

Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee – Minutes

2E – Community Room A
City Hall
13450 – 104 Avenue
Surrey, BC
TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2019
Time: 5:30 p.m.
File: 0540-20

Present:

Councillor Guerra – Chair
Councillor Annis
Councillor Elford
Councillor Patton
B. Burnside
C. Girardi

Regrets:

S. Drysdale

Staff Present:

L. Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture
N. Aven, Manager of Parks
L. Davison, Manager of Culture
R. Gallagher, Heritage Admin. & Facilities Manager
T. Uhrich, Parks Planning, Research & Design Manager
L. White, Manager, Community & Recreation Services
L. Anderson, Legislative Services

A. INTRODUCTIONS, COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES and PROCEDURES

There was a round table of introductions and the Chair reported that Councillor Elford will be the Vice-Chair for the Committee.

1. Draft Terms of Reference

File No. 0540-20

The Committee reviewed the draft Terms of Reference and it was suggested a Surrey School Trustee be added to the membership as a voting member, increasing the Committee membership to eight voting members.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

It was

Moved by Councillor Elford
Seconded by Councillor Annis
That the Parks, Recreation & Culture

Committee recommend that Council:

1. Amend the draft Terms of Reference for the Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee to include one Surrey Schools Trustee representative as a voting member; and
2. Approve the draft Terms of Reference, as amended.

Carried

2. PRCC 2019 Work Plan

The Committee was requested to review the PRCC 2019 Work Plan (Work Plan) and provide feedback.

The General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture reported that the Work Plan is a brief framework of the responsibilities of the Committee, as outlined in the Terms of Reference.

The following comments were made:

- In addition to the items set out in the Work Plan, anything further requested by the Committee will be brought forward in a timely manner.
- Receiving delegations will be balanced accordingly. If there is an ask from a delegation (e.g. change in practise or policy, investment, etc.) staff will review and provide a report back to the Committee.
- A review of the fees and charges for various parks, recreation and culture services is an annual item.
- New park master plans, together with community feedback and any changes made based on that feedback, are received by the Committee to endorse and/or make recommendations to Council.
- In addition to the interim and annual updates received for various parks, cultural and recreational facilities, programming and events, the Committee will be informed on various strategies and management plans, policies, grants and sponsorships.
- The 2019 Service Delivery Plan will be finalized within the coming weeks and copies will be provided to the Committee in due course. In the interim, an electronic copy of the 2018 Service Delivery Plan will be circulated to the Committee.
- As the Parks, Recreation & Culture department works closely with the Bylaws division (e.g. keeping parks/facilities safe and clean), it is suggested that an interdepartmental presentation from the Bylaws division be provided at a future meeting.

B. DELEGATIONS**C. STAFF PRESENTATIONS****1. Kelsey MacInnes, Sport Tourism & Sponsorship Coordinator**

Kelsey MacInnes, Sport Tourism & Sponsorship Coordinator, was in attendance to provide an update on Sport Surrey.

A PowerPoint presentation, providing an overview of Sport Surrey and an update of the anticipated sporting events for 2019, was given.

The following comments were made:

- With all the facilities Surrey has to offer, there are sports events happening every weekend.
- Working with all levels of sport organizations, Sport Surrey provides event organizers with as much assistance as possible throughout the planning process, including facilities, accommodations, transportation, bid preparation, economic impact assessments, pre and post event tours, event promotion, and more.
- Sport Surrey has played host to internationally recognized events such as the 2016 Cameroon Football Federation FIFA Training Camp, the Water Polo Canada Western Conference National Championships, the 2012 BC Summer Games and the Scotiabank Canadian Open Fastpitch International Championship.
- Recently the Wickenheiser Female World Hockey Festival successfully welcomed 800 athletes to take part in Wickfest Surrey. With the maximum of 48 teams registered (and a wait list) before the event could be announced, and over 1,200 tickets sold for the opening night party, an event launch wasn't needed. The City is looking forward to this event taking place again in 2020.
- The City has an annual budget of \$50,000 for various Sport Surrey grant opportunities in the following categories: provincial up to \$3,000, western Canada up to \$4,000, national up to \$5,000 and international up to \$5,000. Initially the grants were used to help offset the costs of facility rentals as some facilities are more expensive than others. The economic impact is also considered (e.g. number of overnight stays, etc.) of each event.
- In addition to the City's standard marketing (website, recreation centres, etc.) Sport Surrey is promoted externally in magazines (Adrenaline), through Tourism Surrey and directly with local, provincial and national sports organizations.
- Currently there are 22 events (local to international) confirmed for 2019, including soccer, hockey, softball, synchronized swimming, water polo, gymnastics and skating.
- There haven't been any multi-sport event bids recently; there is capacity, just looking at opportunities where the City can be successful. There may be a bid for the 2021 Special Olympics soon.
- Have to be strategic; looking typically for spring and fall events when accommodation is more readily available and discounted rates can be negotiated. Summer events can be challenging as the lack of affordable/available accommodation can be a significant barrier.
- In facilitating the various sports events that come to Surrey, it is important to work collaboratively with the local sports organizations to ensure they continue to have facilities available for their training/events.

2. Ted Uhrich, Parks Planning, Research & Design Manager

Ted Uhrich, Parks Planning, Research and Design Manager, provided an update on the Dog Off-Leash Area Strategy (Strategy) and a summary of the Fraser View Park Dog Off-Leash Area Concept Plan.

A PowerPoint presentation was provided, and the following comments were made:

- The Strategy, 2012 to 2021, provides planning and design guidelines for off-leash areas, outlines the many benefits (e.g. fenced, safe environment to exercise and socialize dogs, reduces conflicts between dogs and other park users) and establishes recommended sites for future dog off-leash areas in Surrey.
- In 2012, Surrey had eight dog off-leash areas (average of 1.6 per 100,000 residents), very low compared to the provincial average of other jurisdictions ranging from two to five per 100,000 residents. At that time, the provision for dog off-leash areas for Surrey was anticipated to grow to 22 by 2021, providing at least two dog off-leash areas per Town Centre (or 4.4 dog off-leash areas per 100,000 residents) and near the top of the average range per 100,000.
- Since the Strategy was implemented in 2012 there have been five new dog off-leash areas realized. With a total of 13, the provision of dog-off leash areas has increased to 2.6 per 100,000 residents in Surrey. Gaps remain still in Fraser Heights, South Cloverdale and Grandview Heights.
- Fraser View Park was the proposed location originally identified for a dog off-leash area for Fraser Heights. However, upon completion of the public consultation process in 2017 (obtaining high support overall), a petition was received expressing concerns with increased vehicle traffic, cleanliness of the park, the loss of green/grassy areas and environmental impacts.
- To address the concerns and preserve open space for non dog owners, the City reduced the off-leash area from 2.2 acres to a fully fenced 1.3 acres, placed away from the street to protect more of the park as open grass and increase the distance from the residents on 112 Avenue. A perimeter walking loop was also added to the new concept plan.
- Drainage improvements in the park are scheduled to begin summer 2019, with completion of the construction of the off-leash park through the fall 2019.
- With respect to maintenance, dog owners are relied upon (and have proven to be incredibly respectful) to pick up after their dogs and dispose properly, but surfacing is a bit of a challenge - dogs like to dig. Grass is easily pulled up and gravel hurts their paws, but a new wood mulch material is proving to be successful and can easily be topped up.
- Next steps include planning and design for Cloverdale (Hydro ROW), South Surrey (Grandview Heights) and City Centre South (QE Meadows), increasing the provision to 3.2 dog off-leash areas per 100,00 residents.
- Where there is potential space, segregated areas for small and large dogs is included in the dog off-leash area design; try to provide both.

C. Girardi left the meeting at 6:33 pm.

3. **Liane Davison, Manager of Culture**

Liane Davison, Manager of Culture, provided a presentation on civic public art.

Copies of the Public Art Policy were distributed to the Committee on table and a PowerPoint presentation, providing a brief introduction to the civic public art program and the overall process, was given. Comments were as follows:

- The City's Public Art Policy, established in 1998 and most recently updated in 2018, is consistent with international best practices.
- The Policy stipulates that 1.25% of the construction budgets for specific types of civic capital projects (e.g. buildings) is used to fund civic public art. The funds are used to cover the costs for design, engineering, insurance, fabrication, installation and maintenance of a public art project, and its signage, community engagement processes and call/selection fees. Artworks for each location is recommended to Council by selection panels formed primarily with residents and other stakeholders from that location.
- Public art plays an important role in cities around the world, contributing to the quality of life of citizens, improving social connection, as well as contributing to community identity, sustainability and economic development.
- Public art is essentially any art piece that is created by artists for places that are visible and/or accessible to and used by the public and, unless temporary (e.g. street banner), is designed to have a lifespan of 50 years or longer. Most public art is created to respond to the area the art is installed and may take many years to complete.
- Artwork comes in many forms, from sculptures and paintings, to artist designed interactive lighting features that can respond to movement.
- Once installation of civic public art is complete, a didactic panel is installed, and an artist talk may be scheduled. Very often the unveiling and artist talk is planned as part of the official opening of the facility/building.
- From local Surrey artists to artists from around the world, there are now over 80 civic artworks installed on/in City property, and more than 100 artworks overall. All artwork is mapped by GIS and information on each artwork is available on the City's website.

A brief discussion ensued with respect to public art funding. Staff noted that it was only in 2008 that the City received a grant for public art when Surrey was recognized as a Cultural Capital of Canada. In some cases, funds are pooled together for an artwork. For example, funds from the construction of the Surrey Animal Care Centre were pooled with funds from the South Surrey Recreation and Arts Centre expansion to create a budget sufficient for an outdoor artwork.

D. **OUTSTANDING BUSINESS**

E. NEW BUSINESS**F. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL**

It was reported that there was a delegation request to Council recently that has been referred to the Committee and will be scheduled for a future meeting.

G. CORRESPONDENCE**1. 2019 Age Friendly for Seniors**

File No. 0330-02

The memorandum from the Age Friendly Strategy for Seniors Manager, dated March 5, 2019, regarding the above subject line, was reviewed.

With respect to seniors' homelessness, staff reported that mobile community care services were implemented in 2018 and, working with partners, a referral process has recently been developed to continue outreach.

The Chair noted the Age Friendly Strategy for Seniors is another important focus for the Committee and suggested that a staff presentation and overview of the information outlined in the memorandum be provided from the Age Friendly Strategy for Seniors Manager at a future meeting.

It was
Moved by Councillor Guerra
Seconded by Councillor Elford
That the Parks, Recreation & Culture
Committee receive the report from the Age Friendly Strategy for Seniors Manager, dated March 5, 2019, entitled "2019 Age Friendly for Seniors", for information.
Carried

2. Proposed 2019 Meeting Dates

File No. 0540-20

The memorandum from the City Clerk, dated March 5, 2019, regarding the proposed 2019 Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee meeting dates, was reviewed.

It was
Moved by Cllr. Elford
Seconded by B. Burnside
That the Parks, Recreation & Culture
Committee adopt the 2019 Meeting Schedule, as presented.
Carried

H. INFORMATION ITEMS

I. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Verbal Update

L. Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture, provided the following update:

- **Family Oriented Programs** – community outreach continues, focussing on developing more family-oriented programming; offering a variety of free family fun nights at various facilities in Cloverdale and South Surrey.
- **Grandview Heights Aquatic Centre** – will open on March 15th, just in time for spring break, after being closed from February 4 – March 14 for scheduled maintenance. The fitness centre remained open and other indoor pools in Surrey provided support during the closure of the pool.
- **Surrey Steps Up** - an annual showcase of the positive impact youth have on the City, kicks off on March 15th at City Hall. Everyone, together with representation from Mayor and Council, is welcome to enjoy music, entertainment, dance jams, food and prizes.
- **Spring Break Programming** – the **Family Fun Pass**, valid at any Surrey recreation facility from March 16 – March 31, provides unlimited drop in access for the entire family to indoor pools, arenas, gymnasiums and fitness or weight rooms over the spring break.

A variety of **Spring Break Day Camps** are also available at recreation facilities throughout the City from March 18 - March 29, providing camps for kids (ages 3 to 18) ranging from cooking lessons and art classes to swimming and basketball.

- **Fleetwood Community Centre** - the Rick Hansen Foundation has approved a grant for the Fleetwood Community Centre to upgrade the accessibility of three washrooms.
- **Bear Creek Park – Track Usage Pilot** – a pilot project is underway to close the track at Bear Creek Park to recreational users on certain days and times in order to provide a safe environment for competitive track and field athlete training. An update will be provided to the Committee at the next meeting.
- **Bear Creek Park Stadium** - a feasibility study is well underway for this project to determine site opportunities and constraints, as well as consultation with park and facility user groups. Updates will be provided to the Committee throughout the process.
- **Biodiversity Conservation Strategy (BCS) Coordinator** –the new position of BCS Coordinator for Parks - Urban Forestry has been hired and will work closely with Planning and Development, Parks Planning and Engineering Environment staff to implement the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy.

- **Tamanawis Park Field Hockey** - over the summer (5-8 weeks) two existing grass/field hockey fields will be out of use for resurfacing. 2019 will also see the installation of covered bleachers to allow for a greater number of spectators at highly attended tournaments.
- **Coastal Covered Practice Facility** - work on the covered artificial turf practice fields at South Surrey Athletic Park is nearing completion, with the facility opening for programming beginning in April. It is a wonderful addition to the South Surrey Athletic Park and a great example of the City partnering with community athletic associations to deliver new facilities.
- **Museum of Surrey** - opened to the public September 2019 and has been very successful, averaging 400 people/day Tuesday - Friday and 1,000 people/day on Saturdays and Sundays; a huge increase, now reaching previous annual attendance on a monthly basis.
- **Family Sundays** - an ongoing series of family events at the Surrey Gallery (most recently on March 10) where families and friends, together with artists, art educators and volunteers, can view art and also participate in creating art through hands-on art activities and interactive performances.
- **Party for the Planet** - will kick-off the 22nd year of Surrey's Environmental Extravaganza, an eight-week series of over 100 free events and programs throughout Surrey, hosted by dozens of partners and volunteers.

J. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on **Wednesday, April 17, 2019** in **Meeting Room 2E - Community Room A**.

K. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by B. Burnside
Seconded by Cllr. Annis
That the Parks, Recreation & Culture

Committee adjourn.

Carried

The Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Jennifer Ficocelli, City Clerk

Councillor Laurie Guerra
Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee