

**Minutes of the Cowichan Station/Glenora/Sahtlam Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting, held on July 21, 2009 at Sandy Pools Regional Park, Riverbottom Road, Sahtlam**

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**Present:** Ron Smith, Phil Gates, Howard Heyd, John Ramsey, Irene Evans, Larry Whetstone, Frank McCorkell, Paul Slade and Director Loren Duncan

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009 meeting were distributed and reviewed by the commission members present.

**Business Arising:**

Ron Smith indicated that he will be contacting members of the riding clubs to see if they have any additional input and recommendations for their proposal at the Glenora Staging Area Community Park. He also suggested setting a date in September for a 'working meeting' with club representatives, the parks and recreation commissioners as well as staff from the CVRD Parks Department.

**On-site Tour:**

The on-site tour was called to look at a potential land acquisition of property between Riverbottom Road and the Cowichan River adjacent Sandy Pools Regional Park. The commission members walked the trails of the regional park and then a portion of the property that is for sale. This was followed by a discussion on the merits of acquiring the property and there was consensus that the property be acquired using a portion of our park reserve funds.

There was also discussion regarding parcel of land being held by Electoral Area E as possible parkland/trail access to other parkland areas further to the north and the future development of the parkland and trail system opportunities. It was suggested that CVRD parks staff walk the property on the north side of Riverbottom Road (Lot 3) and look at its potential for developing a trail as well as areas that should be maintained in parkland (e.g. the bluff area at the north end of the lot). A short report back to the commission would be appreciated later this fall.

**Other Business**

**1. Improvements to the Glenora Staging Area Park**

Frank McCorkell provided a ball park cost to bring hydro to the first parking lot. This would include the pole, hydro line and other fixtures. Water is also being looked into at this time.

**2. Highway Road Easements in Glenora adjacent the Cowichan River**

Director Duncan provided everyone with a map of the Johns Road area where there are two road right-of-ways that are fronting the Cowichan River. One is a double wide (122 foot) right-of-way and the other a single (66 foot r/w). The Commission recommended that the CVRD contact the Ministry of Transportation and request permission to occupy the land for public recreation use and that if permission is granted then appropriate funds be designated from the Area E Community Parks and Recreation 2010 budget to undertake any additional improvements and ongoing maintenance.

**Next Meeting:**

The next meeting will be at the call of the Chair.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

File: Parks Minutes. July 21, 2009

