

**COBBLE HILL PARKS AND RECREATION
COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday May 26, 2009 7:00 pm.
Arbutus Ridge Board Room
MINUTES**

Present: John Krug – Chair, Richard Shaw, Bill Turner, Linden Collette, Ian Sparshu, and Area 'C' Director Gerry Giles.

Regrets: Lynn Wilson and Alan Seal

Guest: Gordon Dickenson

1. Moved and seconded to amend the minutes of the April 14, 2009 parks commission meeting as follows:

Under New Business #2 Change "Bend" School to "Bench" School.

MOTION CARRIED

Business arising from the minutes

1. The opening celebration for the Cleasby Bike Park was very successful. Richard stated that the opening was well attended, the kids had fun, the food was good, and it was a heart warming event. John noted that the park had been conceived, planned, and completed very quickly. He thanked Gerry for being MC. Gerry had thank you cards for park commission members to sign. These cards and a formal letter of thanks from the CVRD board will be sent to the many contributors who helped to build and celebrate the park. There were many donations of hot dogs, ice cream, pop, chips, and cake from the community. Gerry noted that one lesson learned from the event is to have an MC separate from the individual overseeing the whole event.
2. Gerry provided an update on the dog park. The new lighting has been installed. She noted that about \$10,000 has been spent on water and electrical services. The allocation of monies from Area "C" parks commission and the South Cowichan parks commission will need to be clarified by Ryan Dias.
3. Gordon explained his sketch of the water fountain that is to be installed at the dog park. He is currently researching places where he can access the stone for the fountain. The fountain will have a push button control and an access panel for turning the water off.

4. Parks commission members are requesting that summer students working with the CVRD focus on trail clearing and clean up, staining and preserving of wooden stairs and structures in area parks, and renovating the Hatch Point trail. The Hatch Point trail is boggy in sections and the board walk needs some repair. The construction of Bridge 2 on Manley Creek is in progress and will be completed in about one month. Linden asked for clarification from CVRD Parks staff about why there are pink and blue paint spots on some trees on Hatch Point Trail.
5. John has emailed the Northwest Wildlife Preservation Society to enquire if they would like the parks commission to arrange an evaluation of the barn on the Granfield Farm Estate. They have not yet responded.
6. There was a discussion about having washrooms built in Quarry Park. Ian suggests one building with two bathroom units and a storage area for supplies in between. He stated that a door lock could be placed on a timer that would eliminate the need for staff or volunteers to open and close the washrooms each day. Both units and the approach to the building would be handicapped accessible. Moved and seconded:

“The parks commission will investigate building washrooms at Quarry Park for the 2010 budget year.”

MOTION CARRIED

New Business

1. Gerry has had a request from a community member to include outdoor exercise equipment for seniors in a park. There is senior equipment at the Sportsplex in North Cowichan. Gerry will go to see it and will bring back pictures to show the commission.
2. John attended the CVRD Parks Commission Chairs meeting. He showed the Area “C” commission laminated posters that announce free recycling of garden waste at the landfills. These can be posted at mailboxes in the area. A parks chair from another area suggested that areas receiving Trees for Tomorrow grants go together for bulk purchasing of trees. Brian Farquhar noted that the CVRD Parks Staff now have 150 parks to care for with a team of 5. He is requesting that the area commissions schedule park maintenance and building projects well in advance so the staff can be best deployed. The CVRD Parks Commission Chairs meeting will be held about twice per year.
3. Richard spoke about opportunities to promote the Cleasby Bike Park. The commission talked about adding more jumps to the current park, hosting workshops on bike skills, encouraging mountain biking up Cobble Hill

Mountain, promoting bike trail etiquette, and developing and promoting bike tourism on the roads. Richard noted that the International Mountain Biking Association has a local presence and could possibly help. He will invite Tara from Experience Bike Shop in Duncan to a commission meeting to talk about promoting bicycling in the area. Gerry noted that Trevor Miranda and Ray Green are interesting in applying for funding to put a trail along Telegraph Road from Aros Road to Bench School. Gerry will be helping them with this application.

4. John spoke to the group about a suggestion from a community member to construct a disc golf course in a local park. The community member suggests an area of 7-10 acres for setting up a course. The member suggested that the cost would be about \$2000. John will invite some people from Victoria who construct disc golf courses to come and speak to the commission.
5. Gerry noted that the Trees for Tomorrow project will go ahead. The entrance to the Park and Ride area near the train station will be narrowed to discourage the parking of large trucks there. An area for horse trailer parking will be added along the right side of Empress Road.
6. Gerry noted that clearing hedges for the start of the cenotaph project begins this Thursday, May 28.
7. The next meeting is June 25, 2009. at 7:00 pm. Location to be announced.
8. The meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Submitted by Linden Collette, Secretary