

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Cobble Hill Parks and Recreation Commission held on Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup> 2013 at 7 pm in the Youth Hall on Watson Avenue.

Those present: Chair - John Krug, Jennifer Symons, Annie Ingraham, Al Garside, Dennis Cage, Alan Seal, Gord Dickenson and Director Gerry Giles.

Apologies: Ruth Koehn, Lynn Wilson, Bill Turner.

Guests: Robin Brett, David Symons, Brenda Krug and John Giles.

John Krug called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm with an introduction of all of the Parks Commission members. He provided an interesting brief bio of each member.

Chair Krug noted that the CVRD has 180 parks covering 1900 acres with an approximate worth of 7.5 million dollars. He then reviewed the 2012 work performed by the parks commission:

- Ten Parks Commission meetings were held with some members participating in four South Cowichan Parks Commission meetings
- Constructed the Twin Cedars/Watson Avenue Trail of 1.100 feet spanning Dennis Creek
- Raked and cleaned the Off Leash Dog Park – Spread 15 yards of bird’s eye surface material as a trial – results are good so far
- Consulted extensively on proposed design and location with staff for Quarry Park washroom. This required a number of site visits, drawings and meetings as well as a site visit to the Shawnigan Lake washroom. This washroom will include a bike washing station.
- Site visits and meetings on a property acquisition that ultimately was unable to be completed due to an ALC decision.
- Cobble Hill Common work:
  - Produced a conceptual drawing of the Common showing seniors’ accommodation at the north end of the park
  - Coordinated with the Seniors Housing Study Group
  - In conjunction with the seniors’ accommodation study the Commission coordinated with the Age Friendly Study examining the village for seniors’ accessibility and services
  - Removed kiosk constructed by Parks Staff and designed, poured footing and erected the Welcome to Cobble Hill traditional timber frame structure
  - Grassed the Holland Avenue berm
  - Contoured the Holland Avenue bank (road allowance) and planted 1,000 Kinikenick ground cover
  - Worked to alleviate the runoff from the site by creating a water course and installing numerous plantings and obstacles to slow the flow of rainwater
  - Arranged for the Shawnigan Cobble Hill Farmers Institute for use of the Common during the Cobble Hill Fair
  - Began pathway construction at entrance points to the park
  - Planted, watered and protected a variety of 23 fruit trees along with 25 blueberry bushes and 3 Goji berry plants
  - Approved the location for the Cobble Hill Historical Society’s historical wall

- Our funds granted to the Bench School Playground were used to complete this handicapped accessible facility
- Public meetings, site visits and input on the Mill Bay Historical Church Restoration Project
- Participated in the South Cowichan Parks Commission which assumed responsibility for the Bright Angel Park management. This involves site visits, meeting and staff consultations
- Weeded, fertilized and maintained flower gardens in the Train Station Park and plantings in Memorial Park (Cenotaph)
- Consultation, discussion and meetings with staff regarding the 2013 budget
- Consulted with South Island Mountain Bike Association to maintain and upgrade Cleasby Bike Park and worked with the Staff Trails Technician to keep the park interesting for young riders
- Discussion with Telus regarding installing the Evergreen School mural on the Telus building
- Site visit and request to property owner for a right of way to permit a trail connection from north end of Lefran Road to Garnett Road
- Boatswain Park visit and generation of questionnaire to determine residents' wishes regarding changes/upgrades to the park

He noted that Director Giles worked with numerous agencies to enable the purple pipe system to irrigate Train Station Park, Memorial Park, Cobble Hill Common and the Shawnigan Cobble Hill Farmers Institute grounds as well as using this treated water for flushing purposes in the new washroom.

Chair Krug then provided an overview of the 2013 work planned as follows:

1. Quarry Nature Park washroom and bike washing facility
2. Resurface Twin Cedars/Watson Avenue Trail – Install culverts, handrails and bollards
3. Paint shelter in the South Cowichan Off Leash Dog Park, install extra bench, improve fountain appearance and possibly do more resurfacing
4. Continue landscaping on the Common Park entrance. Work with the Cobble Hill Historical Society toward the historical wall. Work with the Age Friendly Group on possible seniors' housing. Other progress as funding permits.
5. Install Evergreen School mural on Telus building
6. Boatswain Park survey results and action
7. Lefran/Garnett Creek Trail
8. Bike Park drainage and modifications
9. Place sign at Merilees Pond
10. Work on Ross Park aka Postage Stamp Park.

A seventy page handout was provided which gave a visual tour of the Cobble Hill park system. It reflected on the work done over the years while highlighting the work done by the commission in 2012. John brought forward the question of a sign for Merilees Nature Park. The history of that area was briefly discussed after which it was,

Moved/second

That a sign be installed at Merilees Nature Park to properly designate the area.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Director Giles reported on the 2013 parks budget and noted the requisition has stayed the same this year.

Election of Parks Commission Members:

Director Giles reported that the terms of two of the existing parks commission members, Annie Ingraham and Gord Dickenson, were up and that the meeting needs to elect two commission members to serve for a term to expire December 31<sup>st</sup> 2014. Both Annie Ingraham and Gord Dickenson have agreed to stand for election so both were duly nominated.

Director Giles called for further nominations from the floor three times after which Annie Ingraham and Gord Dickenson were declared elected by acclamation for a two year term to expire on December 31<sup>st</sup> 2014. Congratulations were extended to both.

Members of the audience thanked the Commission and the Commission Chair John Krug for all of the work done over the past six year. The comment was the face of the Cobble Hill Village has changed and a very good way.

Director Giles also thanked the commission and particularly John Krug for his leadership and guidance over the years. She acknowledged he was the spark that drew all of us together.

As there was no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm. Next meeting Scheduled for March 28, 2013.

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John Krug, Chair