

# City of Surrey

## Parks & Community Services

### Committee – Minutes

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**Present:**

Acting Chair: G. Rai  
Councillor Gill  
C. Annable  
R. Benson  
C. Girardi  
J. Grewal  
S. Hundal

**Absent:**

Councillor Martin

**Also Present:**

L. Cavan, General Manager, Parks,  
Recreation & Culture  
O. Croy, Manager, Parks, Recreation &  
Culture  
H. Norris, Manager (Acting), Bus Ops  
& Athletic Fields  
L. White, Comm. & Leisure Services  
D. Vestergaard, Administrative  
Coordinator, Parks, Recreation &  
Culture  
H. Dmytriw, Legislative Service

**School Board Trustee:**

T. Allen

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**A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

It was

Moved by Rick Benson  
Seconded by Shaba Hundal  
That the minutes of the Parks & Community  
Services Committee held on April 15, 2009 to be adopted.  
Carried

**B. DELEGATION**

**C. REQUEST(S) FOR DELEGATION**

**D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**1. Allocation Process of Spring-Summer Soccer**  
File No. 6130-01

It was

Moved by Jagdeep Grewal  
Seconded by Councillor Gill  
That the Parks and Community Services  
Committee receive this memo for information.  
Carried

**2. Dog Waste Management**

File No. 6130-01

It was Moved by Jagdeep Grewall  
Seconded by Councillor Gill  
That the Parks and Community Services  
Committee receive this memo for information.

Carried

**E. STAFF PRESENTATIONS(S)****1. Surrey Youth Council Goals and Objectives**

File No. 0250-20

David Sadler, Youth Engagement Coordinator, and members of the Surrey Leadership Youth Council (Amy and Sapreet) were in attendance to present on the results of the November 2008 Youth Speak Up! Forum; and the development of a Surrey Child and Youth Friendly City Strategy. The following comments were provided:

- The Surrey Leadership Youth Council (SLYC) has been in effect since 2007. SLYC describes itself as “Whalley youth helping Whalley youth speak up and have their voices heard.”
- SLYC held their second annual youth forum on November 21, 2008. 60 youth were in attendance along with key community members, including representatives from the City, School District, and MCFD.
- The following is a snapshot of what youth had to say at the Forum:  
Workshop 1- Recreation in Jeopardy! (a recreation-themed trivia game) –
  - Advertising and how information reaches youth needs to be improved. Many youth in Whalley don't know what is going on or even that there are youth services available.
  - Money was identified in many contexts as a barrier: events need to be free, transportation is a factor, and the lack of money prevents youth from trying out new things (lots of activities require an investment).
  - Whalley's youth centre is in a challenging location. Youth need a safe place to "hang out".
  - Racism is a very real issue for youth in Whalley, and affects opportunities for recreation because it spurs violence and resentment, and stops young people from taking part in events or groups.

Workshop 2- The Physical Environment (a photo and art based workshop to look at the built environment in Whalley) –

- For this workshop SLYC took photos of various locations in Whalley (streets, the bus loop, Holland Park) and enlarged them to poster size. At the workshop, participants put transparency paper over the photos, and drew what they would like to see in the area.
- SLYC identified common elements from many of the pieces of art and the discussions that took place:

- Community pride: signs welcoming people to Whalley, inspirational quotes and art.
- Beautification: replacing grey concrete with grass, plants and foliage and community-based art projects, more colour everywhere, specifically art on the concrete Skytrain pillars, and a giant clock.
- Security: A combination of better lighting, on-foot police officers, cameras and lots of changes to "get out the negative energy".
- Helping the Vulnerable: Homeless shelters, jobs opportunities, low-income housing, and drug treatment options.
- Being Greener: More plans and environmentally friendly buildings.
- Facilities: Benches, public washrooms, garbage and recycling bins and phone booths.

Workshop 3- Stereotypes and Whalley (an art-based discussion on stereotypes) -

- Youth are tired of the negative stereotypes of being from Whalley. SLYC wanted to explore why they exist and what could be done to spread the truth. In this workshop youth had discussions and created pieces of artwork. SLYC found:
  - Whalley stereotypes are bad because they are frustrating and make people ashamed of themselves and their community.
  - Participants said that youth are at a vulnerable age and hearing these stereotypes can affect how they grow, and can influence who they become.
  - Ideas for what youth can do:
    - Promote Whalley and the truth – It's becoming cleaner! Things are changing! Development is happening!
    - Use the media to tell true stories about youth
    - Continue to help the drug addicts and vulnerable people in the community.
    - Start talking, meet people, interact with others, lead by example.
    - Don't REACT when you hear stereotypes, RESPOND intelligently.

Councillor Gill thanked the delegation for the promotion of Whalley youth and Whalley community.

In response to queries the following information was provided:

- This is a group membership currently at 10 youth and consists of youth who are interested in doing community development work. Forums have been semi-annual but are interested in doing more large forums in future.
- Ages range from 13 to 21. The minimum ages just attend the meetings. The maximum age is 19 but there are a few older ones who have "stuck around". The group meets every second week.

- Surrey School District is the only district with a growing youth population in BC. There are approximately 123,000 residents in Whalley and approximately 126,000 residents in Newton. Newton has the largest youth demographics in Surrey and Whalley the second largest.
- Child and Youth Friendly City Strategy have a need for resources to identify urban design, policies, community services and process that will advance the development of a child and youth friendly city. A great deal of research has been done around what this actually means.
- The new youth lounge at North Surrey Recreation Centre: the youth polled their peers for input into what the lounge and program should contain. The program and the youth lounge are run by the youth. They were instrumental in its fruition from inception to actuality. They built the environment: from play opportunities to development of independence, to getting around safely. It is a physical environment that supports the developmental needs of kids and youth.
- The work plan is to compile policies and practices and to consult with the children youth, parents and community stakeholders and to prepare a draft strategy for Council's consideration.
  - compiling policies and practices
  - Consult with kids youth and parents and community stakeholders
  - Preparing a draft strategy for council's consideration.
- Parks & Community Services Committee members were requested to email their responses to the following questions to Laurie Cavan:
  - (i) What do you think makes Surrey a great place for kids and youth?
  - (ii) What could be improved on?
- Lisa White, Community & Leisure Services, confirmed that Youth Memberships previously \$5 annually are now FREE--a barrier removed! The goal is to get the youth involved in leadership roles.
- Child and Friendly Arts Enhancements in Holland Park is a program being conducted by city staff and is separate from SLYC. It is also a great group to be involved with.

## 2. Sports Field Allocation

File No. 5920-01

Hugh Norris, Acting Manager Business Operations and Athletic Fields, provided a presentation on allocation of athletic fields. The following comments were provided:

- Outdoor athletic facilities users:
  - Approximately 35,000 Surrey based registered users of the City's outdoor athletic facilities.
  - Based on interlock with other leagues across the Lower Mainland and the PNW this equates to at least 50,000 users who use the City's outdoor athletic facilities.
  - Presently spring and summer soccer is one of the fastest growing outdoor sports in the City.
- Allocation Seasons:
  - Fall/Winter (September 1-March 30) – fall/winter soccer, football, touch football, rugby, field hockey, field lacrosse
  - Spring/Summer (April 1-August 31) – baseball, softball/slo-pitch, spring/summer soccer, field hockey, cricket, kabaddi

- Sports field Inventory:

<i>Outdoor Sports</i>	<i>ART</i>	<i>Sand</i>	<i>Soil</i>	<i>Total</i>
Soccer (reg)	8	43	16	67
Softball		23	34	57
Mini Soccer	17	8	39	64
Baseball		6	28	34
Practice fields		0	8	8
3/4 sized Soccer		2	5	6
Field Hockey	5			5
Rugby		3	0	3
Football	1	3	0	3
Cricket		3	1	4
Field Lacrosse	3	1	0	4
Gravel (R.D.) & Misc		6	12	18
Total	<b>34</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>275</b>
Separate Sports Turf Areas				165

- Field Availability Constraints (spring/summer):
  - Field repair and re-establishment need on fall/winter fields
  - Field overlap soccer/softball
  - League play deletions due to weekend tournaments
- Outdoor facility allocation and management policy:
  - Allocation Guidelines -
    - Surrey Content – the needs of Surrey residents are considered before residents of other communities
    - Equity – the City will strive to ensure fair access to outdoor athletic sports fields regardless of age, gender, race, physical ability or economic status.
    - New Sports – flexibility is required in order to better meet the needs of growing and "new" sports associations.
    - Town Centre Focus – facilities are to be allocated to associations in such a way as to have the majority of their registrants playing in their neighbourhood or town centre area.
    - Home Fields/Parks – facilities will be allocated to associations in such a way as to have a minimum of associations playing on a field or in a facility to promote the concept of having a home.
  - Factors Affecting Outdoor Sport Allocations -
    - Past Year's Utilization – actual use of facilities according to previous year's permits. Field checks and anecdotal information required to check on level of usage of permits
    - Performance – adherence to Department policies and procedures. Overall conduct of players, fans, coaches and teams at the facility. Condition of the facility.
    - Allocation of Surrey Registrants only – Associations generally receive allocations proportional to the actual number of Surrey registrants in their association. More Surrey registrants equal greater proportion of available field time. Basic measurement index is "hours of access per Surrey registrant".

- Surrey Registrants Calculations –
  - Number of hours of access to sports fields provided to an association or league  
*Multiplied by:*
  - 11 players on the field at any given time  
*Divided by:*
  - Number of Surrey registrants in the association or league
  - *Equals* the "hours of access per Surrey registrant" provided to individual athletes in that club or association  
example: 55 hours x 11 / 400 = 1.51 hrs/wk
- Allocation Process (summer soccer) – staff facilitated evening meetings (2 or 3). Maximum of two designated representatives from each club in attendance.
  - 1st meeting –
    - Overview of the allocation process
    - Proposed changes in field inventory
  - 2nd meeting –
    - Designated meeting for only those groups wishing to host a tournament
    - Prior year's concerns, Park scheduling conflicts, and new requests are discussed
    - Representatives allocated time to discuss duplications, overlaps and improvements
  - 3rd meeting –
    - Designated meeting for leagues and practice groups (those clubs that do not play in a league but practice for weekend tournament play)
    - Draft schedule (league and practice) is presented based on last year's allocation.
- Each season provides for different challenges and opportunities: changing registration numbers, new associations, new inventory (3 new artificial fields in 2008).
- The cooperation of all club representatives in the allocation process is pivotal to a successful outcome.

The Acting chair thanked Hugh Norris for his presentation.

Committee comments:

- The new synthetic fields have quieted things down a bit as there is efficiency to the practice of having home parks/fields and user group committees' help in the caring of the home based fields.
- Synthetic fields not being utilized by youth are being used by adult groups. Youth soccer players are being given preference to play on the synthetic fields since adults can pay and can travel.
- Power point presentation to be used in the initial meeting of the club representatives.
- 5-11 year olds are now under the league umbrella. The USSL has exploded from 150 teams to 203 teams.

**3. Cloverdale Recreation Centre**

File No. 8000-30

Lisa White, Community & Leisure Services Manager to provide an overview of Cloverdale Recreation Centre. The following comments were provided:

- Cloverdale is a fast growing community and excited that Cloverdale is receiving a recreation centre.
- The Cloverdale Recreation Centre is located on 176 Street and 62 Avenue at the Cloverdale Fairgrounds. The new facility will have activities, spaces for seniors & youth, kitchen area that can hold 80 people, a computer lab, storage space, decks, craft storage/kitchen area, elevator, cart/stroller parking, wellness centre, fitness area, programming space and three gymnasium and multi-purpose spaces for all ages. The facility is 60,000 sq.ft. and will be \$20 Million including furnishings, site costs, etc. Operating budget separate.
- The design shadows the requirement of a "silver" LEED.

**F. NEW BUSINESS****1. Site Selection for Future Artificial Turf Fields**

File No. 5920-01

It was

Moved by Councillor Gill  
 Seconded by Cliff Annable  
 That the Parks and Community Services

Committee receive this memo for information.

Carried**2. Robson Park Improvements 2009**

File No. 6140-20

It was

Moved by Councillor Gill  
 Seconded by Cliff Annable  
 That the Parks and Community Services

Committee receive this memo for information.

Carried**3. Name for the Cloverdale Dog Off-Leash Park (Clayton Dog Off-Leash Park)**

File No. 6135-20

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

It was

Moved by Cliff Annable  
 Seconded by Councillor Gill  
 That the Parks and Community Services

Committee recommend that Council:

- (a) receive this report as information; and
- (b) recommend that the new dog off-leash park at 188 Street and 70 Avenue be named the **Clayton Dog Off Leash Park**.

Carried

4. **Hazelnut Meadows Park Community Garden**  
File No. 6140-20

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

Carried

**G. STAFF VERBAL REPORTS - DELIVERY OF SERVICES**

**Verbal Updates – May 20, 2009**

**John Crompton**

**Wednesday, June 17th at Surrey Arts Centre 9:30 am – 12:00 pm**

(Handout provided on table)

Dr. John Crompton from Texas returns to BC to discuss the important topic of “Repositioning Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services” – where Parks, Recreation and Culture will be going in the future. Dr. Crompton was scheduled to come last year but the session was cancelled. He will be at the Surrey Arts Centre on Wednesday, June 17, 2009 from 9:30 am -12:00 noon. Please advise if you would like to attend and we will register you.

**Clean Sweep**

A true success with nearly 1700 local residents coming out and getting involved in the various City organized events from April 18–24, 2009. Five different churches got together and with a total of 284 volunteers cleaned up 8 parks; 13 different schools with 1,275 volunteers did park clean up along with a number of other groups and individuals working in our parks and green spaces.

**Museum Electronic Sign Project**

A new electronic read-o-graph sign for the Learning and Discovery Centre site is being fabricated. The sign was designed by Superkul Architects and will be fabricated and constructed by Alpha Neon. The electronic sign will provide information on programs and services of the three facilities located on the Learning and Discovery Centre site: Surrey Museum, Surrey Archives and Cloverdale Library. Local community events coordinated through the Cloverdale Chamber of Commerce will also be featured throughout the year. The full colour electronic message board will accommodate graphics, photographs and video streams to illustrate programs and events. This long awaited sign will be a significant site marker and promotion tool for Heritage Services. Anticipated completion and full operation is mid-August.

**Sports History Project**

Heritage Services has launched a Sports History project to acquire artifacts, memorabilia and archival material related to the history of Surrey’s organized sports. Specific collections that are needed include: uniforms, sports equipment, photographs and records. Winter sports memorabilia are of particular interest to support the upcoming

2010 Museum exhibition, ***In the Game***. Anyone who has items to donate or information to share can contact the Archivist/Curator, Peter Johnson at 604-502-6458.

### **Hazelnut Meadows Community Garden**

June 3, 2009 is the official opening of the Hazelnut Meadows Community Garden. This will be a low key event with the stakeholders and the community.

### **2009 Park Play program**

The kick-off event for this free program will be held in Cloverdale Athletic Park on June 27, 2009. Food and fun for the community with event highlighting partnerships with Surrey Fire Fighters, RCMP and other Parks Partnerships programs.

### **Cloverdale Rodeo and Country Fair**

It was a great success this year. Over 80,000 people attended over the course of the 4 day event. Horticultural displays presented by Surrey Parks were well received by the fair goers, providing great opportunities for the public to learn and appreciate the wonder of the horticultural industry. Agricultural exhibits presented in partnership with Surrey's Nature Matters and Agricultural Advisory Committee were a hit with the public with a hay maze, seed planting and other fund educational activities for the whole family.

### **Greenways**

The overall investment of \$12.5 Million, split three ways between the federal, provincial and municipal governments, will add three cycling overpasses in Surrey: over Highway 1 at 168 Street, over Highway 99 off the Pioneer Bicycle Path and over the North Creek at 180 Street.

### **Newton Town Centre Transit Village**

Public Meetings and Workshops will be held in early June – staff working with consultants on build out plan for Newton Recreation Centre

### **Surrey Bend**

The City recently signed a Memorandum of Agreement with Metro Vancouver Regional Park. There will be a stakeholder workshop Saturday, May 23, 2009 at an open house May 28, 2009 to make plans for future trails and development to make it accessible to the community.

### **Cloverdale Bike Park**

This is scheduled to be completed in the summer with a grand opening planned for September.

### **Goldstone Park**

The Grand Opening ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, May 30, 2009 at 1:00 pm. The park is located at 58 Avenue and 146 Street and is well utilized by the community. It has a walking path, playground, tennis courts and soccer fields.

### **Holland Park**

Construction is well underway for the Spirit Squares and the washroom building at Holland Park and the finalizing of the fire fighter statue.

### **Clayton Dog Park**

Clayton Dog Park is now substantially complete and an opening event is scheduled for July 11, 2009.

**Fraser Heights Tennis Courts** are now fully operational and being used by the public. Major renovations of **two Ball Diamonds at Whalley** and **Cloverdale Ball Park** were completed by staff this spring.

### **Pool Allocation**

The pool allocation process has now been completed for the 2009/2010 season and all recommendations were unanimously approved. There were no contentious issues and the groups were extremely happy and appreciative that of the successful process.

### **Game On program**

Over an 8-week period, the Surrey School Board, Surrey Parks and Recreation and Sportability put on an introduction to sledge hockey program (Game On) for several Surrey youth.

### **Aim Games**

Almost 200 special needs students from across Surrey competed in the AIM (Athletes in Motion) Games on Thursday, May 14, 2009. Students took part in an athlete's procession and opening ceremony before competing in a number of events like wheelchair basketball, rhythmic gymnastics, sledge hockey, adapted yoga and cardio dance. Besides providing special needs students with an opportunity to enjoy and compete in adapted sports, the games exposes them to opportunities available in the community. The event also involves the support of about 100 student volunteers, 32 coaches from eight community organizations (including the Surrey Parks, Recreation and Culture) and many teachers. The popular annual event has given thousands of students the opportunity to take part in a range of sports.

### **Youth Activity Leadership Program**

The Youth Activity Leadership program is designed to connect youth at-risk of engaging in negative lifestyle choices with the opportunity to participate in outdoor recreation, and other healthy activity options. The primary target population is students in grades 8 and 9 who have been identified as needing extra support. The program is designed to encourage and empower youth to make healthy lifestyle choices and to foster personal growth through leadership development and access to community services. The youth are given the chance to interact positively with their community and develop a sense of social consciousness. This is a partnership with Coast Capital Savings, Surrey School District and the City.

### **Fire Hall #10**

The Fire Hall Arts Centre Open House was held Wednesday, May 13, 2009 at the Newton Wave Pool. It was very successful with over 50 attendees. We may be doing some modifications to the building to better fit their needs.

### **Children's Festival**

A reminder about the Surrey Children's Festival May 28-30, 2009 at Bear Creek Park and Surrey Arts Centre. Last year over 20,000 children participated in the festival.

**H. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL****I. CORRESPONDENCE****J. INFORMATION ITEMS**

1. Calendar of Events  
File: 7710-01

**K. EMERGING PRIORITIES/POLICY DISCUSSION****L. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS**

1. **2009 – Surrey Civic Treasures Award**  
File No. 0360-20

Memo, dated April 28, 2009 from Sheila McKinnon, Manager, Arts Services to inform the committee of the 2009 Surrey Civic Treasures Award nominations process.

2. **Gravel Fields**  
File No. 6130-01

The following comments were provided:

- Gravel fields have great drainage on them but Newton gravel fields are not being utilized at all.
- Artificial turf fields had \$2 Million each spent on them last year and seem to be the preference for the players. Newton Athletic Park may get one additional artificial turf field in place of one of the all weather fields.
- Gravel fields serve the groups who can't pay for use of artificial or grass fields. Current youth hourly rental rate is \$26.80, GST included for Artificial Turf and \$4.99 GST included for gravel field light time.
- Many want grass fields, especially for summer soccer, and gravel practice fields for the times when the weather is poor.
- Grass fields can pose a safety risk when it rains.
- Gravel is softer in winter but very hard in the summer. Gravel fields are very hard on soccer balls. User groups are paying for the lights.

M. ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting of the Parks & Community Services Committee is Wednesday,  
June 17, 2009.

It was

Moved by Councillor Gill  
Seconded by Cliff Annable  
That the Parks and Community Services

Committee meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Parks and Community Services Committee adjourned at 8:42 pm.

Certified as true and correct:

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Jane Sowik, City Clerk

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Chairperson, Councillor Mary Martin  
Parks & Community Services Committee