

**COBBLE HILL PARKS AND RECREATION
COMMISSION MEETING
Monday, September 21st 2009 7:00 pm.
Arbutus Ridge Board Room
MINUTES**

Present: John Krug – Chair, Richard Shaw, Bill Turner, Linden Collette, Ian Sparshu, Alan Seal, Gerry Giles, and Lynn Wilson.

Guests: Brian Farquhar, CVRD Parks and Trails Manager, Gordon Dickenson

1. Moved/seconded

That the minutes be adopted as circulated. **MOTION CARRIED**

Business arising from the minutes

The Cenotaph Project was reviewed with the Commission. It was explained the \$20,000 set aside by the Cobble Hill Parks Commission in their 2009 budget for the Cenotaph project was not available due to unexpected emergencies like the Manley Creek bridge repair and bank stabilization along with the additional costs surrounding the Environmental Consultant's Report on the old Cobble Hill Works Yard. This has resulted in a shortfall in the project's financing. It was also explained that funds would be needed for legal costs to cover the transfer of property, construction of the pathway on the Farmers Institute property, electrical work and fencing.

Moved/seconded

That the Cobble Hill Parks Commission recommend to the CVRD Board that up to \$50,000 be transferred from the Cobble Hill Parks reserve to complete additional projects slated for Cobble Hill namely, the Farmers Institute pathway, electrical work, fencing and legal costs. **MOTION CARRIED**

New Business

1. The parks commission reviewed the budget materials provided by Brian Farquhar.
2. Surplus funds from each budget year go into a reserve fund maintained by the Cobble Hill Parks Commission. The purpose of the fund has been to acquire new park land as it becomes available. Brian Farquhar noted that as parks facilities age, there is an increasing need to maintain or replace them. He stated that there is an increasing need for all CVRD parks commissions to put money aside to maintain and replace existing facilities.

3. Moved/seconded

That the Cobble Hill Parks Commission will maintain surplus funds at the end of each fiscal year for the purpose of maintaining and replacing existing Cobble Hill Parks properties and facilities.

MOTION CARRIED

4. Brian also noted that the parks board is looking ahead to 2011 for major projects in order to have a longer timeline for assessments, pre-approvals, community consultation, and planning. He asked if the Cobble Hill Parks Commission could plan ahead. We discussed the need for a permanent washroom facility at the base of Cobble Hill Mountain.

Director's Report

1. There is currently a work crew from a JOB Opportunity project working on park and trail maintenance in the CVRD. The crew is a partnership with Cowichan Tribes and the CVRD to manage fuel loads, improve existing trails, and construct new trails.
2. On Cobble Hill Mountain, the parks board is working with the JOB project crew to decommission some trails and remove dangerous trees.
3. The Cowichan Land Trust is interested in partnering with the Cobble Hill Parks Commission in purchasing approximately 6 acres of land near the intersection of Fisher Rd. and Telegraph Rd. This land drains into Garnett Creek and could be ecologically important to the area. Gerry, Lynn, and Linden agreed that they would meet with Cowichan Land Trust members to look at the land for possible acquisition.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 22, 2009 at 7:00 pm.
Location to be determined.

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 pm.

Submitted by Linden Collette, Secretary