

Minutes of the Cobble Hill Parks and Recreation Commission meeting held at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Hall on Watson Avenue on Wednesday, September 19th 2012.

Those present: John Krug – Chair, Lynn Wilson, Bill Turner, Al Garside, Gord Dickenson, Annie Ingraham, Dennis Cage, Alan Seal, Jennifer Symons and Director Gerry Giles.
Regrets: Ruth Koehn. Also present: Brian Farquhar – Parks & Trails Manager.

1. The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. with the adoption of the agenda.
2. Moved/second
That the minutes of July 26th 2012 be adopted as circulated. MOTION CARRIED
3. Business Arising:
 - a) The sign has been removed from the Cobble Hill Common to make way for the new kiosk being constructed. It is currently being stored in the basement of the Cobble Hill Hall. A meeting will be held on Thursday, September 20th with Mike Miller, John Krug, Dennis Cage, Gord Dickenson and Gerry Giles to discuss moving forward with the Common based upon the budget remaining in that allocation.
 - b) Ross Park was again discussed. It was determined there is approximately \$3,000 remaining in the maintenance budget for the Cobble Hill Common. It was agreed those funds would be utilized to improve the Ross Park space and that any surplus from the Watson Avenue trail would also be transferred and used toward improvement of this park. It was also agreed that top dressing on the Watson Avenue trail could wait a year to permit the pathway to pack well.

The landscape design of Ross Park will be drought resistant and the property owners whose front yard is adjacent to the park will be consulted to ensure the design is acceptable to them. The design photos are attached on page 3 of these minutes.
- c) The surface of the South Cowichan Dog Park was discussed and Brian Farquhar agreed to find out what has been used in North Cowichan's Dog Park and to provide that information to the parks commission. It was determined that approximately 55 yards of material would be needed. By using Darrin Forest with his slinger truck the job can be accomplished with minimal strain on our volunteers. A new fountain for the dog park will be constructed soon.
- d) Brian Farquhar reported that Ryan Lendrum had accepted a new position at Island Savings Centre so all enquiries should now go to Ryan Dias. The parks commission wished Ryan Lendrum well in his new position.

4. New Business:

- The work being undertaken with the Age Friendly Study was reviewed and appreciation goes to Maddy Koch for her artistic rendering of the discussion at the

Age-Friendly session held on Tuesday, September 18th 2012. One of the suggestions made at this session was to approach the SCHFIAS with a request for them to donate the Youth Hall once a week (10 a.m. – 2 p.m.) so it could be utilized as a Seniors Centre. A grant in aid could then be provided and the Centre would be trialed over the period of about a year to see if there is a need in the community for a service like this. Lunch and rides, if needed, would be provided. It was suggested Clements South be kept in mind for the luncheon as this would be a wonderful use of community resources and would make a great community mix.



- Brian Farquhar reviewed the draft 2013 parks budget with the commission. He agreed to review and report back on the process by which the bench was recently located at Quarry Nature Park. The commission has no record or memory of discussing the donation or the location of a bench at this park.

Several budget items were discussed and it was agreed the \$26,000 in unallocated funds would be added to the budget for the washroom building at Quarry Nature Park. It was further agreed the ongoing maintenance of the Cobble Hill Common would be reviewed with the Shawnigan Cobble Hill Farmers Institute and Agricultural Society during the 2013 year. It was also agreed the Cobble Hill Parks and Recreation Commission would continue funding the Summer Student Work Program in the amount of \$11,500 and the Summer Playground Program in the amount of \$8,340 as both were seen as worthwhile to the residents of Cobble Hill and the South Cowichan area.

Once the proposed 2013 budget changes have been made the draft budget will again be circulated to the Commission for their final consideration.

Suggestions submitted for Ross Park included constructing some raised landscape beds planted with shrubs, grasses and a few taller trees while also providing pathways and a bench for our age friendly community. Gerry to check with Ruth to see if she also has a drawing.



The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

John Krug, Chair