



Minutes of the regular meeting of the Area I (Youbou/Meade Creek) Parks Commission

Held in the Upper Community Hall, 8550 Hemlock St. Youbou BC on Tuesday, May 16, 2017
at 7:04 p.m.

Present: Chairperson Marcia Stewart

Vice Chair Rob Somers

Don Macdonald

Duncan Hume

Regrets: Area Director – Klaus Kuhn

Approval of Agenda: Amended. A third item added to New Business; a letter from Youbou Community Association.

It was moved and seconded that the amended agenda be approved.

Motion Carried.

Adoption of Minutes:

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the regular Area I (Youbou/Meades Creek) Parks Commission meeting held on April 11, 2017 be adopted.

Motion Carried.

Business Arising

From April 11, 2017 minutes NB1 K. Kuhn had asked that the 2017 budget be cut by \$14,000.00 and if approved by Staff that options be brought back to the Area I Parks Commission for discussion. This amount was subsequently increased to \$40,000 per Klaus and the minutes were amended.

The Parks Commission asked why there were no options presented to them for cuts to the budget?

Correspondence

The Youbou Community Association sent a letter to the Area I Parks Commission, offering their support to any areas in our parks and community we felt needed refurbishing. Their suggestions being to install a flower garden on the road allowance in front of the Youbou Community Church, permission to improve signs in Youbou and information on park usage. The Commission would like to thank Kim Ring and the Youbou Community Association for their letter.

REPORTS

Area I Director: No report. However, Klaus informed that \$12,000 has been proposed for beach upgrades and tree limbing at Mile 77 Park. This proposal has been taken to the Cowichan Lake Community Forest Co-op for consideration.

Cowichan Lake Recreation: The Youbou Regatta will be Saturday, August 12, 2017. We are hoping that Area I Parks Commission members will be able to help out at the concession again. Volunteers required from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Cowichan Lake Recreation has new software going live May 25, 2017, from “Class” to “Legend”. The new software will include CVRD, Ladysmith and North Cowichan and will enable area residents to go to one website and view all programs available and register. Facility availability will also be viewable. A news release will be coming out shortly.

Chairperson Report: No report.

CVRD Report: Ryan Dias reports a further reduction in the parks budget, up from the original \$14,000 to \$40,000 and now \$50,000 as instructed by the Area Director. This money comes out of the Arbutus Park upgrade budget and the elimination of the summer student work program. As a result, the Arbutus Park upgrade requires a redesign and this has caused work to be delayed until the fall.

OB 1: Arbutus Park – Delayed due to budget reduction.

OB 2: Carly Cove – No new information

OB 3: Shaw Creek – No new information.

OB 4: Mile 77 Park – The possibility of a new picnic shelter built by the Laketown Ranch people is still being pursued but there is no new information to report.

NB 1: Parks Commission Bylaws Review – Questionnaire from Brian Farquhar.

1. **Parks Commission Role** – Represent the local residents and ensure that projects proceed. Advise CVRD and recommend new projects pertaining to parks.
2. **Increase Awareness** – Advertise meetings.
3. **Term length for members** – Half should be elected, half should be appointed.
4. **Agenda Items** – Requests from local residents. We include items that members consider to be important. We discuss parks with Ryan Dias, Brock Tingey and Klaus Kuhn.
5. **Parks Staff Not Attending Meetings** – Doesn't really affect the function of the Commission.
6. **Is Minute Taking an Issue?** – Yes. Does not rotate from member to member, one person takes minutes. Unfortunately, our secretary left and the rest of us were unfamiliar with minute taking.
7. **Sufficient Resources Provided?** -
8. **Other Suggestions or Ideas for Volunteer Opportunities in Local Parks** –

NB 2: Update on 2017 budget – The Parks Commission learned that the budget has been reduced by \$50,000 per instructions from the Area Director.

NB 3: Youbou Community Assoc. Letter re, Use of Parks – The YCA has been referred to the CVRD and Ministry of Highways for information and permission to use CVRD parks and plant flower garden on public road.

Adjournment

It was moved and seconded that the regular meeting of Area I Parks Commission be adjourned.

Motion Carried

Meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 13, 2017