

Present:

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

Absent:

S. Hundal

School Board Trustee:

T. Allen

Also Present:

L. Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture
O. Croy, Manager, Parks
H. Norris, Manager, Business Operations & Athletic Fields
D. Vestergaard, Administrative Coordinator, Parks, Recreation & Culture
L. Anderson, Legislative Service

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

It was

Moved by C. Annable

Seconded by C. Girardi

Culture Committee of July 20, 2011, be adopted.

That the minutes of the Parks, Recreation and

Carried

B. DELEGATION**1. YMCA**

John Woolgar, Fraser Valley Regional Manager YMCA, David Woollven, General Manager, Tong Louie Family YMCA (Surrey) and Simon Adams, Vice President of Membership, YMCA of Greater Vancouver, were in attendance to provide an update on the Tong Louie Family YMCA (“TLFY”) and to seek the potential opportunity for a second YMCA in Surrey. A brief history of the TLFY was given, together with a short PowerPoint presentation. Comments were as follows:

- The TLFY is a self sustaining operation, with no operational subsidy from any level of government.
- 23,470 were served in 2010, which included health and fitness, aquatics, youth and children programs, daycamping and sports leagues.
- 492 volunteers clocked a total of 21,484 hours.
- We work hard, through community outreach, to ensure no one is turned away due to their inability to pay. An increase in those asks has been seen over the years, with 1,435 assisted and over \$300,000 in direct subsidy provided in 2010.
- The YMCA is in 72 Surrey schools and several community spaces delivering sports league programs, youth leadership development, and after school programs for kids at risk.

Copies of a YMCA handout, noting the considerable impact the TLFY has had on one of their members and his family, were circulated and his story of achieving better health

for him and his family was reported, including information of the classes that he now teaches.

Comments continued:

- Recently, the YMCA has been going through strategic exercises focusing on growth for the future.
- Instead of going into communities with what the YMCA wants to do, we are taking a different approach by finding out from the communities what they want and how the YMCA can make an impact on those needs.
- The four fundamental goals framed for the YMCA are:
 - Nurturing the potential of children and youth;
 - Promoting healthy living;
 - Fostering a sense of social responsibility; and
 - Delivering lasting personal and social change.(All of which are detailed further in the YMCA of Greater Vancouver 2010 Annual Report, as circulated on table to the Committee.)
- Surrey is a very fast growing municipality for which there may be further opportunities for another YMCA with a pool and other amenities. As such, there have been preliminary discussions with City staff to explore the possibilities of another YMCA in Surrey.

The G.M. Parks, Recreation and Culture reported that staff are at a point to move forward with a feasibility study, to determine what opportunities and location(s) there may be in partnering with the YMCA.

It was
Moved by T. Allen
Seconded by C. Annable
That the Parks, Recreation and Culture
Committee refer the opportunity for another YMCA facility in Surrey to staff, for a review and a report back to the Committee for the next meeting.

Carried

2. **Western Kabaddi Players and Cultural Association of BC**

Sandeep (Sandy) Powar, General Secretary, Western Kabaddi Players and Cultural Association of BC, was in attendance to discuss the various concerns with the kabaddi field at Sullivan Heights Park. A background to the development, funding and utilization of the kabaddi field was provided and additional comments were as follows:

- The main concerns are:
 - the maximum number of tournaments allowed each year;
 - the remaining balance from the Provincial government funding of \$250,000 that was provided to Surrey for the development of bleacher seating, if any, for consideration of contribution towards an additional kabaddi field in Surrey; and
 - the tournament costs to the kabaddi associations.
- The kabaddi field is used for kabaddi tournaments only which, due to the increased congestion, noise and parking concerns of residents in the area, the number of tournaments that can be held at the kabaddi field has been restricted to six tournaments per year.

- Previously, the Western Kabaddi Players and Cultural Association of BC were granted three tournaments at the field each year and a second club was granted the other three. This year, our association was only granted two tournaments and the other club held four. What will happen if there is a third association?
- The main concern is that the two kabaddi organizations are spending a significant amount of money to bring players from all over the world to compete and, due to the limited access to the field for tournaments, the costs from bringing the players weighs heavily on the two clubs.
- With the receipt of \$250,000 government funding, the kabaddi field was built and advertised internationally as the only kabaddi field in the world built solely for kabaddi. As such, it should be utilized more than six times per year.
- Typically tournaments start in May and end in August which provides sufficient time to potentially accommodate at least eight tournaments.
- With all of the recent new development in the area, there is greater potential for more complaints (even though the kabaddi field was there first).
- It has been suggested that there may be some funds remaining from the initial \$250,000. If that is the case, those funds should be used strictly for kabaddi and, if possible, be put towards the cost of another kabaddi facility in Surrey.
- Lastly, the cost of each tournament is always a concern. We pay field rental, which includes regional transportation fees, bleacher rentals (in addition to the permanent bleachers at the field), garbage can transportation, etc. All of the costs keep getting added on. The City said it is because of the parking problems and noise concerns in the neighbourhood that it is better to charge admission in order to keep attendance numbers lower, than to allow free admission to the events which would certainly lower the fees to the association, but would then provide the potential for attendance numbers to more than triple, causing added neighbourhood frustration.
- Permission to use the field for practices was sought, but we were advised that we would then need to maintain the field (watering, remarking the lines, etc.). Having the opportunity to hold practices every week would help to develop and organize the sport better. It should be noted that practice is not possible on artificial turf, it has to be natural grass.
- With Canada finishing 3rd in the World Cup held in India, there is sufficient interest in the sport to support access to a field every weekend in the summer. In addition, there has been an increase in the number of youth involved. Three clubs now have youth programs. There were two games held for under 16 this year, and now an under 10 group has started.
- At present there are approximately 40-50 active local players, with another 100+ that are anxious to learn the sport. If there were facilities to accommodate the demand today, there would probably be 3 - 4 games per week, with parking requirements of 60 or 70 vehicles.

The Committee commented as follows:

- Given that the kabaddi field site was selected for kabaddi use and was there prior to much of the residential development, it is somewhat surprising that there is a limit of six tournaments for a city the size of Surrey, especially when you consider the increasing demand.
- The immediate concern is cost. It appears this sport is being taxed in terms of leasing and security in a much higher and greater level than any other sporting event.

- Originally there were a number of issues, but the executives of the various groups have worked diligently to reduce those issues. At the same time, the requirements of the City from a number of years ago are really driving up the costs.
- The park was originally identified as a kabaddi practice area and, as time evolved, events were also hosted. It was never intended that the field would be the only kabaddi field.
- During the first year of full operation there were more than eight tournaments played, which received a groundswell of opposition. Residents complained that streets were blocks off and the RCMP weren't able to supply enough staff for the various events. It was an imposition to the community.
- Although staff receive sporadic reports, it would be best to have RCMP staff present to address their concerns about security issues and the specific policing requirements.
- Speaking to the issue of bleacher costs, City staff have transported bleachers across the city, which are then augmented to accommodate as required. It should be noted that similar costs are received by other sporting associations as well (e.g. football, soccer, rugby).
- Few other uses for the kabaddi field have been identified. That said, there will be, for the first time, an outdoor movie being shown on Friday, September 23rd.
- Staff can report back on what the implications will be to expand the number of tournaments at the kabaddi field.
- Staff will look into whether or not there are any excess monies left over after the bleachers were constructed.
- The utilization of the school parking lot is important, especially around potential vandalism, the atmosphere was bad then, but it seems to have changed. That being said, last year there was a rushing of the gates at one of the tournaments for which the RCMP had to intervene.
- The location is wrong, not sure when original planning was done. Certainly there must be other places in the city to accommodate the sport. The requirements of a kabaddi field are modest, probably about one-quarter the size of a soccer field (75 feet in diameter).
- Staff can map out an ordinary field and establish a fence to keep the surge of spectators out. There is also the potential to move bleachers in with the tow behind bleachers, and these can be supplemented with standard bleachers brought in on flat bed trucks (with enough notice). Beyond that, the limiting factors would be concerns of the community around parking and traffic.
- Kwantlen Park and Newton Athletic Park may have the potential for consideration. Kabaddi Park has narrow pinch points on adjoining roads which would cause problems for managing emergency vehicles.
- A stand alone property would be most expensive for the parking.
- From the RCMP's perspective, it is more difficult to provide control at the tournaments.
- Staff were unaware that the Kabaddi community was looking for dedicated practice space, but will now work with the groups to establish practice locations.
- The Chair acknowledged the concerns of Mr. Powar, on behalf of the kabaddi community, and asked that staff come back to the Committee with a report addressing those concerns and providing recommendations for the Committee's consideration.

C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS**1. Parks Recycling Program Update**

File No. 6130-03

The memorandum, dated September 9, 2011, from the Park Operations Managers, North and South, regarding the above subject line, was reviewed. It was recommended that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee receive the report as information.

It was

Moved by T. Allen

Seconded by C. Annable

That the Parks, Recreation and Culture

Committee receive the Parks Recycling Program update report, dated September 9, 2011, from the Park Operations Managers, North and South, as information.

Carried**D. NEW BUSINESS****1. Greenbrook Housing Complex Community Development**

File No. 5120-01

The memorandum, dated September 7, 2011, from the Manager, Community & Recreation Services, regarding the above subject line, was reviewed. It was recommended that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee receive the memorandum as information.

It was

Moved by C. Annable

Seconded by C. Girardi

That the Parks, Recreation and Culture

Committee receive the memorandum, dated September 7, 2011, from the Manager, Community & Recreation Services, regarding the Greenbrook Housing Complex community development, as information.

Carried**2. Update: Natural Areas Management Plan**

File: 6300-01

The memorandum update from the Manager of Parks, dated September 12, 2011, regarding the above subject line, was reviewed. It was recommended that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee:

1. receive the memorandum as information; and
2. provide comments on the attached draft *Wildlife and Fish Management Strategy*.

It was Moved by T. Allen
Seconded by C. Annable
That the Parks, Recreation and Culture
Committee receive the memorandum update from the Manager of Parks, dated
September 12, 2011, regarding Natural Areas Management Plan, as information.
Carried

E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

F. CORRESPONDENCE

G. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Calendar of Events

File No. 7800-01

2. Verbal Update

The General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture provided an overview as follows:

Bucci Park Community Meeting

The City of Surrey is seeking resident's comments at a public meeting, September 22, 2011, at 7:00 pm at the Surrey Sport and Leisure Complex regarding community concerns about Bucci Park. These concerns include increasing negative activities taking place in the park. Surrey RCMP, Surrey Bylaws and Surrey Crime Prevention will be in attendance. Staff from the Parks Division and Traffic Operations will also be on hand to receive community feedback

Unwin Park Community Room

Renovation of the Unwin Park Caretaker building to create the Unwin Park Community Room has been completed. The building is within the construction footprint for the adjacent waterpark installation. The new community room will be available for use upon completion of the waterpark construction and surrounding landscaping. Anticipated completion date is October 10, 2011.

Cloverdale Athletic Park Washroom

Cloverdale Athletic Park washroom renovation project is moving forward. The Cloverdale Athletic Park utilization has increased substantially over the last few years. The goal is to more than double the washroom capacity of the main field house.

Wickson Point

The new redeveloped Wickson Point area of Crescent Beach has been received positively by the community. It was host to the inaugural Crescent Beach Invitational Antique Car show on Labour Day weekend. The event was well supported by the community and by most accounts a fitting event for the site adding a unique experience for park users.

Dog Off-Leash Open Houses

Dog off Leash Open Houses were completed as of September 20th, with much constructive feedback. The Strategic Plan will go to the Committee in October or November.

Tamanawis Artificial Turf Field

Newly Opened Tamanawis Field Hockey Pitch is a hit with players, spectators and casual park patrons. This new generation nylon surface is smooth, fast and attractive. Spectators can watch games from traditional bleachers along the north sideline. In addition, this new facility has a concrete and paving stone walkway encircling the pitch that is fast becoming a hit with local walkers. Tamanawis Park now has the distinction of being the only facility in North America with two side by side carpet-styled field hockey only pitches. Along with improved access to Surrey residents, this facility is certain to attract many high profile tournaments and special events in the future.

Clayton Lawn Bowling Facility

Staff met with the Surrey Lawn Bowling Club with regard to the lawn bowling facility at Clayton Park. The City will be contributing to the planning and design of renovations to the small building at the park and will also undertake significant renovations to the greens in 2011-2012. The City will also be taking a more active role in the maintenance of the greens until the Club's volunteers can effectively take over all of the maintenance activities of the greens.

Miscellaneous Park News

- Construction has begun on the new cricket/soccer fields at Newton Athletic Park; baseball has been moved to another location;
- Construction will begin shortly on additional renovations at Kwomais Point Park to improve accessibility to Kwomais Lodge and Sanford Hall;
- The building permit for the new Community Room at Fleetwood Park was issued with construction taking place in September and October; and
- Construction has started on the new washroom at Enver Creek Park.

Tennis. Approximately 60 players took part in the successful season end Rookie Tour tennis tournament and year end tennis festival on Sunday, September 18th.

Fleetwood Festival. The thirteenth annual Fleetwood Festival was held on Saturday, September 10th, at the Fleetwood Community Centre and Francis Park.

Focus on Seniors. The next FOS's Forum on elder abuse and neglect is being held Saturday, September 24th, at the Newton Recreation Centre. This will be the second forum presented entirely in Punjabi, with 150 – 200 participants expected to attend.

Chuck Bailey Recreation Centre Expansion Project

The Chuck Bailey Recreation Centre Expansion Project is close to completion with regard to the relocation of the Sunrise Seniors. The Seniors will be moving in late December with an official opening being planned for January, 2012.

North Surrey Recreation Centre Wall

The North Surrey Recreation Centre Wall, which is the pool wall adjacent to the Transit Exchange, is in its finishing stages.

Fitness Business Canada

Fitness Business Canada is the primary trade publication in Canada for owners, managers, directors and staff of health and fitness facilities. The Cloverdale Recreation Centre has been selected as their new facility profile for the September/October issue. In fact, the Recreation Centre has been selected as their cover feature.

ECE Updates

Hosted a two day Child Training Session for ECE staff at Kensington Prairie – through the emergent and responsive curriculum, “elements of play” was the workshop theme.

Fraser Heights

The construction is well underway and beginning to program our new spaces for a Winter 2012 opening! During the construction, our fitness classes have remained very busy. Staff have implemented innovative new training opportunities with piloting the TRX systems – classes have been full.

The 4th annual “Movie Under the Stars” in the park was a success, hosting over 400 community members in the back field watching an outdoor movie.

Guildford

The Youth Diversity Taskforce action plan has been completed with partners (City, SD36, Health, RCMP) and is beginning to rollout to the community.

Cloverdale Recreation Centre

The new recreation centre is continuing to see participation grow. September 15th was customer appreciation day at the Centre, which was well received by over 625 customers.

Surrey Central Library Opening:

On Saturday, September 24th, from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm, Parks, Recreation and Culture are pleased to be supporting the opening of the new Surrey Central Library. The official opening ceremonies begin at 1:00 pm and everyone is welcome to attend. In addition, there will be the unveiling of two significant public art installations in the Library 1:30 pm.

The first art work is a painting by Gordon Smith, for whom we are excited and honoured to have one of the largest paintings he has ever created added to the City’s public art collection. Gordon Smith is one of Canada’s most esteemed and prolific painters of the west coast landscape. He is also an accomplished printmaker and has worked in sculpture, photography and mixed-media installation. His work is in many important public and private collections.

The second art work is a series of sculptures created by artist Liz Magor. Liz is one of Canada’s most highly acclaimed and distinctive sculptors.

Surrey Arts Centre Theatre Renovation & Culture Days Invitation:

Thanks to funding from the City of Surrey’s annual capital program, a grant from the Cultural Spaces Canada Program and funding raised from the community, we have been working on a major renovation to the Surrey Arts Centre Main Stage Theatre. The work included painting, new carpet, new seating, lighting and millwork, creating a clean, contemporary look that integrates with the design of the lobby and overall building.

A preview of this space and a behind the scenes tour of the theatre will be given on Saturday, October 1st, from noon to 2:00 pm. This event is part of Surrey's "Culture Days" celebration.

Two Views Exhibition at the Museum

On loan from the *Japanese Canadian National Museum*, this exhibition provides two photographic experiences of Japanese Canadians and Japanese Americans during their internment in WWII. Renowned photographers, Ansel Adams and Leonard Frank capture the personal stories and experiences of the internment camps in this thought-provoking exhibition. On display at the Surrey Museum from September 13 – October 29, 2011.

Surrey Nature Centre

The expansion is nearing completion and an opening will take place in October.

Community Engagement in Parks

We have had two recent community engagements in parks:

- Frank Hurt Park – a community group has volunteered to make enhancements to the park, spurred on by the death of Devon Allaire-Bell. They are interested in park clearing, a potential park playground and renaming the park. A report will be brought back to the Committee.
- Wintercrest Park in South Surrey – concern about the illegitimate use at the park. Parks will be doing a community outreach to better understand the concerns.

Surrey "Culture Days" marketing materials were circulated on-table, including:

- September 30th – opening reception for Fiction Façade on Surrey Urban Screen at the Chuck Bailey Recreation Centre; and
- October 1st & 2nd – 1st anniversary weekend celebration of the Newton Cultural Centre.

H. OTHER BUSINESS

The Manager of Parks provided an update on Darts Hill Garden Park, the legacy which has been donated to the citizens of the City of Surrey by Edwin and Francisca Darts, consisting of 7.5 acres. It was noted that a master plan was done shortly after the City received the property and the City has purchased an additional 15 acres to add to the 7.5 acres. Preliminary concept plans show a volunteer resource centre and an educational centre for horticulture. As resources permit, staff will report to Council requesting authorization to enter into a partnership agreement with third parties to build the volunteer resource centre and horticultural learning centre.

I. NEXT MEETING

Next meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee is scheduled for October 19, 2011.

J. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by R. Benson

Seconded by C. Annable

That the Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee

meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Certified as true and correct:

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

Councillor Martin, Chairperson
Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee