



# City of Surrey

## *Parks & Community Services Committee*

### *Minutes*

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

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**Present:**

Chairperson: Councillor Hepner  
Councillor Martin  
C. Annable  
G. Rai  
G. Rice

**School Board Trustee:**

T. Allen

**Absent:**

Councillor T. Gill  
S. Chima  
S. Moore

**Also Present:**

L. Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture  
O. Croy, Manager, Parks  
R. Ryan, Bus. Ops. & Athletic Fields  
D. Vestergaard, Parks Recreation & Culture  
H. Dmytriw, Legislative Service  
B. Sommer, Manager Heritage Services  
B. Paterson, Manager Parks Construction  
G. Vandenbosch, Manager, Parks Op. North

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**A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

It was

Moved by Councillor Martin

Seconded by Terry Allen

That the minutes of the Parks & Community

Services Committee meeting held on May 16, 2007, be adopted.

Carried

**B. DELEGATION REQUEST**

**C. DELEGATIONS**

**1. Bear Creek Park Train**

File: 6140-20

David Penn, Manager, Bear Creek Park Trains provided a presentation on and to seek approval for the addition of an 18 hole miniature/adventure golf course inside the Train's operating area.

The following comments were provided by the delegation:

- Bear Creek Train has been in existence since July 1996.
- The train is a Thomas The Train look alike. There are two engines that use a 15 gauge narrow track.
- The train runs round the track, alongside the service road, past the gardens.
- This major Surrey attraction has been the top attraction during Halloween and Christmas for the past 11 years.
- Caters to schools, volunteer activities with non-profit organizations, handicap charities.
- Featured in the Vancouver Coast Mountain Christmas display bus tour.

- Other attractions to bring people to the park will include the addition of a mini golf course inside the train area. Will use existing space, existing trees, train facilities and washrooms.
- The 18 hole mini golf will be located behind the train track, crossing over to the area behind.
- Will put in fencing, and use berms to promote forward flow of users.
- Sidewalks will be 4' wide and wheelchair assessable.
- Retention ponds for holding water. Landscaped course congruent with park atmosphere will provide another attraction for Surrey. There will be no gingerbread houses or lighthouses but will use traps and drop-throughs.
- Benefits: provides activity for older children, fun family entertainment, outdoor recreation.
- Have engaged a surveyor, planner and architectural landscaper to liaise with the City.

The delegation is requesting approval to add the adventure mini golf to the train operation by amending the current operating license.

In response to questions the delegation stated the following:

- Revenue has dropped from 98,000 visitors in 2004 to 52,000 visitors annually. There are 20,000 to 30,000 visitors during the summer with the main thrust during July and August.
- The cost of developing this golf course will be approximately \$80,000 to \$100,000 with total revenue supplying the funding. It is self-supporting.
- Construction would take two to three months during March and April next year. They would use existing surfaces, by scraping off the topsoil.
- The course will go through the 70 cedar trees that were planted in a past project and only one tree may need to be moved. The trees are decorated with lights at Christmas time. They may incorporate this as part of a Christmas maze.
- The Halloween display is adjacent to the King Creek culvert.
- Canada Day is celebrated for the children, featuring face painting, give away flags, etc.
- The facility is open from 10:00 am to 9:00 pm daily on a seasonal basis.
- The mini golf will not affect any train passengers. A perimeter chain link fence will be 6' high in places, with a *gate* that closes when the train crosses.
- The fencing may be subjected to vandalism.
- The golf course and the train will be operated as two separate attractions.
- Existing parking will be sufficient since the parking lot fills up only a few times per year usually in conjunction with other sports groups activities.

It was

Moved by Councillor Martin

Seconded by Gurpreet Rai

That the Parks & Community Services

Committee receive the Bear Creek Park Train presentation and folder containing a copy of the presentation. The Committee recommends that staff bring back a report on the implication of the development of a miniature/adventure golf course inside the train operating area at Bear Creek Park.

Carried

Councillor Hepner thanked David Penn for their presentation and David Penn and his delegation departed.

## 2. Bolivar Slo-Pitch

File: 6140-20

Peter J. McKenna provided a presentation regarding the Bolivar Slo-Pitch:

### (a) WCFG 2009 Support

Slow Pitch Association has begun work on this event and are looking at venues at which to hold the tournament. Update was provided:

- The Slo-Pitch tournament will require 6 diamonds.
- Lights would be an asset but will not determine the final decision.
- Slo-pitch will be a 6 day event with 60-80 teams.
- Beer gardens are a must.
- Will require help from the City if they get this event at Bolivar Park.
- Will be going into a signed agreement if they get the tournament and will discuss with the GM, Parks, Recreation and Culture and with Council.

### (b) Official Proposal for Bridgeview Park Upgrade

Provided a background of Bridgeview Park of past users:

- Parks, Recreation and Culture requested an agreement.
- Bolivar has paid costs for past 3 years.
- Believe this should remain in place.
- Soccer groups use diamond #2.
- At meetings held at school, Parks, Recreation and Culture suggested that the Society should only get diamond #1 and diamond #2 for tournaments. There should be a shared agreement on diamond #2. Society proposes to give them Monday, Tuesday and Thursday; was Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Rosters are almost completed for the park leagues. 80% or better with Surrey content.
- Have a waiting list for all leagues.

Leagues	2007	2008
Mens	21	26
Chuggers	33	36+
Lower Mainland	33	36+
Recovery Teams	24	32
Total Number of Teams	116	130
Total projected increase in teams		<b>14</b>

In response to questions the delegation stated the following:

- One League is an addiction *recovery league*. The players joined teams in Surrey, play in Surrey but are adapting themselves into other leagues as they move elsewhere in the lower mainland. Surrey is the only organized *recovery league* in all of BC. The next closest is Washington State or Calgary.

- Have gone into the Provincials and won representing Bolivar Park and Surrey and going on to the Nationals. They have done quite well.
- Adding more teams next year is based on field renovations to last year's fields. Adding the extra teams is based on new fields over and above diamond #1 at Bridgeview Park. With one new field coming on stream the leagues could add teams as follows:

Leagues	Teams
Mens	3-4
Chuggers	4
Lower Mainland	4
Recovery Teams	4

- The WFPG beer gardens would only be run for the WFPG games. Do not want beer gardens for any other tournaments.
- Kids Slo-Pitch is currently in negotiations with McDonald's and the high schools. McDonald's is to sponsor a one-month program to run from mid September to mid October at Bolivar Park exclusively.
- Staff will use trends and demo projects to direct the changes in needs versus demands in to response to what is current. Any plans are simply a basis for good decision-making. Will plan updates for a periodic 5-year mini review and a 10-year major review.

Councillor Hepner thanked Peter McKenna for his presentation.

### 3. 2007-2016 Parks, Recreation and Culture Strategic Plan

Brian Johnson, Professional Environmental Services Consultant (PERC) provided an update on the above as follows:

- The Strategic Plan is proceeding
- Have collected all the data and user information such as, demographics, assessments, etc.
- Good result with public survey 40% return results will be available in one week. Now have a good database on what Surrey residents want.
- Parallel on-line surveys with close to 1,400 survey returns for a total of 2,800.
- Six public open houses were conducted in order to get citizens input.
- Held stakeholder interviews with 400 invited groups, plus a great many other participants.
- Organized interested groups, collected trends, demos, and best practices for leisure behaviour. Will have all this data collated by the end of the month
- Will do data analysis this summer, issues identified, draft a report, hold public review, and prepare a final report. The Sustainability Charter will become a lens to filter through.
- Decision making framework – workshop with council:

Private Sector	Public Sector
Demand driven	Needs driven
Direct benefit to users	Indirect benefit to all citizens
Costs/benefits in dollars	Costs/benefits in dollars & units of public good

- Use PRC as a vehicle to achieve socially worthwhile goals and objectives that deliver indirect benefit to all citizens.

Councillor Hepner thanked Mr. Johnston for his update on the Parks, Recreation and Culture Strategic Plan and Mr. Johnson departed.

## D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

### 1. Guildford Artificial Turf Field File: 5920-01

Letter, dated May 14, 2007 from Councillor Linda Hepner, Chairperson, Parks & Community Services Committee to the Surrey School Board Chairperson, School District No. 36 to thank them for their continued interest and support for park amenities in Surrey.

It was Moved by Councillor Martin  
Seconded by Terry Allen  
That the Parks and Community Services  
Committee receive this letter as information.  
Carried

### 2. Guildford Synthetic Turf Field - Site Feasibility Analysis

The Parks, Recreation and Culture Department recommends that the Parks and Community Services Committee:

- Receive this memo as information; and
- Advise staff on the Committee's recommended course of action regarding timelines and location for the Guildford Artificial Field.

Chairperson Martin read email correspondence from Councillor Gill regarding the Guildford Artificial Turf Field.

It was Moved by Councillor Martin  
Seconded by Terry Allen  
That the Parks and Community Services  
Committee receive this memo as information.  
Carried

After reviewing the minutes and information received regarding the proposed location for artificial turf fields the following comments were provided by the Committee members:

- Hjorth Road Park would be the better solution, as there are too many negatives with the Fraser Heights location.
- The School District will not contribute funds if the Hjorth Road Park site is chosen, but the Hjorth Road Park site is the preferred site, all factors considered.
- Based on all the facts collated, and considering the information on Page 19 of the report, a cost savings of \$230,000 has been identified if two fields were to be constructed at the same time at Hjorth Road Park.
- The field closest to the soccer fields would be built first.
- The Long Term Concept Plan includes two artificial fields at this site. We would need to invest at the front end of this project in order to not lose financial benefits of building two fields at one location.
- Cost estimates are \$600,000 to construct a field house building, which is recommended by staff if the two fields are developed at the same time.
- We face a challenge with respect to tree removal and community support to remove such trees and how this tree removal process would work with the creation of one, or alternatively two, fields. Trees would be required to be cleared to prepare the park and the community is aware of that. All trees would be cleared at once, with the roots and stumps grubbed out if only one field is to be built now, the area for the second future field would be bladed flat and grass seeded to discourage the growth of weeds and to provide a pleasing appearance for the park.
- User groups players use washrooms and change rooms.
- The existing field house facility is sufficient for one additional synthetic turf field, but two new synthetic turf fields would need an additional field house.
- Page 29 of the report shows a proposed field house that would be between two fields in a shaded area, making it close for field users. With respect to using geo-thermal heating for a new field house, it was noted that minimal heating is currently used in field houses, and therefore there may not be a strong cost/benefit ratio for using this technology: staff will investigate this further.
- Hjorth Road Park currently has a concession, washroom and storage.
- Public consultation can be started in July including a second field as an option, a detailed design can be completed for two fields, tendered with the second field as an option and contract awarded following notice of 2008 budget support for a second field. Project completion is targeted for Fall 2008.

It was

Moved by Gurpreet Rai  
 Seconded by Councillor Martin  
 That Parks & Community Services

Committee recommend that Council support the Hjorth Road Park for the location of the Guildford area artificial turf field and that Council consider the funding of a second artificial turf field at this location in the 2008 capital budget.

Carried

**E. STAFF PRESENTATION(S)**

1. Bev Sommer, Manager of Heritage Services provided a presentation on the Award Winning 1912 Hall. Following are comments provided:
  - Historical photos from 1910 of Hall, municipal staff and police department were presented.
  - The Hall, located at 176<sup>th</sup> Street and 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue, was built in 1912 as a WWI war memorial.
  - There are Royal Surveyors maps and charts of Surrey dating back to 1860 and minutes of meetings dating back to the incorporation of Surrey in 1879.
  - The cannon originally sitting on the cenotaph was melted down for the WWII effort to increase metal supply for armaments.
  - This was not a restoration project but a rehabilitation project.
  - The Rehabilitation project began in August of 2006 after a meeting with city staff and architect.
  - Project work included:
    - Removal of all insulation in the building.
    - Removal of building addition.
    - New wiring encased in tubing (old wiring was compromised by gnawing from rodents and the obsolete breaker system).
    - Foundation repairs to granite stone, new caulking and cleaning of the 1912 tiles.
    - Building was coated with environmentally friendly no gloss anti-graffiti coating
    - Internal and external CCTV was added.
    - Repainted with Edwardian colour scheme.
    - Eaves troughs are still to be installed. The canopy above the front doors carried the weight of ice and snow from this past winter to protect the stairs.
    - New floor plan for building.
    - Public reference rooms.
    - Computers for research of other archival databases and microfiche reader and printers.
    - Map storage room was created in the former senior's centre kitchen and the west window was restored.
    - Archival records storage is now 1/3 larger than the previous storage room. The new compressible filing shelf system provides 2/3 more storage containing 60,000 photos, negatives, history, events, organizations; 10,600 school registers for 1890 to 1900; City Council records collections, maps from 1860's.
    - Classrooms and program space, multi purpose rooms for rent.
    - Cenotaph was relocated in 2005 to the east side of the Surrey Archives.
  - The building is a repository for municipal records.
  - Awarded a project award of honour and presented as a joint project. Final part of project was to be done in May.
  - The hope is that the archives remain in this building for the rest of the building's life.

- Hosts 600 to 800 reference users per year who access all the records within the building.
- The GM, Parks, Recreation and Culture noted that to achieve this project, the City made the decision to do the project management themselves in order to achieve cost limitations. Bev Sommers has done a hard job to achieve such a beautiful building.

Councillor Hepner thanked Ms. Sommers for her presentation and Ms. Sommers departed the meeting at 8:45 pm.

## F. NEW BUSINESS

### 1. Bridgeview Park Renovations

File: 6140-20/B

The Parks, Recreation and Culture Department recommend that the Parks and Community Services Committee:

- (a) Receive this memo for information; and
- (b) Recommend to Council the adoption of the Renovation Plan for Bridgeview Park.

It was

Moved by Cliff Annable  
Seconded by Grant Rice  
That the Parks & Community Services

Committee:

- (a) Receive this memo for information; and
- (b) Recommend to Council the adoption of the Renovation Plan for Bridgeview Park.

Carried

The GM, Parks, Recreation and Culture advised that renovations to Bridgeview Park came about due to a lot of comments and community interest. A lot of work and due diligence was needed to listen to the community in the Bridgeview area. Youth soccer community provided very strong comments towards this being a positive activity for the area. To foster and develop participation is very important and to host tournaments is very important. Can achieve tourism as an added benefit to the local community.

The Chairperson thanked Peter J. McKenna for his hard work and passion relative to Bolivar Park.

### 2. Hillcrest Park Development

File: 6140-20/H

The Parks, Recreation and Culture Department recommends that the Parks and Community Services Committee receive this report as information.



It was Moved by Cliff Annable  
Seconded by Grant Rice  
That the Parks & Community Services  
Committee receive this report for information.  
Carried

## G. STAFF REPORTS

1. Laurie Cavan, GM Parks, Recreation & Culture provided a verbal report.

### **Newton Community Festival**

The 12th Annual Newton Community Festival was held on a very wet Saturday June 9th. An estimated 1000-1200 people attended.

### **Whalley Community Festival**

Despite the raindrops many people came out to enjoy the festival last Saturday, June 16, 2007.

### **Mountain Bike Madness**

On Friday, June 22, 2007 the Clayton Heights Secondary career centre will be hosting a Lend-a-Hand special event. It's called "Mountain Bike Madness" and will be taking place at Port Kells Bike Park between 9:30-2:00PM. The theme of the event is "Healthy Living in Parks".

Approximately 150 local elementary school students from grade 6 & 7 will be attending. Students will see demonstrations from professional riders and participate in several activities.

### **Cadets Request for a Facility**

The provincial and federal governments have found a location on the Green Timbers site where the cadets can continue to meet and drill, possibly for as long as another five years

### **Surrey Archives**

The shingle roof is being replaced. This project will start June 21, 2007 and be completed by July 5, 2007.

### **Museum Updates**

The Museum has recently initiated two new community partnerships:

1. The Java Car Club will be meeting in the Museum parking lot during July and August on Friday evenings from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. Vintage vehicles from the 1940s – 1960s will be on display for public viewing. The neighbours (businesses and residents) have been polled and are pleased to welcome this activity at the Museum site.

2. Simon Fraser University – School of Interactive Arts and Technology will be working on an experimental project with the Surrey Museum to research and develop new museum gallery technologies that can be used to create interactive dialogue between visitors while visiting the museum exhibits. This project has been funded by the Department of Canadian Heritage

### **Historic Stewart Farm**

During the month of June, 2007 the Stewart Farm is hosting strawberry teas and completing their final weeks of programs for primary students.

### **National Aboriginal Day**

Tomorrow is National Aboriginal Day and the Aboriginal Education Department of the Surrey School District is hosting their third annual National Aboriginal Day celebrations at the Surrey Arts Centre and Bear Creek Park. The theatres and classrooms at the Art Centre will be filled with native craft activities, drumming, dancing, storytelling and displays. One of the highlights this year will be a visit to see carver Mike Dangeli and his team working on the "Awakening the Spirit" canoe carving project. These First Nations artists will be working at the Surrey Art Gallery for the next two months. In addition to creating the canoe they will be mentoring local youth in carving techniques and First Nations culture and preparing the youth for a canoe journey on the Fraser River to take place later this summer. You are welcome to drop by and meet the artists.

### **Arts 2007**

Friday evening June 22, 2007 members of the committee are welcome to join us as we celebrate the opening of Arts 2007 an annual juried art show, organized by the Arts Council of Surrey, with support from the Surrey Art Gallery. The **ARTS 2007** exhibition is testament to the strong presence of artists in our region.

### **Partners in Parks**

Approximately 75 enthusiastic volunteers turned out at Bear Creek Park for the annual Partners in Parks celebration. We tried something new this year; usually the Partners in Parks event is an evening event but wanted to capture some of the youth volunteers by having it during the day.

## **H. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL**

### **I. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. **Proposal for Arts Addition to the South Surrey Recreation Centre**  
File: 8000-30

Letter from the GM, Parks, Recreation and Culture to Mr. Hunter Brumell, White Rock & South Surrey Art Society, thanking them for their generous offer to contribute \$250,000 toward the construction of a dedicated Art Centre for the Semiahmoo Peninsula.

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

**2. Guildford Artificial Turf Field**

File: 6140-20

Letter, received May 30, 2007 from Vonja & Tony Bardaro advocating for the installation of the artificial turf field at Hjorth Road Park.

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

**3. Guildford Artificial Turf Field**

File: 0510-01

Letter, dated May 28, 2007 from Shawn Wilson, Chairperson, Board of School Trustees, advising of the need to await preliminary year end financial results before conveying the school board's intention to financially support the artificial fields.

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

**J. INFORMATION ITEMS**

1. Calendar of Events

**K. EMERGING PRIORITIES/POLICY DISCUSSION**

**L. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS**

1. Cliff Annable thanked staff for all their hard work on the artificial turf field reports.
2. Grant Rice thanked Owen Croy, Manager, Parks and his staff for the work they did on the Sustainability Charter Open House on June 9, 2007.
3. Playground Inventory Report  
Staff to provide a memo to the Committee.
4. Partnership with School District 36  
GM to meet with School District senior staff to discuss opportunities.

**M. NEXT MEETING**

Next meeting of the Parks & Community Services Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, July 18, 2007 @ 7:00 pm in the Parks, Recreation and Culture Boardroom 1.

**N. ADJOURNMENT**

It was  
Committee meeting do now adjourn.

Moved by Councillor Martin  
Seconded by Gurpreet Rai  
That the Parks and Community Services

Carried

The Parks and Community Services Committee adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Certified as true and correct:

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Margaret Jones, City Clerk

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Chairperson, Councillor Linda Hepner  
(Parks & Community Service Committee)