

Present:

Councillor Guerra – Chairperson
Councillor Elford
Councillor Patton
B. Burnside
S. Drysdale
C. Girardi
T. Allen, School Trustee

Absent:**Also Present:**

L. Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture
L. Davison, Manager of Culture
L. White, Manager, Community & Recreation Services
R. Gallagher, Manager, Heritage Administration & Facilities
P. Zevit, Biodiversity Conservation Planner
R. Ryan, Parks Business Operations Manager
S. Scott, Business Operations Manager
D. Merry, Parks Planning Manager
L. Blake, Legislative Services

Prior to the start of the meeting, Councillor Guerra noted that Liane Davison, Manager, Culture, will be retiring from the City after 32 years of service.

A. ADOPTIONS**1. Adoption of the Agenda**

It was Moved by S. Drysdale
Seconded by C. Girardi
That the agenda of the Parks, Recreation & Culture
Committee of January 19, 2022, be adopted.
Carried

2. Adoption of November 17, 2021 Minutes

It was Moved by C. Girardi
Seconded by S. Drysdale
That the minutes of the Parks, Recreation & Culture
Committee meeting held on November 17, 2021, be adopted.
Carried

B. DELEGATIONS

This section had no items to consider.

C. STAFF PRESENTATIONS**1. Liane Davison, Manager of Culture**

Liane Davison, Manager of Culture, provided an overview of civic and private art projects currently underway.

In response to questions from the Committee, Ms. Davison advised that staff have been involved in Nicomekl Riverfront Park open houses, as well as consultation with the Kwantlen First Nation and Semiahmoo First Nation. The park will include a combination of public art approaches such as integrated works (i.e. – poetry in boulders and on benches) and staff will work with indigenous artists to commission installations.

2. **Pamela Zevit, Biodiversity Conservation Planner**

Pamela Zevit, Biodiversity Conservation Planner, provided a presentation regarding the Biodiversity Design Guidelines (BDG). The following information was highlighted:

- The BDG are part of a progression in nature-based approaches in Surrey that demonstrate the City's commitment to biodiversity. The Biodiversity Conservation Strategy (BCS) was implemented in 2014 to identify biodiversity within the city and develop a management strategy to maintain it. The BDG were completed in 2021 to support the implementation of the BCS by integrating biodiversity-based design approaches and best practices that are Surrey-specific and consider the City's environmental, social and political context. The BDG also considered regional connectivity that influence the long-term status of the City's Green Infrastructure Network (GIN) and other natural assets shared with neighbouring cities.
- The BDG have numerous linkages at the operational and policy level so they can be implemented in a collaborative fashion. The Guidelines are intended to help guide land use planning and development activities across the City, focusing on site-level mechanisms to deliver objectives at the microcosm level.
- The BDG are organized into eight modules: habitat structure, light noise, road ecology, drainage, green roofs and walls, maintained landscapes, trails and signage. Each module includes design actions with BCS linkages and co-benefits and design, maintenance and monitoring information. The BDG are intended for use across the city's landscape, with an initial focus on City lands. Projects that have been identified for application of the BDG include Edgewood Park, Bear Creek Athletics Centre and Nicomekl Riverfront Park. Staff will meet with the development community to discuss the application of the BDG in private developments.
- Staff have identified a suite of plant and wildlife species that will benefit from the BDG. The 26 main indicator species will help measure how well the BDG are being implemented based on their movement and health. The Biodiversity Checklist is an additional tool in the BDG and is one of the recommended deliverables from the BCS.
- It is anticipated that the BDG will be transformed into an interactive online tool for staff and the public. An example of an interactive online tool is London's Rewild My Street program that provides design-led guidance for residents who want to adapt their homes, gardens and streets to encourage wildlife.

- Staff have been working across City departments to integrate the BDG into different activities. Staff have been in discussion on the direction for long-term implementation and comments are being compiled into a future summary.

In response to questions from the Committee, Ms. Zevit provided the following information:

- Staff have been discussing how to better communicate the good work of the City, such as the BDG. It is challenging as there are a number of priorities to communicate, especially with respect to COVID-19.
- During a presentation to AEIAC, that Committee recommended integrating case studies and feedback into the BDG.
- It is more economical to retain green infrastructure assets compared to recreating them. Naturally occurring green infrastructure is also usually more sustainable. The Guidelines provide tools to implement biodiversity in urban environments. For example, a green wall can be added after development, although there are costs to consider.
- Staff are working on a presentation to the Development Advisory Committee, which includes representation from the development industry.
- While the City has an existing Green Roof Policy, implementation is optional. A green roof or wall is expensive infrastructure that requires maintenance and monitoring after installation. There are additional ways to incorporate greenery into developments and infrastructure. A good example is the SkyTrain pillars on No. 3 Road in Richmond.

The Committee noted the following comments:

- Many developers have expressed an interest in sustainable development and it could be beneficial to provide one presentation to a large group of local developers to highlight easy ways to incorporate the BDG into development.
- The Development Advisory Committee has already discussed the densification of parks, so the BDG would be a timely topic.
- The School District already builds schools to high sustainable standards. A green roof has high upfront costs and ongoing maintenance to consider. These costs cannot be offset like they can be in a private development.

D. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

This section had no items to consider.

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Proposed Park Name – Inouye Park**
File No. 6140-00

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

It was Moved by S. Drysdale
Seconded by B. Burnside
That that the Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee:

1. Receive the report dated January 10, 2022, regarding the proposed park name – Inouye Park for information;
2. Endorse the name ‘Inouye Park’ for the park lots currently identified as 30-G, 30-E, 31-H, 31-E, 31-N, and 31-C Utility ROW’s (attached as Appendix "I") and recommend adoption by Council; and
3. Attach a copy of the report to the minutes of the meeting for Council endorsement of the proposed name.

Carried

2. **Surrey Performing Arts Reimagined for Kids Program ("SPARK")**
File No. 7800-01

It was Moved by S. Drysdale
Seconded by B. Burnside
That the Parks, Recreation & Culture
Committee receive the report dated January 11, 2022, regarding the Surrey
Performing Arts Reimagined for Kids Program ("SPARK") for information.

Carried

3. **Follow Up to Kids Play Foundation Presentation to PRCC**
File No. 7710-01

In response to a question from the Committee, Laurie Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture, advised that all grant applications go through an adjudication process to ensure the program is not competitive with other programs being delivered to meet those same needs. Kids Play Foundation is not currently taking field time away from any local sports groups.

It was Moved by S. Drysdale
Seconded by B. Burnside
That the Parks, Recreation & Culture
Committee (PRCC) receive the report dated January 12, 2022, regarding follow up to the Kids Play Foundation presentation to the PRCC for information.

Carried

4. 2022/2023 Fees & Charges By-law Amendment

File No. 1810-01

The Committee expressed support for the proposed overall 0% fee increase and suggested that this should be celebrated and promoted on social media, if approved by Council.

The Committee expressed concerns regarding the new proposed Group Photography and Wedding Ceremonies permit and fee. The Committee suggested that staff could implement a pilot program at the two most congested parks or explore additional options for park management, such as a Park Ambassador program.

In response to questions from the Committee, Laurie Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture, and Richard Ryan, Park Business Operations Manager, provided the following information:

- Fees have typically increased by 3-4% per year. The proposed 0% fee increase is to help rebuild patronage following COVID-19 restrictions and welcome the public back into City facilities.
- The proposed new rental and amenity rates for the Cloverdale Fairgrounds are comparable to neighbouring cities. The rates are similar to what the City had previously charged for these facilities, but are more standardized and forthcoming. The feedback from facility users regarding the proposed fees has been positive.
- The City of Surrey utilizes a portion of the Artificial Turf Field rental fees to fund a field replacement reserve as the turf covering requires replacement every 8 – 10 years. Other cities may have lower artificial turf field rental fees but then the cost of field replacement is borne by all taxpayers through their property taxes.
- The ability to reopen City facilities depends on Public Health Orders and each facility's ability to provide adequate social distancing. For example, ice rentals are close to 100% capacity, aquatic facilities are well below capacity and fitness facilities were only recently permitted to reopen. Staff follow a decision-making matrix that reviews community demand, safety and ability to reopen. For example, the City does not currently have the aquatic staffing to open those facilities to 100% if permitted. Staff will continue to monitor the situation and open facilities gradually and safely.
- The pandemic has put additional stress on parks and more people are holding outdoor weddings due to group gathering restrictions. The proposed Group Photography and Wedding Ceremonies permit and fee process includes two categories: non-gated passive grass such as Elgin Heritage Park, Redwood Park and Bear Creek Park, and gated passive grass, specifically referring to The Glades Woodland Gardens. Elgin Heritage Park has become especially popular for wedding ceremonies and group photography. These large groups can negatively impact other park users and can result in undesirable activities such as alcohol consumption, littering and fireworks, as well as putting additional stress on parking facilities. The permit and fee process is recommended as a way to manage specific situations that have occurred in a few parks that are popular for these purposes. It is anticipated that this proposal will help staff with park management by better understanding how many groups will be using the park and for what purposes, as well as help ensure the park is left in good condition.

- The proposed Group Photography and Wedding Ceremonies permit and fee process would allow staff to outline specific conditions for park use, contact information to follow up with users in the event of any issues, and planning for additional staff as necessary, such as a Park Ambassador and/or Bylaw Services.
- The proposed Group Photography and Wedding Ceremonies permit and fee process would allow for wedding ceremonies to utilize The Glades Woodland Gardens. The proposed fees for this space are on par with other high end botanical gardens such as VanDusen Botanical Gardens and Queen Elizabeth Park Botanical Garden.

It was Moved by Councillor Guerra
Seconded by S. Drysdale
That the Parks, Recreation & Culture
Committee refer the proposed Group Photography and Wedding Ceremonies
permit and fee process back to staff.

Carried

5. Indigenous Public Art in Clayton Library

File No. 7850-01

It was Moved by S. Drysdale
Seconded by C. Girardi
That the Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee:

1. Receive the report dated January 11, 2022, regarding Indigenous Public Art in Clayton Library for information;
2. Request the General Manager of Parks, Recreation & Culture provide a report to Council recommending staff proceed to contract Roxanne Charles to complete the design for a Public Artwork at the Clayton Library, as generally described in the report and attached as "Appendix I."

Carried

6. Mural Proposal: "Untitled" for 10240 City Parkway Development

File No. 7800-01

It was Moved by S. Drysdale
Seconded by B. Burnside
That the Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee:

1. Receive the report dated January 11, 2022 regarding proposed mural "Untitled" for the development located at 10240 City Parkway for information;
2. Recommend staff prepare a report for Council to recommend approval of the "Untitled" Mural as described in the report.

Carried

F. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

This section had no items to consider.

G. CORRESPONDENCE

This section had no items to consider.

H. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. **Corporate Report Ro12 - COVID-19: Emergency Operations Centre Update**
File No. 7130-16

2. **Corporate Report Foo2 - 2022 Five-Year (2022-2026) Financial Plan - Capital Program**
File No. 1705-05

In response to a question from the Committee, Laurie Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture, advised that staff will provide regular updates to the Committee as Parks projects part of the Capital Program come online.

I. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Verbal Updates

L. Cavan, GM, Parks, Recreation and Culture, provided the following verbal updates:

- The Crescent Beach Property Owners Association and St. John Ambulance, with the support of Parks staff, installed two AED (automated external defibrillators) at Blackie Spit and Sullivan Point. The AED units are available 24/7 and are equipped with an alarm and camera technology to protect it from vandalism and theft.

- The Peer Mentorship Program runs weekly at the Clayton Community Centre and engages pre-teens and youth in leadership-based activities. The program participants will host a clothing drive on January 28 and 29, 2022.

- Online Youth Nights are held monthly and the next event is "Card Making for Seniors" and is scheduled for January 20, 2022.

- The English Conversation Program is part of the City's diversity program and is facilitated by volunteers. It is offered in Fall, Winter and Spring, with the Winter 2022 session provided virtually.

- Staff are currently updating the Park Naming Policy and reviewing how the City names its features. Staff contacted the School District for information regarding their naming policy. A report will be brought forward to the Committee at a future meeting.
- The Urban Forestry Team collaborated with the Engineering department to reduce pedestrian hazards in downtown Cloverdale by repairing damaged sidewalks, installing root barriers and creating larger garden areas around 14 trees.
- Parks Partnership will be hosting a free winter event to celebrate BC Family Day on February 19 at Darts Hill Garden Park.
- The City is considering a bid for the 2024, 2025 and 2026 BC 55+ Games. Staff will work on a potential expression of interest for the Committee's consideration and Council approval.
- The City will slowly reopen its fitness facilities in compliance with the most recent Public Health Orders. The facilities will require adequate spacing requirements that will result in lower capacity. Users will also be required to pre-register and provide proof of vaccination.

J. NEXT MEETING

Next meeting of Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee is scheduled for February 16, 2022.

K. ADJOURNMENT

It was
Moved by S. Drysdale
Seconded by C. Girardi
That the Parks, Recreation & Culture
Committee meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Certified as true and correct:

Jennifer Ficocelli, City Clerk

Chairperson – Councillor Guerra

**PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATION INDEX
Wednesday, January 19, 2022**

1. Proposed Park Name – Inouye Park

File No. 6140-00

That Council:

1. Receive the report dated January 10, 2022, regarding the proposed park name – Inouye Park for information;
2. Adopt the name ‘Inouye Park’ for the park lots currently identified as 30-G, 30-E, 31-H, 31-E, 31-N, and 31-C Utility ROW’s (attached as Appendix "I").