

**MINUTES OF ELECTORAL AREA “G” (SALTAIR/GULF ISLANDS)**  
**PARKS COMMISSION**

**DATE:** November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013

**TIME:** 7:01 pm

**MINUTES** of the electoral Area “G” Parks Commission meeting held on the above noted date and time at the Water Board office located at 10705 Chemainus Rd, Saltair BC.

**PRESENT:**

**Chairman:** Harry Brunt  
**Secretary:** Jackie Rieck  
**Members:** Tim Godau, Paul Bottomley, Glenn Hammond, and Hans Nelles

**ABSENT:**

**Members:** Kelly Schellenberg and Dave Key

**ALSO PRESENT:**

**Directors:** Mel Dorey  
**Guest:** John Silins (Saltair Ratepayer's Association)

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

It was moved and seconded to approve the Agenda as submitted.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINTUES:**

It was moved and seconded to accept the Minutes of Area “G” Parks Commission Meeting, held on October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

**MOTION CARRIED**

## NEW BUSINESS (GUEST SPEAKER):

-John Stilins from the Saltair Ratepayer's Association gave a presentation pertaining to the development of a website for Saltair. The website would contain information such as: Saltair's History, Parks, trails, Business directories, Community links, News and Events. John requested the Commission's input/support and he will give a progress report in 2014.

## CVRD UPDATE:

-Outdoor security light bulb needs replacing at the Water Board office. Mel to follow up with CVRD.

- "Request for Proposals 2014-2016 Parks Maintenance Services" advertisement will be published in local newspapers and CVRD website. Proposals must be received by Friday, November 22, 2013.

-Serious concerns were raised regarding the damage to trails caused by leaf blowing! It was noted damage has been done on Princess Diana and Stocking Creek trails. Large portions of bark mulch have been completely blown away, leaving divots resulting in an uneven walking surface. A similar situation has occurred on the Trans Canada trail, where the gravel surface has been blown off to the sides and the main walkway is down to the hard pan. The Commission is in agreement that leaf blowing is too expensive, bad for the environment and would prefer to let fallen leaves turn into mulch, the way nature intended.

## **MOTION:**

**It was moved and seconded to ban the use of leaf blowing in all Area G Park trails. CVRD to amend Park's Maintenance 2014-2016 agreement accordingly.**

## **MOTION CARRIED**

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

-Town of Ladysmith has been using more water from Stocking lake than their permitted water license. A committee will be formed with the CVRD, Ladysmith mayor Rob Hutchins and Director Mel Dorey to address this issue.

## CENTENNIAL PARK

-Many positive comments have been received regarding the recent landscaping upgrade of the Mountain View Drive entrance of Centennial Park.

-Paul Bottomley questioned that a 100 tons of gravel was trucked all the way from Lake Cowichan for the parking lot upgrade. He asked if the CVRD could have used a local gravel and trucking company to save on trucking costs? He voiced his concerns that the cost of entire project plus extras (ie; ditch clean out) might exceed the allotted budget amount of \$7100.00. Commission would like an itemized statement of expenditures to ensure that the initial budget was met.

-Ryan Dias will consider the recommendations made by the Commission to improve the way the grass is mowed and the issue with leaf blowing and incorporate them into the 2014-2016 maintenance contract.

-Ryan Dias will follow up regarding the concerns that the main gate on Mountain View Dr. is not being opened during the week.

-Mel Dorey to follow up with the CVRD regarding the accountability of poor workmanship ie: the paint job in Centennial Park.

## PRINCESS DIANA

-Jackie Rieck and Hans Nelles met with Dan Brown and his survey team to determine the park borders surrounding the Kess Marsh. Dan to follow up with results when survey completed.

-It was noted that some areas of the Princess Diana main trail have been damaged from leaf blowing and will require another application of bark mulch!

-Brent Wilson will organize an arborist to survey areas in Diana Park to determine what can be done to reforest the previously flooded "dead tree" area.

## PARKINSON TRAIL

-No report.

## STOCKING CREEK PARK

- Brian Farquhar will follow up with the Commission regarding the “Lagoon tree fall” incident and where it stands.
- Split-rail fence will be included in the Finch Place upgrade which should be completed by December.
- Mel will organize a clean-up of black berry bushes at the entrance of Thicke Rd/Chemainus rd.

## BEACH ACCESSES

- Brock Tingey will have the large Japanese knot weed plant dealt with at Skinner Rd beach access.

## SALTAIR BALL LEAGUE

- Ryan Dias, Brent Wilson and Brian Farquhar will review the Saltair Ball league permit requirements for 2014 Centennial Park.

## LADYSMITH PARKS & REC

- Kinsmen are looking into developing a “Frisbee Golf” Park.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

- Halloween Event 2013 was a great success!! Many thanks to Dave Key and his crew of Saltair families volunteering their time to make this a fun family event. Fireworks were amazing with no complaints from nearby neighbours.

**NEXT MEETING:** scheduled for Monday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 7:00 pm, Water Board office.

## ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

