

Minutes of the Parks Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, October 22, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. in the Regional District Board Room, 175 Ingram Street, Duncan, BC

**PRESENT**

Director Gerry Giles, Chair  
Director Phil Kent  
Director Mel Dorey  
John Scull  
Alternate Director Joan McKenzie  
Director Mike Walker  
Director Loren Duncan  
Director Brooke Hodson

Absent: Director Joe Allan  
Director Rob Hutchins  
Director Jon Lefebure  
Don Barrie  
Brent Heath, Vice Chair

**CVRD STAFF**

Brian Farquhar, Parks Manager  
Warren Jones, Administrator  
Tom Anderson, Manager, Development Services  
Mary Anne McAdam, Recording Secretary

**APPROVAL OF  
AGENDA**

The agenda was amended with the addition of:  
Correspondence: C1 - John Botelho, LifeSport Coaching regarding Half IronMan Triathlon Event at Shawnigan Lake.

It was Moved and Seconded  
That the agenda as amended be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

**M1 - MINUTES**

It was Moved and Seconded  
That the Minutes of the Special Parks Committee Meeting of July 23, 2008, be accepted.

MOTION CARRIED

**BUSINESS ARISING**

Regarding Director Duncan's enquiry about work on the Cowichan Valley Trail, Brian Farquhar confirmed that the Ice-T Grant is specific to trail work being carried out on the yet to be completed portions of the trail only on the north side of the Cowichan River, except for the grant funds allocated to the Kinsol Trestle Rehabilitation.

Regarding Director Dorey's enquiry concerning a Heritage Bylaw and registry, Tom Anderson, Manager of Developments Services, commented that although this is a complex process, the CVRD is working towards implementing this. The Kinsol Trestle heritage designation would not be held up because of this, as the Board's prior direction is to apply for federal heritage description of the structure.

## **DELEGATIONS**

### **D1 – Warrick Whitehead**

Warrick Whitehead, advocate of the Koksilah River Vision Plan, delivered a presentation on the Koksilah River Ancient Forest.

It was Moved and Seconded

That the Board of the Cowichan Valley Regional District send a letter to the Minister of Environment endorsing the Koksilah River Vision Plan and support for acquisition of these lands by the Province to create an expanded Koksilah River Provincial Park from the Koksilah River Ancient Forest to the area just upstream of the historic Kinsol Trestle.

### **MOTION CARRIED**

Chair Giles requested that Warrick Whitehead provide the Parks Department with a legal description of the area being considered for acquisition.

Director Duncan brought forward his concerns regarding the provincial government's lack of action in acquiring the Eagle Heights Grassland site.

It was Moved and Seconded

That staff prepare a letter to the Nature Conservancy of Canada endorsing the acquisition of Eagle Heights Grassland.

It was Moved and Seconded

That discussion respecting the Eagle Heights Grasslands be referred to the next Parks Commission meeting to enable staff to prepare a report regarding this matter.

### **MOTION CARRIED**

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **R1 – Regional Parkland Acquisition Fund Update**

Brian Farquhar provided the Parks Committee with an update of the process leading up to the referendum, including the extensive public information and awareness campaign.

This information was received and filed.

**R2 – Cobble Hill  
Mountain Recreation  
Area Open House**

Brian Farquhar informed the Parks Committee that it has been 5 years since the adoption of the Cobble Hill Mountain Recreation Management Plan. Reviewing the plan for the possibility of expanding the recreation area management tenure. A Public Open House is scheduled for Thursday, October 23, 2008, for the public and trail user to learn what has been done over the past 5 years and to share input/ideas for the next 5 years.

This information was received and filed.

**R3 –Island Coastal  
Economic Trust &  
Cowichan Valley Trail  
Initiative**

Brian Farquhar provided the Parks Committee with an overview of the public/media announcement of Thursday, October 16, 2008, by Island Coastal Economic Trust that formally approved \$1,743,891 in grant funding for all project components outlined in the application by the CVRD for the completion of the Cowichan Valley Trail, including rehabilitation of the Kinsol Trestle.

This information was received and filed.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**C1- Half IronMan  
Triathlon Event at  
Shawnigan Lake**

Brian Farquhar informed the Committee that this is the third year for this event.

It was Moved and Seconded

That the application from Lifesport Coaching requesting the use of the Cowichan Valley Trail between Sooke Lake Road and the Kinsol Trestle for the 2009 Shawnigan Lake Half Marathon Event on May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009, be approved, subject to the following conditions being adhered to:

1. A copy of a \$5,000,000 liability and indemnification insurance be provided by the company and event organizers which covers the event and which also identifies the Cowichan Valley Regional District as a named insured.
2. Confirmation that event participants have signed a waiver indemnifying the CVRD for the portions of the race that are within lands under the management of the Regional District.
3. Confirmation that written approvals have been received by the organizers from the Ministry of Transportation Finance Authority and Terasen Gas for use of the former railway corridor, including approvals to have the access gates along the corridor open for the duration of the event.
4. A Course Marshall Plan is submitted prior to the event for CVRD review and approval, which shall ensure any gates along the Cowichan Valley Trail that are temporarily opened are appropriately manned during the entire event to prevent unauthorized access to the trail corridor.
5. Confirmation that there will be appropriate flag persons at all road crossings along the trail corridor.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS**      There were no questions from the public.

**CLOSED SESSION**      It was Moved and Seconded  
That the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with the Community Charter Part 4, Division 3, Section 90(1), subsections as noted in accordance with each agenda item.

MOTION CARRIED

The Committee moved into Closed Session at 4:25

**MINUTES**      It was Moved and Seconded  
That the minutes of the Closed Session Parks Committee Meeting of July 23, 2008, be accepted.

MOTION CARRIED

**RISE**      It was Moved and Seconded  
That the Committee rise without report.

MOTION CARRIED

**ADJOURNMENT**      It was Moved and Seconded  
That the meeting be adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 4:26 pm.

---

Chair

---

Recording Secretary