

Minutes of the Cowichan Station/Glenora/Sahtlam Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting of May 14th, 2013, held at the Glenora Community Hall

Present: Frank McCorkell, Chair, Ron Smith, Director Loren Duncan, Irene Evans, Howard Heyd, Larry Whetstone, Mike Lees, Roland Brown.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm

Minutes: The minutes of the April 9th, 2013 meeting were previously distributed and were discussed at this time.

New Business:

1. Broom Pulling at Currie Park: This is a volunteer community project. Mike Lees feels that someone from the community has to spearhead the projects and will be in contact with Ryan Dias and the Commission is in favour of the event.

2. Busy Place Creek Update: Director Duncan explained that there was a major unexplained algae bloom in the creek and that a water quality analysis in the lower sections of the creek has taken place. Director Duncan will keep the Commission up-to-date on any results. He also mentioned that is expected that a viewing platform and possibly an information kiosk will be built some time in the future.

3. Tree slashing along the Cowichan River Footpath: Ron Smith said that he was told there had been a number of trees slashed adjacent the Footpath. He indicated he will get more information including photos and a sketch showing the general area that this was occurring.

4. Cowichan Valley Schools Heritage Society: Ron Smith mentioned that he was speaking with Bob King, president of the organization and explained what they are doing to 'marking' program throughout the valley. To date they have put up 15 signs and another 15 will be slated for marking in the near future.

5. A general discussion was held regarding the former Briggs property in Cowichan Station and its potential for a community park. Evidently the residents of the community would like to see it acquired by the Commission for park purposes if at all possible. To this end the Commission requests that staff prepare the Fairbridge property, now leased for haying purposes, for sale. This will include a review of the previously prepared assessment and have a sewer and water appraisals undertaken.

6. Bids for the Currie Park Playground Equipment: The Commission members all reviewed and made suggestions on the playground features. Frank McCorkell took notes on which pieces of equipment they would like to see acquired. Frank will provide the parks staff with this information as soon as possible so the playground can be developed this summer.

7. Cowichan River Flood Protection: Director Duncan provided the background for doing an assessment of the flooding potential of the Koksilah industrial area within the Electoral Area. To protect this area some land may well have to be acquired so that a dyke area could be constructed.

The Commission agrees that \$5,000 from the parks budget (Busy Place Creek fund) be used to undertake an appraisal of the Riverside Auto Courts property that is adjacent the Cowichan River.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 11th.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.