

# *Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee – Minutes*

2E – Community Room A  
City Hall  
13450 – 104 Avenue  
Surrey, BC  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2019  
Time: 5:30 p.m.  
File: 0540-20

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**Present:**

Councillor Guerra – Chairperson  
Councillor Elford  
Councillor Patton  
B. Burnside  
S. Drysdale

**Regrets:**

Councillor Annis  
C. Girardi  
G. Tymoschuk,  
School Trustee

**Staff Present:**

L. Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture  
N. Aven, Manager of Parks  
L. Davison, Manager of Culture  
R. Gallagher, Heritage Admin. & Facilities Manager  
T. Uhrich, Parks Planning, Research & Design Manager  
L. White, Manager, Community & Recreation Services  
L. Anderson, Legislative Services

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**A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

It was

Moved by B. Burnside  
Seconded by Councillor Elford  
That the minutes of the Parks, Recreation  
and Culture Committee meeting of April 17, 2019, be adopted.  
Carried

**B. DELEGATIONS****1. Gurbux S. Saini, Kewal S. Tagger and Sucha S. Gill, Chimney Heights  
Park User Group**

Gurbux S. Saini, Kewal S. Tagger and Sucha S. Gill, Chimney Heights Park User Group, were in attendance to provide a presentation with respect to Chimney Heights Park amenities.

The following comments were made:

- In August 2018, the Chimney Heights Park neighbourhood was canvassed with a petition requesting that washroom facilities and additional covered shelters be installed at Chimney Heights Park; 852 signatures were received in support.
- Facilities are needed at the park as it's one of the busiest parks in the area, used by children, parents, grandparents, day and night, with some spending 2-3 hours a day meeting friends, having picnics, etc. Additionally, it is a park with 2 soccer fields and a softball field, very busy with residents and many visiting teams.
- The other park in the area has very little usage in comparison, having mostly casual walkers through the park not intending to spend time there.
- The park is designated as a class "C" park, however with the additional development over the years there has been a significant increase in the population of the neighbourhood and maximum use of the park, including a large senior population that spend longer periods of time at the park meeting

friends, socializing and watching their grandchildren play. Based on the increased use and longer time spent at the park, it is prudent to request a reclassification of the park from class "C" to class "B".

- Although there is access to the neighbouring school, the times are limited to weekends and after-school hours. Unfortunately, there have been many occasions where the school facilities have been locked and access is not possible when it should be. With such a busy park throughout the day and evening, it is necessary to have reliable access to facilities at all times.

In response to questions from the Committee, staff reported the following:

- The class system noted is an old system of how parks were classified. Over time as parks evolved, certain aspects receive different service levels (depending on horticulture, grass fields, sports facilities, etc.).
- Chimney Heights Park is maintained at a really good level, to all the City's standards for a neighbourhood park.
- Staff will provide a report to the Committee regarding current and future amenities for Chimney Heights Park.
- Staff will provide the Committee with a comprehensive report identifying the types of parks there have been (city park, neighbourhood park, etc.) with an explanation of the utilization of the parks in the context of other amenities, address classifications, and outline costs and available options.

**2. Susan Prins, Su-Ann Lim, Gail Terry and Leanne Mason**

Susan Prins, Su-Ann Lim, Gail Terry and Leanne Mason, were in attendance to provide a presentation with respect to access for leashed dogs on the beach path at Crescent Beach Park

A PowerPoint presentation was provided, and the following comments were made:

- As Surrey residents and dog owners, many local to Crescent Beach park, there has been an increased interest to continue shared access for leashed dogs along the beach path from May 15th to September 15th with restricted time limits. Paws on the Park began in 2018 to gauge interest and ensure public support prior to bringing a request to the City.
- There are many long time residents of the Crescent Beach community, active dog owners and active in the community (CB Property Owners Association, Camp Alexandra, Blockwatch, etc.), also providing daily stewardship to the community (picking up trash, reporting issues) that, due to the restriction of leashed dog access along the path during the summer months, are unable to see the beach during the summertime; something that is a part of their everyday life throughout all the other months in the year.
- After talking to the public (local residents and visitors) and businesses in the area and on the beach, a petition to allow leashed dogs on the beach path during off-peak times (before 10 am / after 6 pm) was canvassed, receiving 869 verified signatures in support, 84% of which are Surrey residents and 78% dog owners. Furthermore, it was observed that the majority of beach visitors pack up and leave by 6 pm, leaving the area fairly quiet afterward.

- The dog off-leash area isn't really an option for many of the older dogs as they don't enjoy being tumbled over by the younger, busier dogs that frequent the area. Instead, the older dogs enjoy a healthy walk along the path where they can simply achieve the exercise needed.
- It is requested that consideration be given for a change in policy for within Bylaw #13480 to permit leashed dogs during off-peak times (before 10 am and after 6 pm) from May 15th to September 15th for the Crescent Beach Main Path, and that Bylaw officers visit regularly to effectively enforce the change.

In response to the delegation's presentation and request, the Committee referred the information to Parks, Recreation and Culture to provide an analysis of beach patrons at different times throughout the day, review best practices and set out options available for the Committee's consideration.

**3. Kal Dosanjh, Founder and CEO, and Kiran Toor, Vice President, Kids Play Foundation**

Kal Dosanjh, Founder and CEO, and Kiran Toor, Vice President, Kids Play Foundation (Kids Play), were in attendance to give an overview of Kids Play.

A short video of the mentorship program was shown, followed by a PowerPoint presentation outlining the many sporting activities and programs offered by Kids Play in support of vulnerable youth.

The following comments were made:

- Kids Play is a registered non-profit organization, founded in 2015, committed to a mission of keeping youth from the lifestyle of drugs, gangs and violence by reinforcing a sense of belonging and self-worth.
- There are over 500 volunteer members and professionals involved in supporting the Kids Play vision to create young leaders and professionals by getting youth involved in sports, educational and other recreational activities and obtain opportunities that will allow them to excel in all phases of life
- Since 2015, 60,000 youth have been impacted through the 120 constructive and positive projects and 200 events, all provided at no cost and supported entirely by volunteers, including professional athletes, teachers, coaches, police officers and others, making Kids Play one of the largest youth organizations in Western Canada.
- With the strong belief that engaging youth in sports plays a significant role in diverting them away from a life of crime, sports programs have increased exponentially from a soccer program for inner city youth, to a recent soccer tournament with the Vancouver Whitecaps FC at BC Place Stadium and a flag football tournament in collaboration with the BC Lions, to a variety of sports including field/ball hockey, cricket, kabaddi and basketball.
- In addition to all sports activities offered free of charge, Kids Play partner with local corporations, organizations and individuals to provide a variety of mentorship and after school programming, information sessions and a host of

forums that cover such topics as bullying prevention, women's empowerment, anti-racism and drugs and gangs, all provided at no cost to the participants.

- The bedrock and fundamental principle of all programs is to establish a rapport with the youth through the medium of sports; bridging a gap between the youth and adults in a constructive manner by providing young people with a positive identity and feelings of empowerment, while developing sportsmanship, leadership, teamwork and self governance skills.

The Committee expressed appreciation for the presentation and acknowledged the great work being done in support of vulnerable youth.

The General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture reported that staff will follow-up with the delegation with respect to any upcoming City forums as well as any partnership the City has with Community Safety and the SAFE (Surrey Anti-Gang Family Empowerment) Centre, a collaborative space working with partners to provide services to children, youth and their families to help reduce youth gang involvement.

4. **Sue Kydd, President, Universal Athletics, Stephen Terry, President South Fraser Track and Field Club and Christine de la Cruz, Airblast Off Lions Track and Field**

Sue Kydd, President, Universal Athletics, Stephen Terry, President South Fraser Track and Field Club and Christine de la Cruz, Airblast Off Lions Track and Field, were in attendance to provide a presentation with respect to Bear Creek Park track and field safety.

A PowerPoint presentation, outlining safety concerns for training athletes and the general public, was given.

The following comments were made:

- Three Surrey track and field clubs and many members of the walking public regularly use the track at Bear Creek Park. The clubs share three practice hours per day (5:00 – 8:00 pm, Monday-Friday), five days a week, for a total of 15 daylight hours (out of approximately 70 daylight hours per week). The remainder of the time the track is open to the general public.
- Recently (within the last week) the outside track lanes are roped off with larger cones to allow the public to keep walking during track and field practices; a change from using smaller cones in the past.
- There is a long history of walking on the track, however there is increasing concern for the safety of all users of the track during practice times. When a member of the public collides with a track athlete it can be dangerous, especially when track sprinters, known for their power and speed, come out of the starting blocks with their heads down for the first 20 metres, significant injuries can happen to all parties.
- Unlike other sports (baseball, football, soccer, diving, etc.) where athletes are not expected to share their training facility at the same time with the public,

track athletes are unable to focus as they should, as they have to be aware of dangerous situations. Similarly, coaches cannot concentrate on their programming as they continually need to monitor the public.

- Historically Surrey has produced fine Track & Field athletes. The sport is growing and developing, with five track clubs now in Surrey. Surrey residents are receiving university athletic scholarships in Canada and the USA and Surrey clubs are producing a large number of national and international athletes, who require a calm, non-distracted environment in which to train. Sustaining a training injury could potentially jeopardize a university education and future opportunities.

In response to questions from the Committee, the following was noted:

- The track reservation for 15 hours per week is during prime time due to the best available hours of the young athletes coming from school and university. It can be difficult when students are also running late from school.
- There are up to 270 registered Track & Field athletes that train at the track up to 12 months a year. Depending on the age group, practice begins in January for the older athletes, while the youngest athletes are indoors until March and then train outdoors until their break in July.

The Chair acknowledged members of the public in attendance to request that the placement of the cones for the two lanes dedicated for walkers, be moved toward the centre lane to provide two complete lanes for walking

The Chair advised the Committee will looking at the information comprehensively and noted the report for consideration under item E.1 of the Agenda.

## C. STAFF PRESENTATIONS

### 1. Liane Davison, Manager of Culture

Liane Davison, Manager of Culture, provided a presentation on the private development public art program and presented staff recommendations regarding the public art plans for current developments, as follows:

- **Simon Fraser University** - Sustainable Energy Engineering building (102 Avenue and University Boulevard):
  - The options for potential sites for a final artwork, as recommended by the public art consultant, are all confirmed as highly visible to the public.
  - The process of selecting a finalist from a long list of local and international artists is underway and expected to be confirmed summer 2019.
- **PCI Development** - King George Hub (beside King George SkyTrain Station):
  - Maskull Lasserre's final art concept, "Moon Harvest", was supported by all the developer's stakeholders and meets all the criteria of the City's private development policy and program.

- **Anthem Development** (Coyote Creek off 152 Avenue):
  - A proposed iconic artwork funded as part of this development is suggested as best sited on City owned road allowance land, adjacent to a planned roundabout, that will connect the eventual through road of 77 Avenue. If installed on City land, the artwork, together with a maintenance cash fund, would need to proceed as a proposed donation to the City. Staff support the use of this site given its visibility to both vehicles and pedestrians. Staff will present the proposed artwork concept to the Committee as required by the public art program's artwork donation process.
- **Amica** (White Rock, 16 Avenue east of 152 Street):
  - Metz and Chew's artwork concept "Water's Edge" was supported by all the development's stakeholders and meets all criteria of the City's private development program.

It was Moved by B. Burnside  
 Seconded by Councillor Patton  
 That the Parks, Recreation & Culture  
 Committee support the recommendations regarding the private development  
 public art plans and projects as presented by staff.

Carried

2. **Sarah-Lea Tosdevine-Tataryn, Age Friendly Strategy for Seniors Manager**

Sarah-Lea Tosdevine-Tataryn, Age Friendly Strategy for Seniors Manager, was in attendance to provide an overview and highlights of the Age Friendly Strategy for Seniors (Strategy).

A PowerPoint presentation was given, outlining the programs and services implemented to achieve the outcomes set out in the framework of the Strategy through a collaboration with community and governmental partners.

The following comments were made:

- Between 2011 and 2016, Surrey's population aged 65+ increased 29%. According to the 2016 Census, the seniors' population accounted for 14.1% of Surrey's total population. The projected seniors' population for 2021 is 101,700 in Surrey.
- The Strategy, officially recognized by the World Health Organization – Global Age Friendly Cities, is a framework that ensures seniors, families and caregivers are supported through advocacy, policy, partnering and service delivery.
- A variety of "Focus on Seniors" forums (e.g. safety, health and wellness, transportation and mobility, etc.) are provided throughout the year and offered in five languages.

- All six town centres offer numerous community engagement initiatives and safe and accessible recreation programs (registered and drop in) to support healthy and active aging.
- An Age Friendly Strategy for Seniors Working Group has been established to look at updating the Action Plan (2019 – 2023), focused on seniors, as a formal document available to the public; progress updates will be provided to the Committee periodically.

#### D. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

#### E. NEW BUSINESS

##### 1. Bear Creek Park Safety Concerns

File No. 6140-20/Bear Creek Park Oval

The memorandum from the Park Facility Operations Manager, dated April 9, 2019, regarding the above subject line, was reviewed. It was recommended that the Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee:

1. Receive the report as information;
2. Endorse "Option 3" (deploy Parks staff and increase number and size of cones) effective immediately for the remainder of the 2019 track season; and
3. Endorse "Option 2" (exclusive use of running track for track groups during training times) upon completion of the new Bear Creek Park walking track (scheduled for completion in early 2020).

The General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture reported that the recommendation is to keep working with the track clubs and continue to use the new larger size cones that better assist in clearly identifying the separation of the track lanes and have had a positive response; closing the whole track was not favourably received. Funding is available to build a secondary walking path in the park which will be moving forward as quickly as possible. Design is underway, aiming for three walking lanes with a rubberized surface and pedestrian level lights, anticipated to be ready early in 2020.

It was

Moved by Councillor Elford

Seconded by B. Burnside

That the Parks, Recreation & Culture

Committee receive the report from the Park Facility Operations Manager, dated April 9, 2019, entitled "Bear Creek Park – Running Track Safety Concerns", as information.

Carried

It was Moved by S. Drysdale  
Seconded by B. Burnside  
That the Parks, Recreation & Culture  
Committee endorse "Option 3" (deploy Parks staff and increase number and size of  
cones) effective immediately for the remainder of the 2019 track season.  
Carried

It was Moved by Councillor Elford  
Seconded by S. Drysdale  
That the Parks, Recreation & Culture  
Committee endorse "Option 2" (exclusive use of running track for track groups  
during training times) upon completion of the new Bear Creek Park walking track  
(scheduled for completion in early 2020).  
Carried

**F. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL**

**G. CORRESPONDENCE**

**H. INFORMATION ITEMS**

1. **Terms of Reference – Adopted by Council April 1, 2019**  
File No. 0540-20
2. **Invitation to the 15th Annual Surrey International Children's Festival**  
**May 23 – 25, 2019**  
File: 0330-01

**I. OTHER BUSINESS**

**1. Verbal Update**

L. Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture, provided the following update:

- **Easter Activities** – a variety of Easter themed activities will be happening at various recreation centres; information is available on the City's website.
- **Move for Health Day** – on May 9th, the City-wide Move for Health Day event for all City of Surrey employees will be taking place to promote physical activity and support healthy active living. This is an annual event providing education about physical literacy/activity and to promote lifelong health and wellness.
- **Bylaws Presentation** – Bylaws is scheduled to provide an overview of their operation and their support of Parks to the May 22nd Committee meeting.



- **Party for the Planet** – on April 13th, the City hosted its ninth annual Earth Day celebration, Party for the Planet. An estimated 10,000 people attended the free event, providing opportunities for all ages to learn about environmental initiatives and enjoy the many festival attractions for the whole family.
- **Museum of Surrey** – from April 24th to September 8th, the feature gallery is being transformed for the Worlds of Wonder exhibition, where nature, technology and history come to life through LEGO bricks.
- **Historic Stewart Farm** – the very popular Old-Fashioned Easter Event takes place on April 20th. Activities include scavenger hunts, heritage demonstrations, craft activities and the chance to meet the Easter Bunny
- **Surrey Festival of Dance** - runs for the entire month of April at the Surrey Arts Centre. Now in it's 52<sup>nd</sup> year, the Festival continues to provide thousands of young dancers from Surrey and surrounding areas with the opportunity to compete in a wide variety of categories and genres on the Surrey Arts Centre Main Stage.
- **Arena Update** – the new three ice sheet arena complex in North Surrey, located in Bridgeview, is anticipated to be opening for the fall 2019. The new arena will replace the aging two ice sheet North Surrey Arena in City Centre.

**J. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on **Wednesday, May 22, 2019 in Meeting Room 2E – Community Room A.**

**K. ADJOURNMENT**

It was


Moved by B. Burnside  
Seconded by Councillor Patton  
That the Parks, Recreation & Culture

Committee adjourn.

Carried

The Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

  
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Jennifer Ficocelli, City Clerk

  
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Councillor Laurie Guerra  
Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee