

Minutes of the Parks Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, March 10, 2010, at 3:30 p.m. in the Regional District Board Room, 175 Ingram Street, Duncan, BC

PRESENT

Director Mel Dorey, Chair
Director Ian Morrison, Vice-Chair
Alternate Director Gerry Gutensohn
Director Loren Duncan
Director Gerry Giles
Director Brian Harrison
Director Lori Iannidinaro
Director Klaus Kuhn
Director Dave Haywood
Director Phil Kent

Absent: Director Ken Cossey

CVRD STAFF

Ron Austen, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture Department
Brian Farquhar, Manager, Parks & Trails Division
Warren Jones, Administrator
Kate Miller, Manager, Engineering and Environmental Services
Mary Anne McAdam, Recording Secretary

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Chair noted changes to the agenda, which includes an add-on to Delegations – D-1; Staff Reports – R-1, and Information – IN-1 and IN-7 add-ons.

It was Moved and Seconded
That the agenda, as amended, be accepted.

MOTION CARRIED

M1 - MINUTES

It was Moved and Seconded
That the Minutes of the Parks Committee Meeting of November 24, 2009, be amended as directed by the Chair, and further, that the amended Minutes be accepted.

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING

There was no new business arising from the Minutes.

DELEGATIONS

D1 – Warrick Whitehead

Presentation from Warrick Whitehead regarding the Koksilah River Ancient Forest and the Koksilah Vision.

Slide presentation of the Ancient Forest and an overview of the Koksilah Vision.

Mr. Whitehead advised that on February 11th he noted new logging boundary ribbons and road location markers were discovered on the trail leading to the

Ancient Forest. Phone calls and e-mails from Mr. Whitehead to TimberWest resulted in a letter from Kurt Taylor, Vice-president of Sales and Marketing, Couverdon Real Estate, advising him that they would hold off harvesting activities in the identified Block east of the Ancient Forest until Mr. Whitehead had presented to the Parks Committee his Koksilah River Vision to protect the Ancient Forest lands and other lands downstream to the existing Koksilah River Provincial Park.

Based on his discussions with the Ministry, Mr. Whitehead noted that the provincial government does not, at this time, have a monetary commitment for the acquisition of this parcel. This property is extremely important to the integrity of the whole process in providing a link between the Koksilah River Ancient Forest and downstream properties that will provide access to it.

Requested the support of the CVRD in this process to secure lands identified in his Koksilah River Vision as presented.

It was Moved and Seconded:

That agenda item D-1 be referred to Closed Session.

MOTION CARRIED

It was Moved and Seconded:

That a letter be sent to the Minister of Forests and TimberWest, respectfully requesting that any harvesting considerations within the vicinity of the Koksilah Ancient Forest and the upper Koksilah River Corridor be held in abeyance whilst consideration be given for potential acquisition of these lands for parks and conservation purposes.

MOTION CARRIED

D2 – Larry Olsen

Presentation from Larry Olsen of the Cowichan Valley ATV Club to further safe and responsible off-road recreational opportunities in the Cowichan Valley.

It was Moved and Seconded

That staff be directed to prepare a background report on the issues raised in the presentation by the Cowichan Valley ATV Club for Committee consideration to a future meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

STAFF REPORTS

R1 – Vancouver Island Spine – 2009 Report

Staff Report from Brian Farquhar, Parks and Trails Manager, regarding Vancouver Island Spine – 2009 Report.

It was Moved and Seconded

That this report be received and filed.

MOTION CARRIED

**R2 – Hillcrest Road
Access to Chemainus
River Park**

Staff Report from Ryan Dias, Parks Operations Superintendent, regarding Hillcrest Road Access to Chemainus River Park.

It was Moved and Seconded

That the Committee endorse the proposed action plan to establish a public access control point on Hillcrest Road in partnership with the Ministry of Forests and other major landowners to address the problems of illegal access, trespass, vandalism, fires, garbage dumping and illegal camping occurring on lands along this forestry road, including Chemainus River Park.

MOTION CARRIED

**R3 – Island Corridor
Foundation Workshop**

Staff Report from Dan Brown, Parks and Trails Technician, regarding Island Corridor Foundation Workshop – “Boats, Trains, Planes – Inviting the World to Visit and Say”.

It was Moved and Seconded

That this report be received and filed.

MOTION CARRIED

**R4 – Cowichan Valley
Trail Completion
Initiative –
Winter/Spring 2010
Update**

Staff Report from Dan Brown, Parks and Trails Technician, regarding Cowichan Valley Trail Completion Initiative – Winter/Spring 2010 Update.

It was Moved and Seconded

That this report be received and filed.

MOTION CARRIED

INFORMATION

- IN1** Three letters of support regarding Koksilah River Ancient Forest and River Recreation Area Vision
- IN2** Correspondence from Trails BC President, Al Skucas, regarding motorized use of the Trans Canada Trail
- IN3** Correspondence from Cowichan Valley ATV Club President, Larry Olsen, in response to Trails Canada Letter from Al Skucas
- IN4** Correspondence from Trans Canada Trail National Director, Tim Hoskin, regarding motorized use of the Trans Canada Trail
- IN5** Letter of appreciation from Susan Beaubier regarding Cowichan Valley Trail between Crozier and Henry Roads in Chemainus, and response from CVRD Chair, Gerry Giles
- IN6** Correspondence from Doug Orr regarding bicycle transportation network in the Cowichan Valley, and response from CVRD Chair, Gerry Giles
- IN7** Chronological newspaper articles, e-mails and letters regarding motorized use of the Cowichan Valley Trail (TransCanada Trail)

It was Moved and Seconded
That Information items I-1 to 1-7 be received and filed.

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS There was no new business

PUBLIC QUESTIONS No questions from the public.

CLOSED SESSION It was Moved and Seconded (4:55 p.m.)
That the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with the *Community Charter* Part 4, Division 3, Section 90(1), Subsections as noted in accordance with each agenda item.

MOTION CARRIED

The Committee moved into closed session at 4:55 p.m.

RISE The Committee rose and reported as follows:

It was Moved and Seconded
That staff proceed with arranging a tour of the Koksilah Ancient Forest for members of the Parks Committee.

MOTION CARRIED

NEXT MEETING To be held Wednesday, May 12, 2010, at 3:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT It was Moved and Seconded
That the meeting be adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Chair

Recording Secretary