

Present:

Chairperson: Councillor Martin
Councillor Gill
C. Annable
R. Benson
C. Girardi
J. Grewal

Absent:

S. Hundal
G. Rai
T. Allen, School Board Trustee

Also Present:

L. Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture
O. Croy, Manager, Parks
L. White, Manager of Community & Recreation Services
S. McKinnon, Manager, Arts Services
T. Uhrich, Park Planning, Research and Design Manager
D. Vestergaard, Administrative Coordinator, Parks, Recreation & Culture

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

It was Moved by C. Annable
Seconded by R. Benson
That the minutes of the Parks, Recreation & Culture
Committee of May 18, 2011, be adopted.
Carried

The agenda was varied to hear the second delegation first.

B. DELEGATION

2. City of Surrey' Greenways Plan

Ted Uhrich, Parks Planning, Research & Design Manager, provided a presentation on the Draft Greenways Plan, providing the following comments:

A greenway is a multi-use pathway for pedestrians, cyclists and other non-motorized users. Ideally, a greenway is a separate, 'off-street', corridor that is at least 10m wide with lane markings for pedestrians and cyclists. However, in many cases it is not possible to provide a separated corridor for the greenway, therefore some sections of a greenway may be built within the boulevard where as much separation from motorized traffic on the roadway is provided as possible.

A green network is multiple, interconnected greenways that connect pedestrians and cyclists with parks, community centres, retail areas, points of interest and places of employment in their neighbourhood and throughout the community. The greenway network evolves and changes over time as the community develops, as opportunities emerge, as barriers are resolved and as budgets allow.

The importance of greenways was noted, with uses highlighted as follows:

- Walking for pleasure or exercise is the #1 outdoor recreation activity in the Vancouver region (Outdoor Recreation Opportunities Study, Metro Vancouver, March 2011)
- Greenways encourage physical fitness and healthy lifestyles
- Greenways create new outdoor recreation and 'active living' opportunities
- Greenways provide safe and sustainable transportation alternatives
- Greenways provide physical connections and encourage social interaction among community members

The misconceptions of greenways were clarified as follows:

- Not only for recreational use - they are multi-use transportation networks used for non motorized modes of transportation such as bicycles.
- Not environmentally sensitive areas (ESA), however they may be located alongside ESA's to buffer and enhance the greenway experience.
- Not only located in rural areas, some are located within urban areas right alongside roads.

An overview of the Greenways Movement was provided noting that:

- Early trail planning was primarily for 'recreational' trails.
- Trails for walking and cycling as legitimate modes of transportation didn't really begin in North America until the 1970's.
- City planners started improving and connecting old trails and creating new ones.
- The term 'greenway' began to be used to refer to the pedestrian and cycle routes that were separated from roads and highways.

Central Valley Greenway

- Best local example: Central Valley Greenway (CVG) – a 25 km pedestrian and cycling route in Metro Vancouver running from Science World to New Westminster.
- Officially opened on June 27, 2009. Some sections are anticipated to be upgraded in the future.

The City of Surrey Greenways Plan involves a City Advisory Team that guides the planning process, comprised of staff from the Engineering, Planning and Parks, Recreation and Culture Departments.

Public Engagement efforts were undertaken via the following Open Houses:

- Party for the Planet – April 15/16, 2011
- Youth Forum – April 19, 2011
- Cultural Plan – May 3, 2011
- Dog off-leash Open House in Guildford – May 4, 2011
- Cloverdale Recreation Centre Grand Opening – May 7, 2011
- Robson Park Opening – May 14, 2011
- Dog off-leash open house in South Surrey – May 18, 2011

An Online Survey has been made available at www.surrey.ca/greenways ; 242 surveys have been completed since April 13, 2011

The Greenways Plan will align with and support other existing Plans & strategies including:

- The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Strategic Plan
- The Strategic Transportation Plan
- The Walking Plan
- The Cycling Plan
- The Child and Youth Friendly Strategy; and
- The Sustainability Charter

Preliminary Survey findings have determined that 79% of respondents use the greenways for recreation. Respondents stated they would use the greenways more often if there were more greenways (51%), if they had more information about the Greenway Network (44%), and, if there were more sidewalk and walkway connectors to the greenways (42%). Issues pertaining to Greenways include inconsistent signage, barriers and 'dead ends', road crossings, safety concerns, maintenance costs & standards, rest areas.

The most common destinations that respondents want to get to via a greenway are as follows:

- Specific parks, including: Bear Creek, Crescent Beach, Green Timbers, Holland, Mud Bay and Tynehead
- Schools
- Libraries
- Shopping Malls and Grocery Stores
- Recreation Centres
- Transit and Skytrain Stations

The Objectives & Strategies were outlined as follows:

- **Objective** – Community Connections; **Strategy** - Achieve a continuous and linked network of greenway routes that connect people to parks, community centres, town centres and points of interest throughout the community.
- **Objective** – shaping Surrey; **Strategy** - Integrate Greenways planning with strategic land use planning and facilitate development that supports greenways connections.
- **Objective** – Improvement; **Strategy** - Continuously enhance the greenways network by coordinating beautification projects, park trail and greenway construction projects with engineering sidewalk and bicycle route improvements
- **Objective** – Quality Design & Management; **Strategy** - Create and manage a greenways environment that is accessible, safe, comfortable and interesting.

In terms of next steps, staff noted a Draft Plan would be developed in June, with a public review period being scheduled from July to September. Based on feedback received, the plan would be revised in September and submitted to Council for consideration in October.

2. Arvinder S Bubber, FCA, SPARC Sport Education Foundation

Arvinder S Bubber, FCA, SPARC Sport Education Foundation, was in attendance regarding a proposed facility development in Newton. Tony Singh & Armanjeet Samar were also in attendance as part of the delegation.

Arvinder Bubber came seeking a partnership with the City of Surrey to build a South Asian Centre for Culture & Harmony, which could be a testament to the 100 years of contribution to Surrey's society by South Asians. This partnership would provide an opportunity for youth mentoring, through actively engaging youth in positive cultural programs.

Mr. Bubber noted a South Asian Centre could help to develop strong citizens, bring cultural harmony to the community, promote youth safety, and assist in cultivating the arts. The Centre would draw visitors from outside Surrey as a destination facility. The delegation noted that they have had preliminary discussions about a potential site at Newton Athletic Park on 128 Street. The delegation is proposing to fund a Feasibility Study for this site and is requesting the City contribute lands for the Centre, with development and operations to be provided by the community organization.

During discussion, it was noted this delegation has met with other Councillors over the last few weeks and was referred to the PRC Committee. The group is committed to raising the capital to build the facility through advocating for resources from other levels of government, corporate sponsorship and community fund raising.

Mr. Bubber commented that there is a significant need and that business people have personally committed to contributing resources. The delegation stated that they will commit to capital and ongoing maintenance, and are confident that the community will support the proposal. The timeline is tight and hopefully support will also be obtained from the Provincial and Federal governments, as a P3 project.

The Committee noted the delegation is proposing the structure be built on City lands, the building would be a city asset. The group would facilitate construction and set up a management structure to manage facility through an operating lease. The Centre would be built in phases with the first phase dependent on how much land and capital they raise.

Mr. Bubber added that Phase 1 would be to construct a 15,000-20,000 sq ft, 2-store multipurpose structure, with the focus being on youth in order to provide them an opportunity to come to meetings. The rationale behind location is that Newton is heavily populated with South Asians and most vibrant in terms of businesses along 128th Street. In addition, the area has much traffic, being close to Kwantlen Polytechnic University and several schools.

It was noted that City staff are currently working on finalizing the Newton Athletic Park Master Plan, with the proposal providing a natural synergy in terms of this location with having soccer and cricket.

The GM, Parks, Recreation and Culture advised that in terms of the size and scale of the proposed facility, Chuck Bailey Recreation Centre is 20,000 sq ft. Consideration would need to be given to the size of the proposed facility and parking and overall context of the whole park.

Staff further noted that Newton Athletic Park is 65 acres including the power lines, with there already being current constraints for parking. Currently the park does not have enough parking for existing facilities, and the Master Plan will recognize the limited parking capacity. Staff advised that programming for the facility will need to be reviewed to determine the number of parking stalls; as part of the Feasibility Study one could look at other nearby sites, for example Princess Margaret Park that is somewhat under-utilized. Staff advised they will meet with the delegation to help prepare a report to come back to the PRC Committee.

Delegate, Mr. Singh commented that they feel comfortable that they will get \$9 - \$10 million from the Province and the Federal government. Mr. Singh noted that time is of the essence in order to get funding and emphasized that Newton Athletic Park was selected because seniors can walk there and its proximity to many facilities.

In response to the delegation's query, the Committee noted that a proposed facility would need to have a multi-use gym and a large kitchen. Staff advised that it may be worthwhile for the group to consider other partnerships beyond provincial and federal governments, such as Kwantlen Polytechnic University.

Staff further advised that the next step is for staff to meet with the delegation, draw up criteria for a Feasibility Study and bring back to next meeting of the PR&C Committee.

C. REQUEST(S) FOR DELEGATION

D. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

1. Update on Community Rooms and Other Support Buildings in Parks

File No: 6140-00

It was

Moved by C. Annable

Seconded by R. Benson

That that the Parks, Recreation and Culture

Committee receive the Update on Community Rooms and Other Support Buildings in Parks memorandum, dated June 7, 2011 from the Manager of Parks, as information.

Carried

It was Moved by C. Annable
Seconded by R. Benson
That Manager of Parks provide a photo of
the progress of the North Surrey Community Park Community Room.
Carried

E. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Addition to the South Surrey Arena**
File No. 8000-20/S

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

It was Moved by Councillor Gill
Seconded by C. Annable
That the Parks, Recreation and Culture
Department recommend that Council approve an additional allocation of \$250,000
for a total allocation of \$750,000 in the 2011 Capital Budget for an expansion to the
South Surrey Arena, as generally described in the Addition to the South Surrey
Arena memo from the GM Parks, Recreation and Culture, dated June 9, 2011.
Carried

- 2. Rotary Field House**
File No. 6140-20

A question was raised regarding whether the City has a policy relative to the
percentage the City contributes for capital requests, in particular needs for the
Rotary Field-house. Staff was requested to review the query relative to the current
field-house needs.

F. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

G. CORRESPONDENCE

H. INFORMATION ITEMS

- 1. Calendar of Events**
File No. 7800-01
- 2. Verbal Update**
Laurie Cavan, GM, Parks, Recreation and Culture

Stellar Space Exhibition

A new temporary exhibition opened at the Surrey Museum on June 18 – 27, 2011 for
the summer tourist season. Stellar Space showcases Canada's contributions to the
international space program. Presented in partnership with the Canada Space

Agency and the Herzberg Institute of Astrophysics, the exhibition provides an opportunity for local residents to explore space in their own backyard. Admission is free and I encourage the Committee to visit.

Canadian National Lifeguard / Lifesaving championships

These were held at the Surrey Sport and Leisure Complex May 26 – 29, 2011. There were 95 competitors and coaches in attendance, 150 volunteers and 40 Delegates from the various provincial and national Lifesaving societies across Canada. This was a great opportunity to showcase our facility and share the importance of the value of lifesaving and lifeguard sport, as well as to the need for continued vigilance and education.

Holland Park Playground

The playground will be located approximately halfway between the Rose Holly Fountain and the Southwest entrance to the park. Phase 1 will begin shortly, thanks in part to funding received by the Knights of Columbus and a matching grant from the Tire Stewardship Grant for playground surfacing. Phase 1 has an Explorer Dome which is the first of its kind in BC as well as play toys geared to the 2-5 age set.

Francis Park Dedication Ceremony

The dedicated to Francis Park (located behind the Fleetwood Community Centre and in partnership with the Fleetwood Community Association) was held on June 11, 2011. This was well attended by a number of seniors who enjoyed the bbq lunch.

Progressive Tennis Launch

A new partnership with Progressive Tennis was launched on June 11, 2011 at the Guildford Town Centre. The City of Surrey has partnered with Tennis Canada, Tennis BC, School District 36 & local tennis clubs to introduce progressive tennis to Surrey.

Newton Community Festival

This took place on June 11, 2011 and had a strong turnout. Red Robinson was the Master of Ceremonies for the day and a number of new entertainment elements were added.

Chuck Bailey Rec Centre Preteen Dance

Participation is growing in programming at Chuck Bailey. Since September 2010, there has been one preteen dance per month at Chuck Bailey which started off with an attendance of 39 preteens, and saw a steady increase in participation throughout the year. The last dance of the year was June 10, 2011 and reached our maximum capacity of 150 preteens. This speaks volumes of the vision of Mayor and Council to build a recreation centre at this location.

Chuck Bailey Covered Youth Park

The grand opening of the covered youth park at the Chuck Bailey Rec Centre took place May 28, 2011 and was a huge success. Several hundred people turned out to watch skateboarding demonstrations by experts, ball hockey games and experts executing jumps and tricks on bikes. Joint funding for this project was provided by the federal government through the RInC (Recreational Infrastructure Canada)

program. The park is now being well utilized by a number of youth, not only in the skate park but also playing hockey and basketball.

Surrey Fest Downtown

This event took place Saturday, June 18, 2011 and was successful. It started a bit soggy but everyone displayed great spirits despite the rain. Good cover bands were part of the entertainment.

World Refugee Day

World Refugee Day is officially observed on June 20, 2011 of each year. With encouragement from the Diversity & Inclusion Advisory Committee a small event to observe The 60th Anniversary of World Refugee Day took place at the Guildford Recreation Centre. Over 200 people attended this successful event.

Evening of Arts at Darts

The Evening of the Arts at Darts was held last night, June 21, 2011. The weather was flawless on the longest day of the year, and just under 600 people showed up to enjoy guided walks through the garden. While in the garden, visitors could meet dozens of artists showcasing their talent, including: a jazz guitarist; violinist; dancers cavorting in the meadow; painters; sculptors; jewellery makers; photographers and more.

Stanley Cup Playoffs

The City of Surrey had a number of very successful events with viewing the Stanley Cup playoffs games at Central City Plaza. In terms of logistics there were not problems. It was a great partnership with the RCMP, Downtown Surrey BIA and Blackwood Partners.

Canada Day

Planning is well underway. Trooper is the headline band.

I. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Recycling in Athletic Parks

File No.

Member of the Committee queried whether consideration has been given to recycling in the athletic parks. It was stated that each concession, operated by non-profit community organizations is responsible for recycling and it is not consistent with each group. Staff spoke to a pilot project that is being undertaken in Crescent Beach and advised a report would be brought back to the next meeting.

J. NEXT MEETING

Next meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee is scheduled for July 20, 2011.

K. ADJOURNMENT

It was Moved by C. Annable
Seconded by R. Benson
That the Parks, Recreation & Culture
Committee meeting do now adjourn. Carried

The Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Certified as true and correct:

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

Chairperson, Councillor Mary Martin
Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee