



City of Surrey

Parks & Community Services Committee

Minutes

Parks Boardroom #1
City Hall
14245 - 56 Avenue
Surrey, B.C.
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 2007
Time: 7:00 p.m.
File: 0540-20

Present:

Councillor Martin, Deputy Chair
Councillor Gill
C. Annable
S. Chima
G. Rai
G. Rice

School Board Trustee:

T. Allen

Absent:

Chairperson: Councillor Hepner
S. Moore
J. McLeod, Manager Long Range
Planning & Policy Development

Also Present:

L. Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Recreation
& Culture
S. McKinnon, Manager of Arts Services
L. White, Manager of Community & Leisure
Services
R. Ryan, Business Operations & Athletic
Fields Manager
T. Neufeld, Parks Operations South Manager
T. Mack, Planning, Research & Design
Manager
D. Vestergaard, Administrative Coordinator
H. Dmytriw, Legislative Service

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the February 22, 2007 Parks & Community Services Committee to be amended as follows:

Item C.1, bottom of page 5: delete the word "developer" and insert "realtor" to read: "*...received a letter from his realtor and...*"

It was

Moved by Terry Allen

Seconded by Councillor Gill

That Minutes of the February 22, 2007 Parks
& Community Services Committee to be amended as follows:

Item C.1, bottom of page 5: delete the word "developer" and insert "realtor" to read: "*...received a letter from his realtor and...*"

Carried

2. Minutes of the March 14, 2007 Parks & Community Services Committee to be adopted.

It was

Moved by Terry Allen

Seconded by Cliff Annable

That the minutes of the Parks & Community
Services Committee meeting held on March 14, 2007, be adopted.

Carried

B. DELEGATION**1. Maureen de St. Croix, President, Ocean Athletics Track and Field Club**
File: 0250-20; 0550-20-10

Maureen de St. Croix and Linda Reid from Ocean Athletics presented an overview of their program and equipment needs to host the 2007 World Athletics Day on May 10, 2007. The following points were raised:

- BC Athletics requested that Ocean Athletics host this event at the South Surrey Athletic Park track & field facility.
- It is a big honour to be chosen to be the Canadian representative for World Athletic Day.
- Ocean Athletics Club was established in 2006, with 110 members in the first year.
- The athletics club is for 8-15 year olds, but they are encouraging younger siblings (6-7 year olds) to join.
- Short and long term objectives have been determined
- Youth athletes need development, equipment, increasing levels of competition and the facility to host provincial, national and international events.
- 2007 Events:
 - o World Athletics Day – May 10, 2007
 - o Junior Development Pentathlon Championships – June 23, 2007
- Actively seeking partnerships with community and athletics. Have a good relationship with high schools and Langley Mustangs and South Fraser Track & Field Club. Partnerships include athletics, community development, business development, tourism and community spirit. Ocean Athletics can borrow equipment from other clubs to assist in putting on events.
- There has been short notice with little lead time leading up to this event
- The club would like to eventually own their own quality equipment but all equipment necessary to host the 2007 World Athletics Day is in place. Have been able to borrow all necessary equipment needed for World Athletics Day event from local schools (Semiahmoo and Earle Marriott). Two storage bins to store the equipment are on-site at the South Surrey Athletic Park track.
- The athletic club is looking to the community for help to host these 2007 events and to host them well. This will be a premier event for Surrey that will draw athletes from the entire Lower Mainland.
- Cannot throw hammer or discus without a cage due to safety reasons but are set up to throw javelin.
- Save on Foods will assist with the BBQ.
- Remax and Act Now (from Provincial Government) are involved.
- Long term goals include sporting events, Olympic Trials, Canada Games, Seniors Games, tourism, business development, and building community spirit.
- Surrey may wish to consider hosting Western Canada Games, 2012 Olympic Track and Field trials.
- A priority list of future equipment needs:
 - o Competition hurdles - \$22,000
 - o High Jump Package - \$8,500 each
 - o Steeplechase Barrier Set - \$8,000

- Completion of a track and field facility, storage facility, changing rooms and bleachers/seating.
- Canadian Juvenile Pentathlon in its first year with tremendous results. Junior Olympics girls walked away with *girls aggregate* for the juvenile 9-15 year old categories. One took *silver*. More youth are joining the athletic club each week.
- The Ocean Athletics Club is only one year old and has just qualified as a Society to qualify for grant money. Currently in application mode with applications due in another month.

Discussion ensued and the following points were raised:

- Fundraising is paying for some equipment such as the high jump mat.
- Very short notice for request for financial support for their event.
- Today's presentation is an information session. The intention is to approach Council in the future. The athletic club would appreciate any funding.
- Coaches are volunteers and are not paid.
- Majority of participants are from Surrey.
- "Act Now" does have funding available through their connections and will be on-site at the World Athletic Day on May 10, 2007.
- The GM, Parks, Recreation and Culture noted that the cut off was October 2006 but there may be some opportunity through staff to identify some other non-City grant programs to apply to. The City has identified facility development potential for matching fund opportunities. The criteria are currently being developed.

ACTION ITEM:

Refer the Ocean Athletics delegation to Parks, Recreation and Culture staff for additional opportunities.

The Deputy Chair thanked the delegation for their presentation and wished them all the best on their competition in May. The delegation departed the meeting at 7:40 pm.

C. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1. Park Signs – Athletic Parks

File: 6140-00

Staff memo dated April 11, 2007 from Manager of Parks, providing information on a design standardization of signs for major athletic parks, to which user groups can apply to have their organization name affixed on a non-permanent, cost-recovery basis. The framework is in place and the target is for the end of the year, 2007.

It was Moved by Cliff Annable
Seconded by Councillor Gill
That the Parks & Community Services
Committee receive the report as information.
Carried

2. 2007 Artificial Turf Field – Planning & Design Process Status Update

File: 5920-01

Staff memo dated April 2, 2007 from Manager of Parks, providing information on the preferred location for the Guildford artificial turf field.

Richard Ryan, Business Operations & Athletic Fields Manager, provided a brief overview of the report.

Discussion ensued and the following comments were made:

- Preliminary site feasibility analysis has been conducted for identified areas of concern:
 - o Fraser Heights Park has problems with unsuitable soils that were utilized to construct the existing grass field. These soils have a high organic content that will result in settling of the field over time as the organics decompose. These soils will need to be removed in order to construct a stable base for any future artificial turf field and the consultants have estimated that this would result in \$300,000 of additional construction costs.
 - o Hjorth Road Park soils have not been disturbed through construction activity so would not contain the high organic content that is present at Fraser Heights Park.
 - o Guildford Athletic Club is the only sport organization in Surrey with both soccer and softball programs. The Guildford Athletic Park concept is a phenomenal undertaking, however, there is only the approved funding of \$2.2 million for one artificial turf field. The 10 year master plan could be a \$5 million undertaking but a second field is not funded in the five year capital plan.
 - o Staff have indicated that neither of the turf field locations would facilitate a 2007 construction completion so the location decision is not as time sensitive.
 - o The soccer community needs to be supportive of the preferred option.
- There is the need to redetermine what is wanted in the long term. Staff were directed to bring back options for consideration:
 - o Cost implications for field development at Fraser Heights – relocate all weather gravel field, various configurations.
 - o Hold the \$2.2 million funding and utilize in the future when additional resources become available to build two fields at once at Hjorth Road.
 - o Utilize 2.2 million to develop the infrastructure at Hjorth Park and delay field construction for future budget approval.
 - o In all options confirm funding contributions from the School District and the desired site, explore potential for contribution to artificial turf

and track development. The School District's budget information should be available in mid-June.

- Opportunity for staff to go back to Council and Finance Committee to request additional funding. Parks, Recreation & Culture to facilitate a conversation with Finance to investigate further funding options to see if the School Board, soccer community, and individual communities are interested in investing funding.

It was Moved by Councillor Gill
 Seconded by Sargy Chima
 That the Parks & Community Services
 Committee recommends the report be referred back to Parks, Recreation &
 Culture for further review and research in more detail of the four options.

Carried

3. 2006 Grants & Sponsorship/Revenue Enhancements

File: 0811-02

Staff memo dated March 30, 2007 from GM, Parks, Recreation and Culture, providing a summary of sponsorship and revenue enhancements received by the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department in 2006.

It was Moved by Councillor Gill
 Seconded by Cliff Annable
 That the Parks & Community Services
 Committee receive the report as information.

Carried

D. STAFF PRESENTATION(S)

1. Public Art Policy

S. McKinnon, Manager of Arts Services provided an overview of the Public & Community Art Program as follow:

- Through these programs the City is pursuing excellence through the arts. Arts will play an important role in the economic, physical and social development of Surrey.
- Public and community art is on display throughout Surrey in highly visible, publicly accessible spaces.
- The public artwork is original and based on the artists singular vision and generally created in the artists studio specially for the site where it will be located.
- Community Art refers to both the process and the artistic product created. Community residents are involved in creating the art work. The art work can be permanent e.g. a mosaic mural or temporary and celebratory such as lantern procession.
- The Public Art Advisory Committee is appointed by Council annually.

- The Public Art Policy guides the approaches and selection process for public art projects.
- The Public Art work plan generally covers a three year period and describes each project location and it's estimated budget allocation based on the 1.25% funding prescribed in the policy.
- There is an artist selection process to determine the specific approach for each project.
- An Artist Selection Panel is recruited consisting of 3-5 community members and arts professionals. The Selection Panel reviews submission materials, interviews the artists and makes recommendations that go forward to Council monthly in PAAC minutes.
- Art projects, banners and displays can found in parks, arenas and public places throughout Surrey.
- The use of City infrastructure for banner programs that are not specific to City beautification or celebratory in nature is becoming an issue in the City and staff are reviewing the current banner guidelines and will be recommending some revisions.

Councillor Martin thanked the Manager of Arts Services for her presentation.

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. Playground Maintenance and Replacement

File: 6140-20/R

A staff memo dated April 11, 2007 from Park Operations South Manager and Park Operations North Manager, was provided with information on providing accessible, centrally located, safe and well-designed playgrounds for new residents, as well as renovating existing playgrounds to meet the needs of older neighbourhoods.

Discussion ensued and the following comments and concerns were made:

- Playground safety concerns have been raised with regards to aging playgrounds and equipment. Playgrounds were built to the safety standards of the day.
- Parks to work with the Risk Management Department to review current status of equipment.

It was

Moved by Terry Allen

Seconded by Councillor Gill

That the Parks & Community Services

Committee receive this memo for information and comments.

Carried

2. **Joe Brown Park Conceptual Plan**

File: 1640/20-J

A staff memo dated April 28, 2007 from the Parks Planning, Research and Design Manager Parks, Recreation and Culture, was provided with information on Joe Brown Park current facilities and potential redevelopment plans.

It was Moved by Councillor Gill
Seconded by Cliff Annable
That the Parks & Community Services
Committee recommend that the Parks & Community Services Committee:

1. Receive this memo.
2. Support the Joe Brown Park Concept Plan as presented.

Carried

It was Moved by Councillor Gill
Seconded by Cliff Annable
That the Parks & Community Services
Committee recommend to Council that Council receive a staff presentation on the
Joe Brown Park Concept Plan at Council-in-Committee.

Carried

3. **2007 Parks, Recreation and Culture Service Delivery Plan**

File: 0115-01

A staff memo dated April 11, 2007 from GM, Parks, Recreation and Culture, was provided with information on an outline of Surrey Parks, Recreation and Culture Department's core areas of responsibility, our Vision, Values and Mission Statement, and includes a framework for the Department's work schedule for 2007.

It was Moved by Councillor Gill
Seconded by Cliff Annable
That the Parks & Community Services
Committee receive this memo for information.

Carried

4. **Community School Partnership Initiative**

File: 0510-01

A Corporate Report No. R043, dated February 26, 2007 from GM, Parks, Recreation and Culture, was provided with information on the concept of a joint strategy beginning with the exploration of a community school-based partnership model. The new partnership model will start in the three Town Centres with the most inner-city schools, namely, the Guildford Town Centre, Newton Town Centre and the Whalley Town Centre.

It was Moved by Councillor Gill
Seconded by Gurpreet Rai
That the Parks & Community Services
Committee receive this report for information.
Carried

5. School Community Connection Grant

File: 1855-01

A Corporate Report No. R044, dated March 1, 2007 from GM, Parks, Recreation and Culture, was provided as information to the Parks and Community Services Committee regarding the School Community Connections Grant and a joint application with the School District for Phase 2 funding to enable further planning to determine one or two specific school projects that would further promote schools as community focal points for learning and activity and increase community utilization of school space.

It was Moved by Sargy Chima
Seconded by Councillor Gill
That Parks & Community Services
Committee receive the report as information.
Carried

F. STAFF REPORTS

Verbal Updates –April 18th, 2007

Wire Theft

As of March 15, 2007 the financial losses to the Parks Department have surpassed the \$250,000 mark. System fortification was implemented in a phased approach with the early phases doing little to deter theft. On March 15th, a professional security company was engaged to provide overnight on-site patrols at all major athletic parks. In parallel with the on-site security, Parks staff have aggressively proceeded with the full scale fortification of the electrical systems targeting our most vulnerable and high-use parks first. To date fortification efforts have been completed at Bear Creek Park, South Surrey Athletic Park, Tamanawis Park and Newton Athletic Park. Fortification efforts are underway at Cloverdale Athletic Park and Whalley Athletic Park and expected to be completed over the next two weeks.

The Historic Stewart Farm is undergoing some repairs to the verandah over the coming week and this will complete the project that included re-construction of the deck support, double tongue-and-groove decking, and the replacement of the railing and spindles. Several buildings will be painted this year.

The Surrey Early Years Festival began as the Preschool and Family Festival initiated in 2003. This event provides an opportunity for local child and family service providers, agencies and the Surrey Parks, Recreation and Culture Department to connect with

children ages 0-6 and young families in our community and encourage and promote participation in our preschool programs in a welcoming and supportive environment.

Given the increasing success of this festival and need for larger space the venue was moved last year from Tom Binnie Park Community Center to the North Surrey Recreation Center. This created opportunities to increase community involvement, family participation and awareness of programs offered at our facility and stronger networking of key service providers supporting children 0-6 years of age and their families.

Currently approximately 34 community resources and business are associated or involved with this successful event, these partnerships contributing by way of staff support, financial support, prizes, advertising and additional businesses providing donations.

The Surrey Early Years Festival is a collaborative, creative, inclusive and healthy approach ton linking children 0-6 and their families to numerous community resources and services. In just 4 years, community participation in this festival grew from approximately 300 to 3,000 in April 2006.

Community Safety Forum – On Tuesday April 24th, 2007, Fleetwood Community Centre is hosting a Community Safety Forum from 6:00 – 8:00pm. Attendance is free. Topics include - Personal and Home Safety and Graffiti Abatement Initiatives. The forum is in partnership with Surrey Crime Prevention & Fleetwood Community Policing.

International Wrestling Championships – Guildford Recreation Centre will be hosting this event November 1st – 4th, 2007. This is a sanctioned senior (adult elite) event that will attract 200-300 wrestlers from around the world. It is anticipated to have 500 – 700 spectators each day. The concept we wish to use is our own version of an "Athlete's Village" whereby each competitor will have a facility pass so they have access to our other facilities, including arts and culture. This event is sanctioned and supported by Wrestling BC. It is hoped that the event's anticipated success will lead to community and business support for the development of a wrestling facility in Surrey as there are many wrestlers in our community

Guildford Youth Park Official Opening takes place on Saturday, April 21st, 2007 at 3:00 pm. The Guildford Youth Park is a multifunctional recreational space, designed to accommodate a variety of activities including skate boarding, in line skating, bicycling and basketball.

Earth Day Celebration & Environmental Extravaganza Kick-off Event is scheduled for Saturday April 21st, 2007 from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm (opening ceremonies at 12:30) at Bear Creek Park. The City of Surrey partners with the Rotary Club of Surrey to host the annual Earth Day celebrations, which also signifies the start of the 10th annual Environmental Extravaganza, a series of more than 50 events and programs hosted by 30 local community

Clean Sweep Week – April 21st – 28th, 2007 - This weeklong campaign is to engage volunteers, businesses, schools, residents and community groups to take part in clean-up efforts throughout Surrey. A list of key events is listed on the City website www.cleansweep.surrey.ca.

G. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

H. CORRESPONDENCE

1. West Cloverdale South 164 Street (letter to Traaseth's)

File: 6140-20

A letter dated April 3, 2007 from the GM, Parks, Recreation and Culture, to **Steven and Camille Traaseth**, was provided regarding the Parks and Community Services Committee Recommendation for the proposed 164 Street/Bell Road Park Trail.

It was
Moved by Councillor Gill
Seconded by Sargy Chima
That the Parks & Community Services
Committee receive this letter for information.
Carried

2. Cloverdale Minor Hockey

File: 8000-20

A letter dated March 22, 2007 from the GM, Parks, Recreation and Culture, to **Gary Eaton, President, Cloverdale Minor Hockey**, was provided regarding the development of a 3rd sheet of ice at Surrey Sport and Leisure Complex (SSLC)

It was
Moved by Councillor Gill
Seconded by Sargy Chima
That the Parks & Community Services
Committee receive this letter for information.
Carried

I. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Calendar of Events
2. Beer Garden License Days
File: 03560-20-BGRC

An inter-office memo dated April 4, 2007 from City Clerk to Parks & Community Services Committee was provided regarding Beer Garden License Days.

3. Semiahmoo Potters' Club
File: 0220-05

A letter dated March 27, 2007 from Sylvia Riddell, Secretary, Semiahmoo Potters' Club, was provided thanking Parks & Community Services Committee for their assistance and support in the search for a new home for the Semiahmoo Potters' Club.

4. Semiahmoo Potters' Club
File: 0250-20

A letter dated April 13, 2007 from Monica Parker, Search Committee, Semiahmoo Potters' Club, was provided advising Parks & Community Services Committee that the Club has been requested to vacate the new space as the Camp Kwomais property is to be sold. The Potters' Club is once again requesting the Park's assistance in finding suitable space.

Discussion ensued and the following comments were raised:

- The Parks, Recreation and Culture Department is back to square one in finding this Club a home. All potential opportunities have been exhausted but will continue to pursue possibilities.
- The nature of pottery is they want a designated space that is not shared space.
- The School Trustee will check with the school district regarding potential space.
- Cliff Annable to check with the owner of the property to request the possibility of the Club using the space at Camp Kwomais until the completion of sale of the property.

J. EMERGING PRIORITIES/POLICY DISCUSSION

K. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

1. Robson Creek

Toxic spill hazardous materials is still located at Robson Creek. The Engineering Department initiated a hazardous waste response. An update will be provided to the Parks & Community Services Committee members on April 19th, 2007.

L. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parks & Community Services Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, May 16, 2007 at 7:00 pm at the Parks Boardroom.

M. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by Councillor Gill
Seconded by Sargy Chima
That the Parks and Community Services

Committee meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Parks and Community Services Committee adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Certified as true and correct:

Margaret Jones, City Clerk

Deputy Chairperson (Councillor Martin)
Parks & Community Services Committee

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