

Present:

Chairperson: Councillor Martin
Councillor Gill
C. Annable
R. Benson
C. Girardi
J. Grewal
S. Hundal
G. Rai
M. MacAuley, RCMP Staff Sargent

Absent:**School Board Trustee:**

T. Allen

Also Present:

L. Cavan, General Manager, Parks,
Recreation & Culture
O. Croy, Manager, Parks
Tiina Mack, Parks Planning Manager
Jay Meneely, Park Designer
Hugh Norris, Acting Business Operations
& Athletic Fields Manager
D. Vestergaard, Administrative
Coordinator, Parks, Recreation & Culture
H. Dmytriw, Legislative Service

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Parks & Community Services Committee held on June 17, 2009 to be adopted.

It was

Moved by C. Annable

Seconded by Councillor Gill

That the Parks & Community Services

Committee the minutes of the June 17, 2009 meeting, be adopted.

Carried

B. DELEGATION

1. **Nick Sandhu, India Club** provided a presentation regarding **grass hockey clubs** and made a formal request that the City facilitate a second turf field at Tamanawis Park to meet the needs of this growing sport.
File No. 5920-01

The following comments were also provided:

- Nick Sandhu has been a member of the hockey club since 1979, has coached the National Women's Field hockey team as the Head Coach and Assistant Coach, and was at the 2008 Olympics.
- The delegation purpose in presenting is to request a second field hockey field, specific to Tamanawis Park.
- The benefits of an additional field hockey field would be the tremendous future growth in participation in the sport, and the economic and cultural benefits.
- Field hockey is the fastest growing sport in Surrey--400% growth since 2001. In 2001, Surrey Sharks was the only club playing in Surrey. Now there are 3 teams (doubled over last year), plus a men's program.

- The current field is running beyond full capacity. The club is utilizing the T-ball field. The lack of turf time is hampering further growth. There are three to four age groups playing simultaneously.
- In 2005 the Surrey Lions had no junior program. Now there are approximately 55 kids playing.
- In 2005 there was one senior team, now there are 55 players. An exponential growth in player base:
 - Panthers - 0-30
 - India Club - 30-161.
- Currently, one third of the 2010 Under 16 Pan Am Cup Squad players are from Surrey. None of the players are from the Fraser Valley.
- Alumni interest has increased due to accessibility to fields. There is now more demand to start programs for younger age groups (under 8), but there is a lack of turf times. Tamanawis Park needs a second field hockey field.
- Increased turf time will allow greater opportunities for:
 - Younger age groups to participate and an opportunity to grow elite athletes through skill specific training, and training camps
 - Recreational athletes/alumni
 - Reduced field hockey allocations on other fields
 - Increased allocations for other sports, soccer, field lacrosse, etc.
 - Increased rental revenue to the City through tournament hosting of domestic events (junior/senior nationals), International events (4-8 nations), local tournaments.
- Tournament hosting will provide direct benefits – food and lodging
 - \$20,000 - \$130,000 spent in Surrey depending on size and length of the event (based on 3-12 teams)
 - Four events were held in Surrey earlier this year – estimated spending with each additional event will bring in an estimated \$20,000 - \$300,000.
- Leagues – games bring several teams into Surrey (September to June)
- Recreational spending (local pubs and restaurants)
- Economic benefits –
 - International Test series between India and Canada
 - 14 day event
 - An estimated \$75,000 direct economic benefit to Surrey, based on team spending
- Cultural benefits -
 - There is a large S. Asian population in Surrey. Field hockey in S.E. Asia is like ice hockey in Canada. The publicity of the sport, with the help of this type of facility, will allow new immigrants an easier integration into a new society.
- Opportunities –
 - The potential to build a field hockey specific training centre similar to Softball City.
 - The potential to bid for international events: Junior World Cup, Pan Am Cup, Olympic and World Cup qualifiers.
- A two-field field hockey park would be only one in Canada!

Councillor Gill thanked the delegate for an excellent presentation.

In response to queries the following comments were provided:

- Growth – currently there are 600 active players and would like to lower the enrollment age for players to include 8 year olds. The League cannot facilitate the under 8s as there is not the turf time.
- The Surrey Field Hockey Club Program Coordinator commented that approximately 150 kids are turned away from one club alone. One club alone could take on 30 kids. All clubs tallied there could be as many as 400 kids not being accommodated.
- Surrey Field Hockey hosted their first international tournament in 2008 with 5,000 spectators. The second tournament in July 2009 hosted 15,000 spectators in the three days. 18 of the world's best teams met. 10 teams will be coming to Surrey from the USA in 2010. A big issue for turf fields: they rented portable toilets and 30 bleachers for seating for 4,000. Sponsors were commended for their support, food and time, etc. The organizers did an amazing job.
- City staff have not specified any additional grass hockey fields but have identified an artificial turf field. There are four fields specified in the future 5 Year Plan: Two fields in 2011, and another two in 2013. Economic benefits are a major criteria for funding any new sports amenity; the operating costs and overall capital budget are major priorities.
- The difference in cost – about 25% more for an artificial turf field:
 - Field hockey carpet field - \$2.4-\$2.5 Million
 - Average Artificial turf field - \$2 Million
- Field hockey plays all year around, except for 5 weeks in mid winter (December –January).

City staff have received commendations from the sporting world across Canada about the amazing quality of Surrey's field.

Staff was requested to report back to the committee with the capital costs and budget requirements, and to provide some interim solutions for more fields and field times, and other sports, and to determine what the growth of the sport and field allocations look like.

The Chair thanked the delegation for the very informative presentation.

C. REQUEST(S) FOR DELEGATION

D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

E. STAFF PRESENTATIONS(S)

1. Kennedy Park Upgrades
File No. 6140-20

Parks Designer Jay Meneely, provided a presentation on the Kennedy Park upgrades and the community consultation process.

The following comments were provided:

- This is a challenging park that borders on Delta and Surrey. There are single family homes nearby, the railway runs alongside Holt Road, to the south are industrial lands and the BC Hydro works yard, to the north is Kirkbride Elementary school.
- Park history:
 - 1949 - Surrey purchased the last segment of the land on the west
 - 1960s - Outdoor pool installed
 - 1979 - Unimproved parkland purchased to the east
 - 1973 - Water reservoir was installed and 6 tennis courts on top
 - 2001 - Outdoor pool removed and soccer field installed
 - Photos provided showing the park in 2001 and 2008. Ball Field looks more abandoned in 2008, as no groups have scheduled play on the ball field.
 - Trails run through the park. The road frontage is not well defined.
 - Area demographics have changed resulting in the ball diamond and soccer fields not being well used.
 - Criminal and undesirable activities have increased in the park. The Surrey tennis club's support facility burned to ground a few years ago and was not replaced.
- The park offers beauty in its nature trails, natural views, woodland views, and meadow.
- A Master Plan was developed in 2001 – 2002, but was not affordable.
- April 2009 -Parks capital budget allocation of \$125,000 and a new concept design: New trails, ball diamond to be removed, a walking loop. New larger soccer field oriented east to west, a playground, off leash dog park in the undeveloped area to the east.
- A public open house was held on June 16th, 2009: 675 invites. 28 guests attended. 38 feedback forms collected: 33 in support of, 5 neutral, none opposed. Comments include: More security top priority listed. Dog off leash area idea promotes natural security and legitimate uses within the park.
- Next step – finish construction drawings. Construction in 2010.
- Proposing a fenced in area for dogs to be leashed/unleashed, watered, and garbage containers for the dog messes. This will be much more of a neighbourhood park.

It was

Moved by S. Hundal

Seconded by C. Girardi

That the Parks and Community Services

Committee receive this report as information.

Carried

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Park Shelter Guidelines

File No. 6140-20

The following comments were provided:

- This report was brought forward in an effort to best satisfy the needs of the public.
- The seniors are thrilled with the new park shelters at Fleetwood Park; they are the second generation design. A creative and interesting design for the new shelters for neighbourhood parks.
- These can be a big success in some instances but can attract negative behaviour in evenings. Positioning of the shelters within the park needs to be thought out as they relate to location, use, and cultural practices. Many park shelters are a destination for the seniors of the community and the City needs to ensure there is the infrastructure, such as washroom for users who may spend the whole day there.
- Neighbourhood parks have historically never had washrooms but now there is a demand for washroom facilities when shelters are placed at these smaller parks. Cost for washrooms start at \$150,000; many parks don't have water lines or servicing for sanitary sewers. There would be the need to lock up the facilities at night. These are all issues to grapple with. There is the need for a framework and guidelines around the shelters. There can be no shelter unless amenities are installed. Staff requested feedback from the committee members.

The following comments were provided:

- A number of groups/associations would be interested in partnering to manage lockup.
- The design at this point is not a closeable design. There is the issue of people possibly climbing up onto roof, entrapment of people, keeping the design transparent, open on two sides and airy, and fully accessible. Hoping to roll out a design this fall in keeping with CPTED principles.
- Not all sites have power.
- A new contractor has been hired for gate keeping, starting October 1, 2009. Staff will report back on this success in the New Year.

It was

Moved by T. Allen

Seconded by C. Annable

That the Parks and Community Services

Committee:

- (a) Receive this report as information; and
- (b) Provide comments to staff relative to the guidelines.

Carried

2. Surrey Arts Centre – Theatre Programming 2009 – 2010

File No. 7850-30

The following comments were provided:

- Another successful season coming up. Surrey Arts Club Theater had sellouts in the 2008 and 2009 seasons and expect sellouts for 2010.

- Listing of headliner features for next season provided in the memo dated September 8, 2009 to the Committee from the Managers of Arts Services to Parks, Recreation and Culture.

It was

Moved by S. Hundal

Seconded by C. Girardi

That the Parks and Community Services

Committee receive this report for information.

Carried

G. STAFF VERBAL REPORTS - DELIVERY OF SERVICES

September 16, 2009

Canada Day

RCMP estimated the attendance to be about 125,000 which is the highest attendance ever; up approximately 25%. Surrey's Canada Day is the largest in western Canada.

Fusion Festival (July 18 & 19)

60,000 were in attendance, which was equal to the 2008 event (that was held over 3 days). Funding was significantly smaller in 2009 due to the loss of the one-time funding from the Cultural Capitals of Canada. There were 55 artists on three stages and 27 cultural pavilions. There were six new pavilions on site this year compared to 2008.

Torch Relay Celebration (Holland Park)

The City of Surrey's 2010 Winter Olympic Torch Relay received news that we were awarded the full \$40,000 from the Provincial Government to assist with our Torch Relay Celebration on February 8, 2010. We are also just received confirmation of a \$15,000 grant from the Federal Government for our Torch Relay Celebrations.

Cloverdale Bike Park (opening event Saturday, September 19, 2009 – 11:00 am -2:00 pm)

The expansion of the Cloverdale Bike Park at Cloverdale Athletic Park was recently completed and it has been a big hit with local cyclists. The project includes a "streetscape" that features a number of concrete ramps and jumps surrounded by a paved surface as well as a Trials area that provides more of a "forest-type" experience with the use of natural elements including rocks, rough hewn wood and soil to create a challenging course. The existing BMX type track was also improved as part of the process.

Fleetwood Open Space (opening event on Friday, September 25, 2009)

The development of the open space is nearing final completion. The City received \$100,000 from the Province to fund the purchase and installation of exercise components that can be easily utilized by seniors.

Surrey Fishing Dock – Foot of 130th Street on the Fraser River

The installation of a new fishing dock was completed in early September and has become an instant hit with local fishers, who are now taking advantage of late summer fish runs and to catch resident fish. The project included the replacement of the dock as well as the ramp leading to the dock.

Robson Park Redevelopment – Joint Engineering/Parks project

This Engineering Department led project is now well underway and includes the significant enhancement of Robson Creek including creation of ponds, small waterfalls and significant planting of native vegetation in the riparian areas.

Fireman's Statue –Holland Park

This recently installed public art feature was unveiled by Mayor Watts on Sept. 11th. The statue was funded by Surrey Fire Fighters to commemorate 50 years of service to the community. If you haven't yet had a chance to see the statue I encourage you to visit and see this great addition to our Public Art inventory.

Surrey Bend Regional Park

Three concept plans are being prepared in partnership with Metro Vancouver for a public open house on October 15, 2009. The plans show varied levels of public access to the Fraser River waterfront and trails across the sensitive natural areas and bog.

Park and Facility Sign Standards

New park and facility entry and regulatory signs are being designed to convey the City's new logo. This includes park kiosk signs, recreation facilities signs and athletic park orientation signs. More information will become available when a draft package is reviewed by senior management.

Stetson Bowl

A feasibility study will be initiated late in September for a potential future synthetic turf football field (American) at the Stetson Bowl or on city parklands nearby. It is a feasibility study only, in partnership with the School District and the Cloverdale Chamber of Commerce.

Newton Athletic Park (NAP) Master Plan

Staff have issued a parking study to review current and future needs and are working with stakeholders to update the Master Plan for the Park that will incorporate the new synthetic turf fields and move towards a soccer focused tournament venue. A successful meeting was held on September 14, 2009 with summer soccer representatives and softball players. A report to Committee will be prepared for the October 2009 meeting.

Kwantlen Polytechnic Institute – Synthetic Turf Field Partnership Initiative at NAP– Dialogue with KPU is going well about this joint venture, an RFP for the design of the field may be issued this fall once a letter of understanding is signed.

Park Classification and Provision Guidelines

The new provision and classification guidelines described in the Strategic Plan will be brought to the Parks and Community Services Committee in the coming months to make a recommendation to Council; a Department Guideline will be adopted as a result.

OCP

The City's Official Community Plan is being updated as OCP2010. The plan includes sections for Active Living, Environment, and Sense of Place with sub sections that describe Departmental policies and practices.

WildPlay

The Environmental Review Committee will be given an opportunity to review and comment on a current proposal to locate a TreeGO facility in partnership with WildPlay Element Parks in newly acquired lands west of Redwood Park. The Agricultural Advisory Committee and Heritage Advisory Commission received presentations in June and July 2009 and gave support to the proposal. If we proceed to a public open house a summary can be brought to PCS for information following.

**New Exhibition Opens at the Historic Stewart Farm – Stewart Hall
Keep the Right * Maintiens le Droit**

Learn about the history of policing in Surrey from the Surrey Police Department established in 1887 to the RCMP who arrived to protect our City in 1951. The exhibition showcases the service and commitment of a force that builds on its traditions and meets the security needs of the largest detachment in Canada. Exhibit on display from September 5 – November 8, 2009, Saturdays and Sundays, 12 noon to 4:00 pm, or by weekday appointment.

Pickleball Tournament

The 3rd annual pickleball tournament at the South Surrey Recreation Centre weekend of September 12, 2009 was a huge success. Pickleball is very popular with the 55+ age group. Staff are receiving numerous compliments on the success of the tournament.

North Surrey Youth Lounge Opening

The Surrey Leadership Youth Council (SLYC) is very excited about the opening of the lounge. They have been promoting the lounge in their schools, and worked with the North Surrey CLS staff to help host the grand opening on September 11, 2009. The lounge was inspired by SLYC forums where youth in North Surrey wanted a place to go to and where it was accessible to transit. (SLYC appeared before this committee in July 2008).

Fleetwood Community Festival

The 11th annual Fleetwood Festival was on Saturday at the Fleetwood Community Centre where hundreds of families and individuals of all ages and backgrounds came together to enjoy an afternoon of free activities and entertainment.

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

1. Copy of letter dated August 10, 2009, from Carol Girardi, President, Arts Council of Surrey to the Honourable Kevin Krueger regarding proposed cuts to Arts and Culture.
 - Over 500 groups received funding cuts. The letter to advise the government of the effects of the cuts. The letter was forwarded to Provincial legislation. It will have a dramatic effect with cuts from 40-50% this year and up to 80% next year.
 - Culture matters, make it your mission. Sports matters, make it your mission as well.
 - All money gone from patronage. Funding was originally allocated in 1999.

- Youth sports funding cut. Children at risk. Funding cuts will shut groups down. The parents can't be asked for more money.
 - May hear more re the letter in future.
 - Response to the letter to the different groups was identical.
2. The Surrey Arts Centre are replacing the seats within the theatre for 2010. The seat sale is on now for purchase of honoring *someone special*. \$350 and \$400-- different levels of sponsorship.

J. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Calendar of Events
File: 7710-01

K. EMERGING PRIORITIES/POLICY DISCUSSION

L. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

1. A copy of the City of Surrey Olympic Plan Update Corporate Report approved by Council on July 27, 2009 was provided on table for the Committee's information. Parks Recreation and Culture are playing a major role in the event. The Cultural Olympiad, Torch Relay, and Right to Play are very community based.
2. Staff Sgt. Murray McCaulay is leaving Surrey to join the RCMP at Vancouver airport. Councillor Martin thanked Staff Sgt. McCaulay for his participation in the PCSC and wished him luck in his future endeavours. Staff will work with the RCMP Surrey detachment/Fraser McRae to find a replacement.
3. Staff to review the possibility of turning the Guildford Athletic Club tennis courts at Fraser Heights into two mini fields.

M. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by Cliff Annable

Seconded by Councillor Gill

That the Parks and Community Services

Committee meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Parks and Community Services Committee adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Next meeting of the Parks & Community Services Committee is on October 21, 2009.

Certified as true and correct:

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

Chairperson, Councillor Martin
Parks & Community Services Committee