

## **MINUTES OF ELECTORAL AREA I (Youbou/Meade Creek) PARKS COMMISSION MEETING**

**DATE:** September 13, 2011

**TIME:** 7:00pm

**MINUTES** of the Electoral Area I Parks Commission Meeting held on the above noted date and time in Youbou Lanes, Youbou, BC. Called to order by chair at 7:15pm.

### **PRESENT:**

Chairperson: Marcia Stewart  
Vice-chairperson: Gerald Thom  
Members: Dave Charney, Dan Nickel

### **ALSO PRESENT:**

Director: Klaus Kuhn  
Alternate Director:  
Secretary: Tara Daly

**REGRETS:** Gillian Scott, Ken Wilde

**GUESTS:**

### **ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

*It was Moved and Seconded to accept the agenda.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

*It was Moved and Seconded that the minutes of July 12, 2011 be accepted.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **BUSINESS ARISING**

- None

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

- None

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- **Bald Mountain** ~ Fire brushing and weed eating have been done on the trail
- **Youbou Lands** ~ they haven't received their Certificate of Compliance yet and therefore cannot move ahead on any infrastructure

### **COWICHAN LAKE RECREATION**

- **Regatta** ~ Thank You to the volunteers for the concession, you did an awesome job; \$100 more was made
- **Great Lake Walk** ~ September 17; 320 participants have registered
- **Cowichan Lake Sports Arena** ~ \$367 000 from Gas Tax Funding has been received to do a eco-friendly parking lot including rain gardens and bio-swales; total cost will be \$599 000.
- **Arbutus Safety Audit** ~ report will be completed soon and will include improvements to both facilities and the programs
- **Pest Control Program** ~ has been put in place for both Honeymoon Bay Hall and Youbou Hall to control rodents and ants; will be a monthly program

## CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- **Regional Parks Chairs Meeting** ~ for next budget year, the commissions are being asked to expand their outlooks to five (5) years, forms will be supplied from CVRD, either Ryan Dias or Brian Farquhar will attend the next Parks meeting for budget discussions and assistance on formulating the five (5) year plan
- **Budget Timeline** ~ deadline for commission budget is October 28<sup>th</sup>, directors will see by the end of February 2012, Board approval by the end of May 2012 – Why can't approval be by the end of the year so that monies could be spent earlier?

## COWICHAN VALLEY REGIONAL DISTRICT

- **Woodland Shores** ~ septic pump isn't working, it's backing up
- **Arbutus Park** ~ septic field isn't working, investigating where the field is, could be \$50 000 to replace; discussion on whether Cowichan Lake Recreation should assist as they use the park for summer programming; Lifeguard Shack needs to be rebuilt, it doesn't seem to be an option to wait until Youbou Lands is up and running

## OLD BUSINESS

- **Mann Property** ~ Marble Bay trail is complete and rated, summer crew under direction of Dan Brown built the trail, received \$5 000 from developer for payment
- **Discussion on Trail** ~ felt there was a great need *to have signage at the top of Bald Mountain where the trail goes down to the North Arm that warned how steep the trail was, the loose dirt, and that it was not recommended for small children.* There are stairs with a hand-railing and a boardwalk across the swampy area but it's pretty rough. Time should also be noted in the parking lot that it's at least one (1) hour to the North Arm and at least one and one-half (1½) hours back (a two and one-half hours round trip). The current sign needs to be replaced as it only gives the time to the original end of the trail on the top of the mountain and back.
- **Creekside Homeowners Association AGM** ~ G. Thom reported that once the group was told there was no money in the Parks budget for improvements at Mile 77 Park at this time, the discussion was pretty much over. He did suggest that they could fundraise if they wished.
- **Parks Trends** ~ the commission decided that for the time being maintenance of the parks was the priority; no new amenities unless they were replacements at this point
- **Right of Ways** ~ discussion on whether obtaining the ROWs from Highways should be pursued, Lake Stewardship is keeping an eye on it; it would be a shame to have those existing lake accesses sold to adjoining properties, Highways doesn't have the money or desire to clear or maintain; Director Kuhn will speak with Brian Farquhar about maintenance costs
- **Park Activities** ~ although attendance wasn't good, the commission felt they shouldn't give up yet, suggestions of putting a questionnaire/survey out through the local newspaper asking people what they wanted to see in their parks focusing on activities rather than improvements; *commission members are to email M. Stewart ([darmar7@shaw.ca](mailto:darmar7@shaw.ca)) with their suggestions*, M. Stewart will write an article for the paper naming all Area I parks and trails and telling a little bit about past activities

## NEW BUSINESS

- **Broom Puller** ~ M. Stewart asked Pam Palliser if she had the broom puller at home, she wasn't sure but was going to ask Myles, her son. Pam also thanked the commission for the bench installation in Wayne's memory.
- **Budget Suggestions** ~ paint fencing and backstop at Little League Park; replace both picnic hut and lifeguard shack at Arbutus Park (Brian Farquhar to look for grant money, Linda Blatchford give report on improvements needed from Safety Audit); funds for tree removal;

Student Crew length of time in area and work to do (Bald Mountain trail); bear proof garbage cans at all parks – commission was asked to think about community donations when planning for major projects

**ADJOURNMENT**

*It was Moved and Seconded that the meeting be adjourned 8:30pm.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

**NEXT MEETING**

October 11, 2011 – BUDGET

**7pm at Youbou Upper Hall**

/s/ Tara Daly

Secretary