

Minutes of the Regular meeting of the Area I (Youbou/Meade Creek) Parks Commission held in the Youbou Upper Hall, 8550 Hemlock Street, Youbou, BC, on Tuesday, March 12, 2013 at 7:04 pm.

**PRESENT:** Chairperson Marcia Stewart  
Vice-Chairperson Gerald Thom  
Rose Davidson, Rob Somers

**ALSO PRESENT:** Director Pat Weaver  
Recording Secretary Tara Daly

**REGRETS:** Dan Nickel, Ken Wilde

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**It was moved and seconded that the agenda be amended with the addition of three New Business items:**

**NB3 Little League Park;**

**NB4 Dylan Road;**

**NB5 Reader Board; and**

**that the agenda, as amended be approved.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**It was moved and seconded that the minutes of February 12, 2013 Regular Area I (Youbou/Meade Creek) Parks Commission be amended by changing:**

**Rose Anderson to Rose Davidson; and**

**that the minutes, as amended, be adopted.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**CORRESPONDENCE – none**

#### **REPORTS**

##### **AREA I DIRECTOR**

Director Weaver

- No information yet on the infrastructure grant for Arbutus Park
- Nature and Habitat Fund Advisory Committee - waiting to let people mull things over before having another meeting
- For the past ten months have been pursuing to rid Youbou of the dust and mud; concern for the health of, and the inconvenience to the people of Youbou; have made several contacts with the Department of Highways & Infrastructure and the Ministry of Environment – “but it’s not their problem”; took video showing evidence of the problem to a CVRD Board meeting; continuing to speak with TimberWest about the possibility of the installation of a truck wash west of Youbou

- Bill Routley MLA, recently spoke in the Legislative Assembly of the problem of the dust and mud plaguing Youbou

**COWICHAN LAKE RECREATION**

- New Playbook is out

**CHAIRPERSON** Marcia Stewart

- M. Stewart attended the Parks Governance workshop held for all Parks Commission Chairs and Directors with Don Hunter, Professional Environmental Consultant. A few historic bits: in 1988 community parks consisted of 244 acres, today there are 1900+ acres; in 1980 the budget was \$62,000 and today it's \$1.6 million with assets of \$7.5 million.
- M. Stewart, R. Somers, and R. Davidson completed a walkabout of the parks. The tour started at Arbutus Park and the Hard Hat Shack (doggie bags at Arbutus Park only – should be at all parks); Little League Park Horseshoe pits – are they still being used; Price Park – peaceful walk through the woods, skunk cabbage in bloom; discussion around the possibility of Mile 77 Park being used as an off-leash dog park (would need fencing, more maintenance) – something to consider; Stoker Park and playfield included checking out the 'frog pond', the structure covering over the picnic tables could be considered for Mile 77 Park; Nantree dock it's lovely. Good walkabout.

**CVRD** Ryan Dias, Brent Wilson

- Didn't reach Ryan - away
- Talked with Brent - Parks Field Operations Superintendent; cost analysis is to check the performance level of the Little League Park irrigation to see what is needed for repair and the associated costs
- the picnic table at Stoker Park was found along with a bench
- Dan Brown will investigate the safety concerns of the Creekside path

**OLD BUSINESS**

**OB1** Little League Park – clarity of "cost analysis"; covered in CVRD report

**OB2** Little League Park – Gatekeeper  
G. Thom will call K. Wilde and ask if he could recommend anyone; CVRD staff also doing follow up

**OB3** Little League Park – Washrooms – Orest Smycniuk, local plumber, is willing to have a look at the washrooms but can't do anything until the water is turned on; M. Stewart will find out when the water is turned on

**OB4** Stoker Park – Picnic Table – Brent asked where the Commission would like to move the table and bench. The Commission suggested the table be moved to Nantree Park and the bench be moved down the hill to the beach at Stoker Park.

**OB5** Creekside Trail – Safety; covered in CVRD report

**NEW BUSINESS**

**NB1**

Arbutus Park

- New garbage can has been installed but leaving damage on the lawn. Ryan said the regular maintenance plan would include redressing and reseeding;
- Concern by Commission with the use of the heavier crushed gravel used to fill in a hole by the creek;
- Query as to whether or not the hydro pole should be removed now while the area is a mess; it is on Yubou Lands property but the pole belongs to Area I Parks no matter whose property it's on – Director Weaver will speak with Brian Faquahar about the process;
- M. Stewart came across a small quad with a man and small boy attempting to cross the park to return to their home – M. Stewart spoke with Brent about the incident who said they were aware someone had been crossing the grass and with the new information was planning to send the bylaw officer to speak with owner;
- Upper area of park is difficult to grow grass; suggestion by staff that a 3 to 4 metre wide gravel path/road be installed, if the applied for grant is received – Commission has some concerns

**NB2**

Nantree Park

- Short ladders make it difficult to get onto the wharf; the Commission recommended that longer ladders be installed
- At the end of its lifespan, the last platform of the walkway would be removed but not replaced; the Commission recommended the floating wharf be moved into its place

**NB3**

Little League Park – irrigation

- Michael Miller, Parks Major Capital Projects Supervisor, wants feedback on whether to proceed with the Little League Park's irrigation at a cost of \$9700; as this was a project already identified in the budget, the Commission recommended that staff proceed

**NB4**

Dylan Road highway access – at corner of Bremner Road

- G. Thom informed the Commission that owners of the former motel have encroached on the highway access bringing in an RV and building other structures causing riparian damage including putting a screen across Utility Creek
- Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure is investigating the possibility of eviction
- Cowichan Lake & River Stewardship Society, if the MoH is successful, is proposing a restoration project including a raised walkway and interpretive signage (spawning coho) and also providing easy lake access from the Little League Park and other area properties
- Julie Foster – asked if the Reader Board would advertise the Lake

**NB5** Cowichan/Ohtaki exchange group fundraiser bottle drive on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. G. Thom and R. Somers will change the board. Vickie Ordano, CLR, has a list of activities/information that can be put on the board.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next Regular meeting of Area I (Youbou/Meade Creek) Parks Commission will be held on April 9, 2013 in the Upper Hall at 7:00 pm.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**8:40 pm** It was moved and seconded that the Regular Area I (Youbou/Meade Creek) Parks Commission meeting be adjourned at 8:40 pm.

**MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.