

Present:

Councillor Hepner, Chairperson
Councillor Kooner, Vice-Chair
D. Baird
G. Bhurji
B. Burnside
N. Sangha
K. Sidhu

Absent:

T. Allen, School Trustee
R. Prasad

Staff Present:

L. Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture
N. Aven, Director, Parks
L. White, Director, Community and Recreation Services
T. Cleave, Manager, Support Service Accessibility
Y. Asadian, Manager, Community Enhancement
Y. Nasimi, Community Service Coordinator
L. Blake, Assistant City Clerk

A. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**1. Adoption of the Agenda**

It was

Moved by D. Baird

Seconded by B. Burnside

That the agenda of the Parks, Recreation and

Sport Tourism Committee meeting of June 7, 2023, be adopted.

Carried

2. Adoption of May 10, 2023 Minutes

It was

Moved by Councillor Kooner

Seconded by G. Bhurji

That the minutes of the Parks, Recreation

and Sport Tourism Committee meeting held on May 10, 2023, be adopted.

Carried

B. DELEGATIONS**1. Jackie Vuilleumier, and Jenn Newby, Advocates, Neurodiversity Discrimination**

The delegation was in attendance to provide a presentation regarding the marginalization of individuals with neurological differences in recreational facilities. The following information was highlighted:

- The negative impacts of isolation were clearly demonstrated during the COVID-19 pandemic. There can be even stronger impacts to children with special needs, yet there is a lack of access and options for special needs children over spring, summer and winter break. These breaks without social interaction can result in difficulty reintegrating back into school.

- Regular physical activity is the best option to keep healthy. In the 2023 recreation guide, there was only one accessible adaptive program, and that was a wheelchair-based program in Newton with one time slot. There should be more options throughout the city for people of varying physical abilities. The one-to-one camp support that is available is only available for a short period (two weeks) during the summer and the criteria for who is eligible is not clear. While there is an option for parents to provide private external support for summer camps, they are required to pay for the extra support out of pocket.
- While there are other organizations that provide programming for special needs children, such as the Canucks Autism Network (CAN), their programs fill up quickly and registration is done by a lottery system. In addition, CAN no longer requires a formal diagnosis, resulting in more individuals seeking their programs.
- The Ministry of Education reported that there are 7,543 medically diagnosed children in the Surrey School District; however, these numbers do not include children with pending medical diagnosis and does not include children with Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).
- There are many parks and facilities throughout the city, and the City's facilities are already accessible to people of all abilities. The city could be split into zones and each zone could provide accessible camps and programs. Additional support could be provided by School District Education Assistants, as they already have the necessary training and should be available during school breaks.

The General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture, advised that staff can provide a report back to the Committee regarding the City's actions with respect to accessible program integration and where there could be opportunities for expansion.

2. Sue Rittinger, Coordinator, and Karen Grant, Representative, 45+ Hockey League

The delegation was in attendance to provide a PowerPoint presentation regarding the demand and necessity for establishing support for senior women's ice hockey and highlighted the following information:

- Senior women's hockey has grown rapidly in recent years, with the first 45+ league being created implemented in BC in 2020, and 90 senior players currently playing in the league. Of these 90 players, 35 players are 60 years or older, and players will continue to age. Players in the 60+ age bracket need a safer playing style and age compatibility and require a dedicated league.

- While there are many opportunities and different levels for men and boys to play, there are fewer or no female hockey teams. The City has created initiatives and events to encourage women to play hockey, such as the Surrey Falcons female hockey league and the Hayler Wickenheiser clinic for girls that is held annually in Surrey. A seniors' women league would create additional equity, and encourage women stay in the sport and stay active for life and provide role models for younger women.
- There are numerous social, mental and physical health benefits associated with playing in a league, but ice time is almost impossible to book. The seniors' women league is low maintenance and can administer their program themselves. Senior women's hockey is seeking priority ice allocation in 2024, and requesting that the City keep senior women's hockey as a priority to help attain gender and age equity to meeting the growing demand.

In response to a question from the Committee, the delegation advised that as the league is unable to obtain ice time in Surrey, they currently play in Langley. Many of their players live in Surrey.

C. STAFF PRESENTATIONS

1. Cloverdale Fairgrounds Operation

The Community Service Coordinator provided an overview of the Cloverdale Fairgrounds Operation. The Cloverdale Fairgrounds are managed by the City, and a team oversees the general operations of the site and facilities and supports prospective and legacy user groups in hosting events. The Fairgrounds are situated on 42 acres with five facilities and seven parking lots. In 2022, 200,000 people attended events at the Fairgrounds and it is anticipated that this number will increase to 350,000 in 2023. There are currently 70 events scheduled for 2023 and 70 of those events are expected to attract 1,000 people or more. Information regarding the facilities was provided:

- The Agriplex is a multipurpose entertainment event space that can host up to 25,000 patrons. It is the most used space on the Fairgrounds and hosts large annual events such as Lumagica. In 2023, the City received a Destination Development Fund Grant for \$1 million to improve the quality and user experience. This facility has been booked for 26 events so far in 2023.
- The Bill Reid Millennium Amphitheatre was built on 15 acres in 1999 and can accommodate 20,000 guests. The facility hosts annual events including Canada Day, Gone Country and the 5K Foam Fest.
- The Stetson Bowl was built in 1948 and has 3,500 seats. The facility was recently renovated, with enhancements made to the bleachers, kitchen and announcer booth. The Stetson Bowl hosts 20 signature events each year.

- Shannon Hall (formerly the Cloverdale Community Centre) was built in 1956, has a 500-person capacity and hosts both annual and weekly programming.
- Alice McKay Hall (formerly the Production Building) has a capacity of 500 people and provides space for regular weekly programming
- Additional facilities include the show barn, Coverall Building and the fairgrounds and parking lots.

D. REPORTS

1. **Sport Tourism in Surrey: June to August 2023**

File:0360-06

It was

Moved by G. Bhurji

Seconded by K. Sidhu

That the Parks, Recreation and Sport Tourism Committee receive the report dated May 29, 2023 regarding Sport Tourism in Surrey: June to August 2023, for information.

Carried

2. **City Leisure Access Pass Program**

File:0250-20/S

It was

Moved by N. Sangha

Seconded by D. Baird

That the Parks, Recreation and Sport Tourism Committee receive the report dated May 26, 2023 regarding the City Leisure Access Pass Program, for information.

Carried

3. **Surrey Cricket Facilities Update**

File:0360-06

It was

Moved by G. Bhurji

Seconded by N. Sangha

That the Parks, Recreation and Sport Tourism Committee receive the report dated May 30, 2023 regarding Surrey Cricket Facilities Updates, for information.

Carried

E. OTHER BUSINESS**1. Verbal Updates**

The General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture, provided the following verbal updates:

- The City's outdoor pools at Bear Creek Park, Greenaway Park and Sunnyside Park were opened on May 15, while Hjorth Road outdoor pool will open on June 3 and the remaining pools will open on June 24.
- Summer camp registration opened on June 4. Staff worked with the registration system to ensure a smooth process and there were no failures reported.
- Canada Day celebrations will be held on July 1 at the Bill Reid Millenium Amphitheatre and will include performances, food trucks, rides and fireworks.
- Staff are planning for the Fusion Festival, to be held July 22 and 23.
- Metro Vancouver recently implemented a paid permit for commercial photography sessions at Campbell Valley Regional Park. Staff will be monitoring that program as it relates to the City's free permit program for commercial photography sessions at Historic Stewart Farm and Elgin Park.
- The Surrey Rides skateboarding competition will have its first event on June 22 at South Surrey Youth Park. Additional events will be held at skateparks throughout the city.
- City facilities are air conditioned in order to respond to extreme heat events, and are welcoming locations for relief and respite for all.

2. Delegation Request**a. Susan Ahrens, CEO, and Nick Sandhu, Director, Field Hockey Canada**

Requesting to appear before the Parks, Recreation & Sport Tourism Committee meeting to provide a presentation regarding an opportunity to establish a partnership between Canada's field hockey teams and the Tamanawis Park Fields facility for high-performance training.

It was

Moved by D. Baird

Seconded by B. Burnside

That Susan Ahrens, CEO, and Nick

Sandhu, Director, Field Hockey Canada be heard as a delegation at the Parks, Recreation & Sport Tourism Committee.

Carried

b. Mark Smeets, Podcast Host, We are the ADHD Family

Requesting to appear before the Parks, Recreation & Sport Tourism Committee meeting to provide a presentation regarding recommendations to the committee on sensory actions policies in recreation centers.

It was

Moved by Councillor Kooner

Seconded by B. Burnside

That Mark Smeets, Podcast Host, We are the ADHD Family, be heard as a delegation at the Parks, Recreation & Sport Tourism Committee.

Carried

G. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Sport Tourism Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, September 6, 2023.

H. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by Councillor Kooner

Seconded by N. Sangha

That the Parks, Recreation and Sport Tourism Committee meeting be adjourned.

Carried

The Parks, Recreation and Sport Tourism Committee adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Jennifer Ficocelli, City Clerk

Councillor Hepner, Chairperson