



City of Surrey

Parks & Community Services Committee

Minutes

Parks Boardroom #1
City Hall
14245 - 56 Avenue
Surrey, B.C.
**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17,
2007**
Time: 7:00 p.m.
File: 0540-20

Present:

C. Annable – Acting Chair
S. Chima
S. Moore
G. Rice

Absent:

Chairperson: Councillor Hepner
Councillor Gill
Councillor Martin
G. Rai

Also Present:

L. Cavan, General Manager, Parks,
Recreation & Culture
O. Croy, Manager of Parks
R. Ryan, Manager of Business
Operations and Athletic Fields
D. Vestergaard, Admin. Coordinator
H. Dmytriw, Legislative Service

School Board Trustee:

T. Allen

Guest

Maeve Glass, Semiahmoo Soccer Club
Darryl Jones, Peace Arch Soccer Club
Mike Pajic, Bayside Rugby Club
Stephen Black, Bayside Rugby Club

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

It was Moved by Steven Moore
Seconded by Sargy Chima
That the minutes of the Parks & Community
Services Committee meeting held on September 19, 2007, be adopted.
Carried

B. DELEGATION

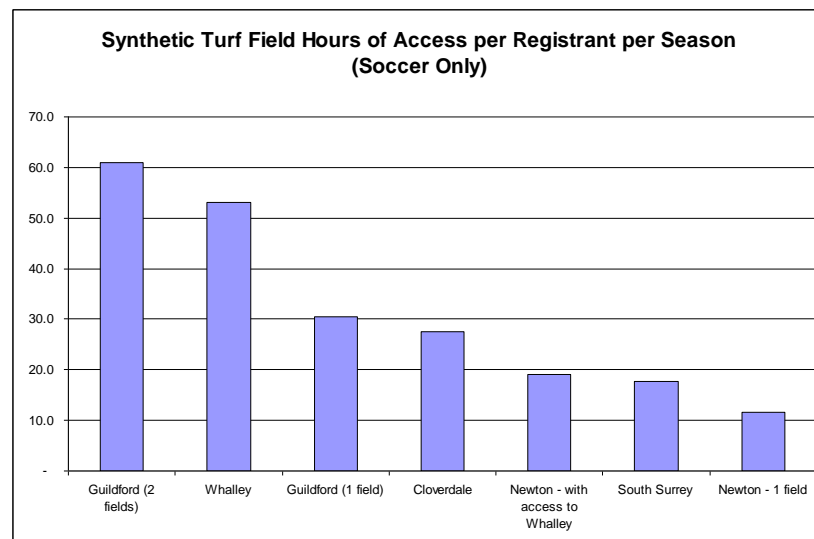
1. Darryl F. Jones, Peace Arch Soccer Club and Maeve Glass, Semiahmoo Soccer Club, joint delegation provided a presentation regarding demand for synthetic turf fields in the City of Surrey and South Surrey.
File: 5920-01

Mr. Jones thanked the committee for the opportunity of providing his presentation and provided the following comments:

- The purpose of this presentation was to inform the Committee of the challenges and concerns regarding sports fields in South Surrey and to inform the Committee of the proposed recommendations on how to proceed.
- The Peace Arch Soccer Club and Semiahmoo Soccer Club provide soccer programming to all soccer players (boys and girls) south of 40th Avenue in Surrey from the Langley border to the Delta border.

- The Semiahmoo Soccer Club started in 1979 and serves over 1,200 girls and women from ages 5-50. The Peace Arch Soccer Club started in 1966 and serves 1,600 boys and men ages 5-60. There has been an explosive growth in sport participation in South Surrey and soccer has lead the way. Soccer is the number one participation sport in North America today.
- The Sports field situation is South Surrey is such:
 - 1 synthetic turf field
 - 2 gravel all-weather fields that are situated on School District property. These two fields were resurfaced two years ago through a partnership between the City and the South Surrey soccer groups; however, the renovations have not improved the playability of the fields as they were improperly constructed.
 - Grass field usage is well beyond planned usage levels. Mike Pajic, from Bayside Rugby in South Surrey is here this evening (rugby not factored into the stat charts) and their club is experiencing a shortage of practice facilities. Bayside Rugby has over 400 members. Demand for practice facilities by the two football clubs that also play out of South Surrey are not being met either.

Synthetic Turf Field Allocations in Surrey



- The graph compares access to synthetic turf by town centre. This includes an access number based on one turf field at Hjorth Road Park versus two fields at Hjorth Road Park.
- South Surrey residents do not want to be traveling to North Surrey – a logistical commuting nightmare.
- A second field in South Surrey would allow International competitions – there is a year-round demand for showcase locations to play high-level soccer.
- Peace Arch and Semiahmoo Soccer Clubs have a track record for paying for park facility enhancements – \$190,000 in less than 9 years. Soccer club members are willing to do the same again for a second turf field in South Surrey Athletic Park.

- There is no doubt that Newton needs a 2nd synthetic turf field and has a good shot at attaining this in the future. There is currently a BC Infrastructure Grant that has been submitted to fund a second artificial turf field at Newton Athletic Park. The future status of the grant is unknown at the time of the meeting.
 - Newton based soccer players have the option of traveling short distances to other nearby synthetic turf fields such as Tom Binnie if there is insufficient turf time available in Newton.
 - Hjorth Road Park is a “field of dreams”. Other areas have a greater need, and South Surrey soccer players traveling to North Surrey is not practical.
 - A second Hjorth Road synthetic turf field may save \$230,000, but the same savings could be realized at South Surrey or Newton locations due to existing park infrastructure.
 - No disrespect to the Committee’s thought process, but the 5,000 members of the Peace Arch and Semiahmoo Soccer clubs could not support a second artificial turf field at Hjorth Road Park. Any additional artificial turf field to be constructed in 2008 should be slated for South Surrey.
- Mr. Jones sincerely thanked the committee for the opportunity of presenting the above comments and concerns.

Discussion ensued and the following comments were made:

- Parks, Recreation and Culture provide statistics and shares data with any groups requesting such information. Staff confirm that the statistics presented by the South Surrey soccer groups is based on accurate data requested by the clubs from the City.
- The fieldhouse at South Surrey Athletic Park is large enough to support two synthetic turf soccer fields and has the capacity to service the needs with no additional tax dollars.
- The biggest debate, with respect to Guildford synthetic turf fields, has been related to the cost. We did raise an issue in regards to demands for artificial turf fields across the city. Cost savings was the main motivator. If we were to build one field at Hjorth Road Park, there would be a significant cost savings to prepare for a second field at the same time.
- The original report from staff was based on instructions from Council to build one turf field in the Guildford town-centre for \$2.2 Million. Based on this scope, there was no citywide analysis of synthetic turf needs.
- Any capital funding for a second synthetic turf field at Hjorth Road Park will need to be approved as part of the 2008 capital budget. The 2008 Budget will not be approved until January 2008 at the earliest.
- The first synthetic turf field at Hjorth Road Park is funded in the 2007 capital budget. Preliminary recommendations are to consider capital funding to build one artificial per year based on need. Newton Athletic Park and South Surrey Athletic Park both have plans for twin synthetic turf fields and the necessary infrastructure is in place. The South Surrey Athletic Park master plan included the provision of two synthetic turf fields.
- Guildford Athletic Park’s focus is on getting the first synthetic turf field built at Hjorth Road Park. Artificial turf comes with a high rental cost for clubs

and annual rental fees may be in the vicinity of \$50,000/year for the larger clubs. The Guildford Athletic Club has had some difficulty in using all of the turf time allocated by the City in recent years and have even returned time due to the high overall cost.

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

2. A presentation by **Surrey's Natural Areas Partnership (SNAP)**; Green Timbers Heritage Society.

DEFERRED to Nov. 21/07 meeting.

C. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1. **Park Master Plan Process – Former Camp Kwomais**
File: 6140-20/K

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

- (a) Receive this memo as information.

It was
Moved by Sargy Chima
Seconded by Grant Rice
That the Parks & Community Services
Committee receive this memo as information.
Carried

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Committee Appointments**

Committee members were advised that appointments to the Parks & Community Services Committee are annual appointments. Committee members wishing to be reappointed were advised to submit their applications to the City Clerk's office by November 23, 2007.

2. **Guildford Artificial Turf Fields at Hjorth Road Park**
File: 6140-20/h

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

- (a) Receive this report as information.

The following comments were provided:

- Further updates provided on table.
- The report outlined the status of the public consultation process and open house held on October 2nd.
- Sargy Chima thanked Parks, Recreation and Culture for the feedback and remarked on the fabulous job they did on the report.
- A lot of concern has been shown around traffic and transportation—comments and concerns have been forwarded to the Transportation department.
- Grant Rice asked that open house attendees be identified as belonging to the Guildford Athletic Club where possible, in order to compare sport group respondents to neighbourhood respondents. This is the process that was utilized in the analysis of comments from the Sunnyside Park open house held earlier this year. 583 residents were invited to the information night; a high rate of return with 176 surveys returned.

It was

Moved by Steven Moore

Seconded by Terry Allen

That the Parks & Community Services

Committee receive the report as information.

Carried

E. STAFF REPORTS

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

Verbal Updates – October 17, 2007

Act Now BC Grant

North Surrey Recreation Centre has received 100 pedometers through Act Now BC. Staff will be using these to promote walking clubs out of the Tower and SFU

Dragon Boating and Teambuilding with Kwantlen Park Secondary

Outdoor Services took **300** Grade 8 students and **90** staff from Kwantlen Park Secondary School Dragon boating.

It was so successful that the Vice Principal asked if we could commit to doing the same thing with every new year of Grade 8 students for the next five years or so. He also asked us to run the teambuilding event for all of the staff at Kwantlen Park Secondary the following week.

These courses were an incredible success, it gave outdoor services and Surrey Parks Recreation & Culture an excellent reputation for team building and outdoor adventure courses within School District 36.

Youth Fest

This one-day festival was held at the Guildford Recreation Centre in late September and was a tremendous success. There were many activities in the gym such as the Velcro Wall, 2-lane Bungee Run, Slap Shot Hockey and many more.

There were skateboard and bike demonstrations in the skate park, live bands on stage and a very successful teen dance with over 200 youth attending.

The Hargobind Wrestling Club

The 2007 Hargobind International Wrestling Championships will take place November 2-3, 2007 at the Guildford Recreation Centre.

This prestigious event represents the spirit of friendship, sportsmanship and goodwill among the many federations that participate. The Hargobind Wrestling Club is honoured and excited to be hosting this annual wrestling competition. Over the past 30 years this event has been known as the Clansman International and hosted at Simon Fraser University. This year the tournament will offer some exciting new changes.

The championship finals and awards ceremony will begin at 5:30 pm on Saturday November 3, 2007. The finals and awards ceremony is an opportunity for you to meet the international athletes, local national champions, and many spectators. (Distribute copies of schedule)

Canada Cup Tournament

Thanks to the City and Parks, Recreation and Culture came in on behalf of the Canada Cup Host Committee and Cloverdale Minor Softball Association on the success of the Canada Cup tournament at Cloverdale Athletic Park. Through the cooperation and hard work of staff and the support of Council they were pleased to be able to continue providing a world-class venue for the athletes to use and enjoy.

Municipal Arborist Award

Greg Ward, Manager of Urban Forestry and Environmental Programs, was the recipient of this year's Municipal Arborist Award. This is awarded from the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA). As noted by the ISA's Award Committee Greg's contribution to the City of Surrey's urban forest management program has been highly recognized by his peers from neighbouring United States and communities throughout British Columbia.

Memory Banks Community Art Project

The opening of the Memory Banks Community Art project in the Bear Creek Park Playground is this Saturday, October 20 at 1:00 pm. There will be refreshments, face painting and storytelling if the weather co-operates.

Incident at Bear Creek Park

- Incident took place at 5:20 am. Motivation was for robbery. The two individuals were approached for that reason.
- Lights go on at the park at 6:00 am. Not encouraging people to enter the park outside those hours as there are so few people who use the park.
- Parks, Recreation and Culture will continue liaison with the RCMP and By-law officers.

Owen Croy joined the meeting at 8:02 pm.

F. CORRESPONDENCE

G. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Calendar of Events
2. Sargy Chima advised that she has received a lot of positive feedback and good comments regarding the renovations at Holland Park.
3. Surrey Sport and Leisure Complex – Third Sheet of Ice – ice will be ready and the rink open before the 2008 season.

H. NEXT MEETING

Next meeting of the Parks & Community Services Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, November 21, 2007 @ 7:00 pm in the Parks, Recreation and Culture Boardroom 1.

There will be no meeting in December.

I. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by Terry Allen
Seconded by Sargy Chima
That the Parks and Community Services

Committee meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Parks and Community Services Committee adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Certified as true and correct:

Margaret Jones, City Clerk

Cliff Annable, Deputy Chairperson,
Parks & Community Services Committee

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