

Present:

Chairperson: Councillor Martin
C. Annable
R. Benson
C. Girardi
J. Grewal
S. Hundal
G. Rai

Absent:

Cllr. Gill

Also Present:

L. Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture
O. Croy, Manager, Parks
L. White, Manager Comm & Leisure Services
J. Thibaudeau, Sec Mgr, Comm & Leisure Services
S. McKinnon, Mgr, Arts Services Div.
D. Vestergaard, Administrative Coordinator, Parks, Recreation & Culture
H. Dmytriw, Legislative Service

School Board Trustee:

T. Allen

INTRODUCTIONS AROUND TABLE

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

It was

Moved by T. Allen

Seconded by C. Annable

That the minutes of the Parks & Community

Services Committee held on November 18, 2009 be adopted.

Carried

B. DELEGATION

- 1. Brad Ricketts, President, Radio Controlled Flying Club of BC (RCFCBC)** appeared as a delegation and provided a presentation regarding finding a new location within city boundaries for their flying field.
File No. 0930-01; 0550-20-10

Brad Ricketts introduced his fellow delegates: Rick Hall, Chris Jones, Tom Nelson, Peter Butchek. Brad Ricketts provided the following comments;

- The RCFCBC has history as a long standing institution at Fry's corner for over 43 years. They last flew at this location on Father's Day 2009. The Club has been in existence since the 1960's. Current membership of 110-120.
- They are a non-profit society registered with Victoria open to anyone that wants to participate in model aviation. They are a long standing community oriented organization, a non-profit society offering low risk, environmentally sensitive, safety oriented, offering children educational and recreation opportunities.
- Membership runs with the youngest member being 10 years old and the oldest in his 80's.

- Due to the encroaching development and widening of Fraser Hwy they are now looking for a new home within the different districts and municipalities and are asking for the City's assistance within the city limits.
- Over the years the RCFCBC's community involvement has included hosting numerous special interest groups such as the Air Cadets, seniors groups, veterans, Scouts groups, Make a Wish Foundation and Muscular Dystrophy Society. They have hosted the muscular dystrophy picnic where all had a chance to fly a radio controlled airplane, have engaged in fund raising for Variety Club, Make a Wish Foundation as well as other charities, have worked with the Vancouver School Board on a Mentoring program for model aviation and would welcome the same opportunities with Surrey School Board.
- They are involved in static displays at local malls, such as Scottsdale Mall, to give people an up close and personal look at the aircrafts, etc. These activities support retailers such as hobby shops, restaurants and hotels.
- The Club carries Model Aeronautics Association of Canada (MAAC) insurance to \$5 Million and hold a Harmless policy of \$5 Million to protect the landlords, thereby covering all of its members.
- Their safety record is stellar. With millions of takeoffs and landings over Fry's Corner over the years there has been only one accident in the 45 years there. New safety policies were adopted after.
- Newcomers to the sport of Radio controlled flying are put through training with MAAC certified instructors, a 13 step process developed by RCFCBC. After which they are able to fly on their own. The RCFCBC were also first to develop and adopt a training program for helicopters.
- Environmental Sensitivity –there is no impact upon birds or wildlife. Coyotes, blue herons, deer, rabbits, eagles, hawks, song birds and other birds all flourished around the flying field. Some birds nested in the surrounding trees and our pit area utilizing our lean-to as shelter, Red tail hawks in cotton woods and barn swallows in the clubhouse. No fertilizers or pesticides are used, nor any netting that can snag birds and no noise cannons are used. The Club has its own noise bylaws in their rules and regulations.
- The RCFCBC are searching for a situation similar to what they had but will settle for 1.5 – 2 acres of land. The facilities would include a grass runway, pit area, and a small parking lot for 20-30 vehicles. They are looking for an opportunity for a portion of a city park or city owned and leased land (such as Mound Farm). They are willing to acquire ALC, city and public approval and the field would conform to MAAC safety standards. They need a fly-over area of approximately 40 acres in addition to the runway and pit area.
- The RCFCBC are asking for the City's assistance in finding a new location and the possibility of entering into a joint land ownership use agreement with the City of Surrey for a partial park for aerodrome dedication--an opportunity to an excellent continuation with a longstanding member of the community of Surrey.

In response to queries the following information was provided:

- Many members build their own planes on their own from kits. One group regularly gathers at a shop on Annacis Island area to assemble and build airplanes.
- There is a youth mentorship program with the Vancouver School Board: The Vancouver School Board selected a student with an interest in aviation. His grandfather purchased him a radio airplane. The club mentored him with his

dad and assembled a plane from a kit. Brad Rickett test flew the craft for its first flight. The Club also provides aircrafts to schools and UBC are provided with a field to test GPS systems.

- The Club goes to elementary and high schools to provide communications and presentations.
- The Surrey School Board contact person is PCSC member Terry Allen, School Trustee. He can help the club with Surrey schools interests.
- MAAC licensing has no age restriction. They will start training at 6-8 years of age. In conjunction with an instructor, the new member will look after the assembly; starting of the craft will be supervised and the member must pass the training program before permitting solo flying. One current member was recently featured on the news: He started when he was 13, is now 16/17 and was recently accepted to BCIT's Aviation Mechanic program. He is ranked as one of the top freestyle pilots in the northwest.
- The Club last flew at Fry's Corner on June 21, 2009. They are all involved on the relocation committee's search for a new location. Most of the local clubs are closed memberships and full. Some members of the RCFCBC have dual memberships in other clubs such as in Bellingham but no local clubs at the present time. RCFCBC is an open membership club and do not close to anyone.
- They have approached private land owners and came close to finding a new home on a couple occasions but found that the cost of preparing the fields with a landing strip and access roads for their use was cost prohibitive. They are finding individuals to host them, have had an agreement with the farmer to use that land, and are willing to go through the processes with the municipalities but it has been cost prohibitive. Would like to find a locale with little or no impact to the neighbourhood.
- The Club is willing to help and work with any school, first nations groups, parks, private lands. They want to be a part of the community.
- 65,000 people across Canada are members of flying clubs.

The Chair noted that the flying club at Fry's Corner is missed. Staff were requested to bring a report back to the Committee.

C. REQUEST(S) FOR DELEGATION

D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

E. STAFF PRESENTATIONS(S)

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. WildPlay Element Park

File No. 6140-20

It was Moved by T. Allen
Seconded by C. Annable
That the Parks and Community Services

Committee recommend to Council:

- (a) That Redwood Park **not** be given further consideration as the location for a WildPlay Element Park; and
- (b) That given the extensive unsuccessful search for an appropriate location for this partnership proposal that Staff advise WildPlay Park owners that the City will not continue to pursue alternate locations.

Carried

The following comments were provided:

- It is unfortunate that this opportunity has not been well received and that a suitable location for WildPlay was not found. Discussions showed that this would have provided a lot of opportunities for the school district, would have been a real draw for Tourism. The program was designed to appeal to children of all ages, with ropes and climbing apparatus. WildPlay have parks located in Whistler, Greater Victoria and Nanaimo. WildPlay has a high level of safety and is a real marketable opportunity. The community felt there would be an environmental impact on the locations and would prefer to keep the locations as pristine environments.
- The City are always looking for other ways to bring children out to play in our parks.

2. 2010 -2011 Fees & Charges

File No. 1810-01

It was Moved by T. Allen
Seconded by C. Annable
That the Parks and Community Services

Committee recommend to Council:

1. A general 4% increase to the 2009/2010 Parks, Recreation & Culture admission and facility rental rates;
2. The listed exceptions to the 4% fee increase be accepted;
3. The listed inclusions of the following fees be inserted into the document;
4. The listed changes be granted;
5. The introduction of new facilities and the re-assessment of current facilities that require the previous year's document be updated to reflect our rental amenities; and
6. That this report be attached to the minutes of the Parks and Community Services Committee for Council's reference when they approve the recommendations.
7. That the 2010/2011 Fees and Charges Schedule attached as Appendix 3 be adopted and added to the Surrey Parks, Recreation and Culture Fee-Setting Bylaw.

Carried with R.Benson opposed.

The following comments were provided:

- An amended fees and charges package was provided on table:
 - Minor change in Amended package – Recommendation 7 was added to ensure fees and charges schedule would go forward to be adopted and added to the bylaws.
 - There are no changes to price points or exceptions.
 - Change in previous package in new price and the GST reference. Change is “plus applicable taxes.” No change in recommendations.

In response to queries, the following information was provided:

- Fees are reviewed closely and are very much tied to budget expectations. This is a good package that meets the needs and the City's budget. Want all of the community to have access and there is the need to be conscious of not pricing ourselves out of the market. Other municipal price points were reviewed and taken into consideration.
- Some user groups are finding it difficult to take advantage of the opportunities for the artificial fields due to the cost
- With the exception of artificial turf fields and lighted fields, fields are free for youth in Surrey (. Surrey's artificial turf fields are being booked to capacity for all prime-time hours. As more artificial fields are brought on we have taken some edge off the demand. There may be a time when we see less use.
- Some artificial turn fields may last 8-12 years. Other newer designs may last longer depending on field style and type of use. Earlier generation fields are thought to wear more quickly. The new design infill fields may last longer.
- The grass fields are in much better condition this year, due mostly to the mild winter but the fields stand up longer due to the availability of the artificial turf fields. Maintenance is not cut back on and still doing renovations on the grass fields. Fewer grass fields need to be built.

3. Community Gardens at Hazelnut Meadows Community Park
File No. 6140-20

It was

Moved by C. Annable
Seconded by J. Grewal
That the Parks and Community Services

receive this report as information.

Carried

The following comments were provided:

- The City of Surrey is supportive of having community gardens. It is really critical to have a certain level of community support.
- The discussion of a potential community garden in the new park at Fleetwood did not advance due to some public opposition from area residents.
- Will be looking for other locations for future community gardens.
- Word needs to get out there in order for people to embrace it because if people don't know or understand about community gardens you won't get the support. It's cheap recreational fun.
- Staff was thanked for their efforts and hard work.

Through newspaper ads, the City called for people interested in Community gardens about 3 years ago. Got a tremendous interest and have waiting lists in several locations. The difficulty is with finding organizations to run the gardens on behalf of the city. Community groups need to run the garden within the guidelines agreed to. City staff attends their annual general meetings and support them but they need people to manage the gardens and some groups have difficulty keeping people in place to manage the gardens.

The Chair thanked the City for increasing the size of Newton's Hazelnut Meadows Community Park. It is a very successful site.

G. STAFF VERBAL REPORTS – DELIVERY OF SERVICES

Verbal Updates – January 2010

2010 BC Summer Games – Township of Langley

In response to the Langley Organizing Committee for the 2010 BC Summer Games, Surrey delegation, staff have been working with the representatives to finalize the booking requirements. Currently, the facility requirements are for access to the Aquatic Facilities at Surrey Sport and Leisure Complex and Sailing at Crescent Beach. All booking requirements will be satisfied and the Parks and Community Services Committee will be provided updates on the events as they approach. City Staff will also attend portions of the BC Summer Games in Langley to assist in preparing Surrey to host the Games in the 2012.

Cloverdale Curling Club

In follow up to the Cloverdale Curling Club delegation, staff has had further meetings with the representatives. Staff from Engineering Realty Services Division, Finance and Parks, Recreation and Culture Departments met with the group to gain a better understanding of their operation and recent initiatives. In the coming months a number of facility enhancement projects will be undertaken at the facility that are funded through the City and the Federal RinC Program (Recreation Infrastructure Program). Staff will work with the Club through this time period to ensure the continued operation of the Club through the 2009/2010 season. Staff will work with the Club over the next few months to develop an *Operation Agreement* for the 2010/2011 season.

It should be noted that through the meetings with the Club, it is evident that over the past few years they have undertaken several initiatives to improve the operation of their Club, contain costs and generate revenues. Staff are looking forward to working with the Club to develop a healthy operating agreement that will lead to the continued success of the Cloverdale Curling Club in the future.

Joint Use of Space Study – School District 36 and City of Surrey Partnership Study

It is the goal of the City and School District 36 to provide the highest level of community use in the areas of greatest need within the current operating budgets of both agencies. The purpose of this study is to determine the potential for more efficient and effective use of shared facilities in a sustainable manner to meet community needs. The kickoff meeting for this partnership has been held.

Fergus Creek Natural Area Park

In December 2009 the Realty Division successfully completed a purchase agreement on behalf of PRC with the owner of a 50 Acre future natural area park, located north of 12 Avenue, west of 168 Street in south Surrey.

Chuck Bailey Covered Youth Park

City was successful recipient of approx. \$500,000 in RinC grant funding to increase the City's capital allocation of \$1.0 Million dollars. The city is working with the youth on the planning and development of the park.

Artificial Turf Fields – Hjorth and Newton

We are moving forward with the construction of these fields.

Master Planning for Newton Athletic and Tamanawis Parks

Will include planning for a second field hockey field at Tamanawis.

Surrey Bend Regional Park

Staff are currently working on a draft Management Plan. Detailed design and approvals from various levels of government will be sought. The final open house is tentatively scheduled for March 2010 with a possible opening in 2011.

Hjorth Road Park

Work is proceeding well on the construction of the new field house building. Field house is approximately 50% complete.

Sunnyside Park Washroom (east side)

Work is now proceeding on preparation of the building foundation prior to the release of an RFQ for the construction of the building.

Holland Park Sanitary Line and Water Service

Installation is nearing completion of the sanitary service extension.

Holland Park RCMP Musical Ride

Preparation of the Stable and Performance areas is now complete and are ready for installation of the large tents.

***In the Game* - New Museum Exhibition**

In celebration of the 2010 Winter Olympics the Surrey Museum is presenting a retrospective on the history of competitive winter sports. The new exhibition brings together traditional winter sports including hockey, skating, skiing, bobsledding and curling with surprising facts about their development and competition. Local Olympians, Alexa Loo, Frank Ludke and Gary Cormack share their equipment and uniforms, including Mr. Cormack's 2006 Torino gold medal. Amateur sports groups like the Surrey Eagles, the Newton Figure Skating Club and the Cloverdale Curling Club join in the game with highlights from their memorabilia collections. Children and adults can try a video interactive trivia game and test their knowledge of winter sports or watch vintage winter sports films from the National film Board of Canada. ***In the Game*** is open February 9 to March 20, 2010.

Olympic Torch Relay Passing – Cloverdale Celebration

Local Cloverdale residents and school children will Paint the Town Red on Monday, February 8 when the Olympic Torch passes through Cloverdale. A Torch Passing Celebration hosted by the Surrey Museum, Cloverdale Chamber of Commerce and Cloverdale Business Improvement Association marks this historic event at the Museum Plaza and grounds with activities, crafts and a sneak preview of the *In the Game* exhibition. Tuesday, February 8, 2010 from 12:00 – 3:30 pm with the Torch passing at approximately 2:40 pm.

Cultural Spaces Canada Grant

In 2009 the Surrey Art Gallery received an unprecedented donation of 37 large prints from photographer Edward Burtynsky. This donation, in addition to other annual acquisitions, raised the issue of expanding the capacity of the vault at the Art Gallery. Staff prepared a grant submission to the Cultural Spaces Canada Fund for financial assistance to support a renovation of the vault. This is a federal funding program that provides up to 50% matching dollars to support the building, renovation or equipment for cultural facilities. In December 2009 we learned that this application was successful and the Gallery was awarded \$122,519 towards this project.

Theatre Performances

The 2010 theatre season is off to a strong start. The Main Stage theatre is currently presenting *Mom's the Word: Remixed*. The 14 performances are completely sold out. Also the Canadian Tenors return to the Surrey Arts Centre Main Stage on February 8, 2010, this is also a sold out performance.

The Surrey City Orchestra

The Surrey City Orchestra will be performing their next concert on Friday, March 12, 2010 at 8:00 pm at the Sheraton Vancouver Guildford Hotel. The concert is entitled "The Great Mozart Hunt"; it will be an evening of tantalizing clues about Mozart and his contemporaries featuring detective, bassoonist, George Zukerman and actor Ron Halder. Tickets for the concert are \$25 and can be purchased through the Surrey Arts Centre box office or you can enjoy dinner and the concert, the hotel is staging a Mozart Celebration Buffet and the price for dinner and the concert is \$65.

Sledge Hockey

Surrey Sport and Leisure Complex hosted the Korean National Sledge Hockey game against Canada January 17, 18 & 19, 2010. It was a wonderful event with lots of children in attendance. There was also great media attention.

H. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL**I. CORRESPONDENCE****J. INFORMATION ITEMS****1. Calendar of Events**

File No. 7710-01

K. EMERGING PRIORITIES/POLICY DISCUSSION**L. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS****1. Surrey Arts Council**

Carol Girardi provided the *Spotlight* publication on table for everyone and provided the following update about the arts.

- Fire Hall #10 is coming along very well and construction should be completed by mid-March or the first of April 2010.
 - The Celebration Dance Team will be at the Torch Relay at the Celebration Site. An article was featured on the January 19, 2010 Now newspaper front page. 20 youth will be performing. Choreographer, Kelly Konno was raised in Surrey and participated in the Surrey Festival of Dance. She has worked with the Jacksons and Justin Timberlake. Now she has returned to Surrey to prepare a troupe of 20 local dancers for the 2010 Winter Games. The City of Surrey is very lucky and happy to have her. The dancers, 16 females and 4 males, are all from Surrey; they are phenomenal.
 - The Annual Surrey Festival of Dance will be celebrating its 44th year and is one of the largest dance festivals in North America. The month long event will start March 26 – April 29, 2010; the group "No Borders" on May 8, 2010; over 90 groups and over 1,000 participants.
 - Youth Arts Council of Surrey (YACOS) to showcase *Surrey Shines* – January 30, 2010, 7:00 pm, \$12 and \$15 at Surrey Arts Centre. The group organizes from start to finish and has been organizing this event for five years. Individuals and groups display creative performance expertise in high-energy music, singing and dance. It is amazing. Surrey participants all live in Surrey and are between 13-21 years of age.
 - This year 15 youth will receive special presentations. Blackwood Partners Management (property managers for Central City Mall, the Central City Tower and the Surrey SFU space) will present 15 theatre seats, one to each youth, to have their names put onto commemorative plates on the armrest. This purchased sponsorship is a real boost to the *Stand Up for the Arts Theatre* seat sale and is a wonderful way to honour our very committed, talented and hard working Youth Arts Council members. *Spotlight on the Arts*, January 2010 edition, pg 5, featured a write up on the YACOS group.
2. The Chair has been approached by a couple groups who can't afford the artificial turf fields and would like to use the grass fields. A letter was requested to be forwarded to the City and copied to Terry Allen, School Trustee in order for him to be in a formal position to assess this need. Terry Allen also requested that all school 'asks' be copied to him as the official School Board trustee representative on the PCSC, in order that he be kept in the loop in order to assist.
 3. Sledge Hockey was showcased at the Surrey Sports and Leisure Complex Team – Korea versus Team Canada. The School Board was thanked for their support for the event, over 500 very enthusiastic elementary school children attended. There

were also Olympic pins and flags. This really helps to building the spirit of our Right to Play initiative and the Olympics.

- 4. Terry Allen, School Trustee reminded the committee and staff that part of the reason he is on the PCSC is for the operations of the City. Any requests to the school district should be to be forwarded to him as well, as School Trustee, so he is aware that requests are being made. There are so many trustees and they would all love to assist but if they are not informed cannot assist and support an issue.

M. ADJOURNMENT

It was recommended the committee not meet during the Olympics or Spring Break but rather combine the February and March meetings due to other conflicts.

Next meeting of the Parks & Community Services Committee is scheduled for March 3, 2010.

It was

Moved by C. Annable
Seconded by J. Grewal
That the Parks and Community Services

Committee meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Parks and Community Services Committee adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Certified as true and correct:

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

Chairperson, Councillor Mary Martin
Parks & Community Services Committee