - The budget process has been moved up 3 months so that the final document will be ready for Board approval by December.
 - The CVRD Board has moved that there will not be surpluses carried from year to year. Surpluses will be held in an Operating Reserve Fund for the function for which they were designated.
 - Previously we have not built up a contingency fund to maintain major assets. The CVRD Board is planning for better management of capital assets.
- Questions arising from the Budget process:
 - Brian Farquhar will report back concerning the \$3,000 maintenance cost for Train Station Park
 - The maintenance cost for Quarry Nature Park has been \$7,000 for electrical, water, parking lot maintenance, washroom supplies and maintenance. The 2016 budget is raised to \$9,000 to cover the great increase in usage of this park.
- The maintenance contract was increased by \$1,600 to add the Common Park.
- There was some work and discussion regarding planning from 2016 to 2020 with the goal of establishing a 5 year budget.
- The Repair and Maintenance budget is \$15,000 for 2016. Work done with these funds is planned for Cherry Point picnic tables, new bear proof garbage cans and repairs to area trails including Hammond Way, Grandfield Way and Manley Creek Park amongst others.
- Watson Trail: \$9,000 is budgeted for an upgrade.

- There was some discussion regarding improvements to the Common Park, the Bike Park and Quarry Nature Park parking.
- Director Clement enquired about the progress on trail connectivity in South Cowichan. There will be discussions on this issue in the future; a major concern continues to be the Ministry of Transportation and Highways authority over all our roads.
- Hatch Point Trail upgrade: Staff has determined that this trail could be made wheelchair accessible for \$76,000. Brian Farquhar explained where we could source funds to move from a simple upgrade to a handicapped accessible trail.

Moved/seconded ***that the Cobble Hill Parks Commission approves upgrading the Hatch Point Trail for handicapped use and increasing its portion of the budget to \$76,000 for this purpose.*** Carried

- Boatswain Park upgrade: Due to the large number of capital projects in 2015, the Boatswain Park project has been delayed until early spring 2016.

Moved/seconded ***that tree removal and preliminary brushing in Boatswain Park will be done in 2015 and the remainder of the project will be completed in the spring of 2016.*** Carried

- Moved/seconded ***that the Cobble Hill Parks Commission moves to closed session at 8:25 pm.*** Carried.

The Commission returned to open session at 8:45.

Adjournment: 8:50 pm

Next meeting: Tuesday, October 5th, 2015 venue TBA

Submitted by John Krug