

REPORT of the regular monthly meeting of the OAK BAY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION held on Wednesday, May 6, 2009 in the Council Chambers, Oak Bay Municipal Hall.

In Attendance:

Monty Holding, Chair
Frank Carson
Matt Fairbarns
Drew Henderson
Liz Hawes
Donald Farquhar
Laverne Bennett
Hazel Braithwaite

Staff:

Agnes Szilos, Director, Parks and Recreation
Lorna Curtis, Manager, Program Services
Lorne Middleton, Manager Parks Services
Mandi Krieger, Executive Assistant

Absent: Brian Sharp, Dick Cavaye

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

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| I. | MINUTES | Commission
Committee of the Whole | (2009-04-01)
(2009-04-06) |
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Moved by Laverne Bennett, Seconded by Matt Fairbarns, THAT THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 1, 2009 MEETING OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION BE ADOPTED.

Carried

The order of the agenda was varied by consensus.

II. CORRESPONDENCE

Family Fun Fair at Willows Beach

Logan Graham, Nora Penty and Chad Jacques were in attendance.

On behalf of the students of the business program at Oak Bay High School, permission was requested for use of Willows Park to hold a Family Fun Fair on May 23, 2009 from 11am to 2pm. The event would involve family-oriented events and will be run by the business students and members of the Junior Achievement club. St. John's Ambulance will provide a first aid station and representatives from the Oak Bay Fire Department and Oak Bay Police Department will provide presentations. Packages of tickets will be sold to the public to cover expenses and any additional monies will be donated to registered charities.

Moved by Don Farquhar, Seconded by Drew Henderson TO ALLOW THE OAK BAY HIGH SCHOOL BUSINESS STUDENTS PROGRAM TO HOLD A FAMILY FUN FAIR AT WILLOWS PARK ON MAY 23, 2009 PROVIDING THAT NECESSARY LIABILITY COVERAGE IS IN PLACE AND SURPLUS FUNDS, IF ANY, BE DONATED TO A REGISTERED CHARITY.

Carried

Pesticide Free CRD Coalition

Adriane Schroeder (Community Action Coordinator for the Canadian Cancer Society, Vancouver Island Region) outlined that the Canadian Cancer Society is working to educate people on the potential health concerns associated with use of pesticides and is encouraging municipal governments to pass bylaws to restrict the cosmetic use of pesticides on both private lawns and gardens and public lands such as parks and playgrounds.

Ms. Schroeder reported that over 160 municipalities across Canada and 17 in BC have passed such bylaws and she recommended the Model Pesticide Use Control Bylaw developed by the CRD Roundtable on the Environment. She noted that municipalities can modify the model bylaw to meet local needs. Ms. Schroeder requested that the Commission consider taking a precautionary approach when considering bylaw recommendations for Oak Bay in the fall.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Pesticide Bylaw Preliminary Research

Further to the discussion regarding the creation of a Pesticide-use Bylaw at the April Commission meeting, staff compiled preliminary information that included a list of pesticides/herbicides currently used on Oak Bay Municipal property, status of the Victoria and Saanich pesticide bylaws and discussions with staff at the private golf courses in the municipality.

Commission concurred that it is important to take the time to make sound decisions in order to ensure the final bylaw meets the needs of the municipality. Parks Manager will have a report for September Commission meeting.

Tree Protection Bylaw – Diameter Limits

Municipal Arborist, Chris Paul was in attendance for discussion regarding the possibility of changing the method of calculating the diameter of multi-stemmed trees as stated in the current Tree Protection Bylaw.

Moved by Matt Fairbarns, Seconded by Dick Cavaye THAT, AFTER RECEIVING INVALUABLE INFORMATION FROM THE MUNICIPAL ARBORIST, COMMISSION CONFIRMS ITS RECOMMENDATION THAT THE CURRENT PROVISIONS IN THE BYLAW PERTAINING TO CALCULATION OF TREE DIAMETERS REMAIN AS IS.

Carried

As the bylaw is still fairly new, Commission suggested that the Municipal Arborist catalogue any issues that arise relating to the bylaw so that commonalities and trends may be examined over a longer timeframe.

IV. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Program Reports, April 2009

Manager, Program Services reported that the Hearts at School event was held on May 6th from 9am – 1pm at the Oak Bay Recreation Centre sponsored by ActNow BC and Active Communities. Monterey Middle School grade six students participated in a variety of interactive educational stations as well as pre-selected physical activity stations and were provided with a healthy lunch donated by Thrifty Foods to promote the importance of eating right. The event was led by staff and assisted by the Oak Bay High Leadership program and enjoyed by students and teachers alike. Staff will be visiting the students at school to hold a trivia challenge on the information given at the educational stations with great prizes to be won from local businesses.

Active Aging week will be held September 21 – 27, 2009 that will involve all regional facilities. At Recreation Oak Bay, patrons will be given a “buddy pass” and can participate in activities such as facility tours, free drop-in skating, swimming and fitness sessions.

Manager, Program Services reported that a second year contract has been signed with Thrifty Foods and the Active Communities Committee that will allow continuation of the Nutrition to You Initiative that targets seniors, youth, workplaces and the general public through nutrition seminars, grocery store tours and the Young Chef on the Run program.

Parks and Physical Plant Reports, March 2009

Manager, Parks Services confirmed that funding has been approved for the HSP grant that will enable the department to continue the invasive species removal project.

Grant funding in the amount of \$32,600 has been received through the Rick Hanson Foundation to upgrade the play ground equipment at Windsor Parks so that the area would become barrier-free for those with disabilities and complement existing areas that are already accessible.

The Scented Garden project is underway at the north east corner of Windsor Park and has received positive feedback from neighborhood residents.

Finance Minutes

Received for information

Moved by Don Farquhar, Seconded by Matt Fairbarns THAT THE SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS BE RECEIVED.

Carried

Field User Meeting

The Field User meeting held on Wednesday, April 8, 2009 was well attended by sports user groups and continues to be a valuable means of sharing information on special events, maintenance projects and field closure schedules.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Kindergarten Care

Currently Paddington's Next Stop is offered for children attending morning Kindergarten at Willow's Elementary School. Children are picked up from Willow's Elementary School by the Recreation Oak Bay departmental bus and transported to Carnarvon Park for afternoon care. Following discussions with the principal from Willow's Elementary School, staff proposes the following two new Kindergarten care programs starting September 2009:

- All day Wednesday care (for children normally attending morning Kindergarten care) - \$48.00 per day
- Morning care for children attending afternoon kindergarten - \$32.00 per day.

Moved by Drew Henderson, Seconded by Frank Carson THAT COMMISSION ENDORSE THE NEW KINDERGARTEN CARE PROGRAMS AND FEES AS OUTLINED.

Carried

Circuit Training Classes

Circuit Training class participants at Henderson Centre receive an add-on pass that is good for drop-in admission to the fitness studio at Henderson Recreation Centre for duration of the class session. The cost of registering for a once per week session is \$27 per month and the cost of an annual pass breaks down to \$28.75 per month. Some people register for the class rather than purchase an annual pass. It was noted that the annual pass is valid at Oak Bay Recreation Centre but the add-on pass is not.

Staff recommended that starting in the fall of 2009 there no longer be an add-on pass but rather the Circuit Training participants receive drop-in passes equal to the number of sessions they attend per week i.e. one class per week = one drop-in pass per week, two classes per week = two drop-in passes per week. Additionally, these drop-in passes would be valid for non-registered instructional classes and would also be accepted at Oak Bay Recreation Centre.

Moved by Don Farquhar, Seconded by Laverne Bennett THAT THE CURRENT CIRCUIT TRAINING ADD-ON PASS BE REPLACED WITH DROP-IN PASSES EQUIVALENT TO THE NUMBER OF REGISTERED CIRCUIT CLASSES PER SESSION STARTING FALL 2009.

Carried

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Matt Fairbarns, Seconded by Drew Henderson, THAT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION BE ADJOURNED.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.