

Meeting Minutes

Elk/Beaver Lake Recreational Use Advisory Committee

Tuesday, June 21, 2022

2 PM

Regional Parks Headquarters
490 Atkins Avenue
Victoria BC V9B 2Z8

Present: Tracey Moss, Regional Parks (Chair); Alistair Crawford, Transport Canada; Sergeant Brad Brajcich, Saanich Police; Mike Edgell, Haig Brown Fly Fishers; Melanie Parrott, Swimming, Marc Solomon, Regional Parks; Jeanette Mollin, Regional Parks (Recorder)

Regrets: Adam Parfitt, Victoria Rowing Society; Eden Hardcastle, Member of the Public; Dave Cooke, Golden Rods and Reels; Jim Cambridge, Member of the Public;

The meeting was called to order at 2pm

1. Territorial Acknowledgement

Chair Moss provided a Territorial Acknowledgement.

2. Welcome and Introduction

A round table of introductions took place for the benefit of the new members.

3. Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Brad Brajcich, **SECONDED by** Alistair Crawford
That the agenda for the June 21, 2022 Elk/Beaver Lake Recreational Use Advisory Committee be approved.

CARRIED

4. Approval of Minutes – December 2, 2021

MOVED by Brad Brajcich, **SECONDED by** Alistair Crawford
That the minutes of the Elk/Beaver Lake Recreational Use Advisory Committee of December 2, 2021 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

5. New Business

a) Event Updates

Ironman – the event was a success with no issues. No negative complaints received from the Saanich Police. It was suggested that the event organizer provide a shuttle service for bikes or use the Claremont School parking lot to alleviate traffic on the highway and into the park.

March Rowing Regatta – parking on the highway was an issue.

b) Fishing Pier/Washroom – working with Mick Collins volunteer from Esquimalt Anglers,

who had received funding as well as the CRD which will be used for the construction of the new fishing pier. The pier will be fully accessible which will include a new wash station and a cleaning and measuring station. The installation and work will commence in August and will be completed in 2 days. A dive inspection will take place to check on the chains and anchors to assess their condition. The new pier will be low maintenance with less costs. Information about the construction of the pier will be posted on the CRD's website.

Marc mentioned that the weed harvester was launched. He pointed out that the water is high for this time of year and the weeds have not reached the surface. It has been out twice already gathering approximately 8 feet of weeds. Marc explained the route of the harvester and that the weeds are off loaded at North Beach. The Hamsterly Beach washroom is behind schedule, and it should be finished by late August. Marc pointed out that the delay was due to getting trades scheduled. The new washroom will be fully wheelchair accessible.

A Mobi Mat was recently installed at Thetis Lake Regional Park which will help people with accessibility needs get into the lake. The CRD is looking at getting a couple more possibly for Hamsterly and Beaver beaches. The mats can be rolled up and stored when not in use. It was also pointed out that an Accessibility Study is currently being conducted.

- c) **In lake remediation update** – Tracey mentioned that the projects and initiatives page is being updated when new project information is available. The CRD has received provincial funding for the project and the contractor is working on the next steps, location and installation. Two systems will be installed with Elk Lake taking priority. A direct oxygen diffuser system has been recommended for the Elk Lake remediation. The main components include (a) the underwater diffuser line to deliver oxygen to the deepest part of Elk Lake, (b) the oxygen-generating system and (c) a building to house the oxygenation system equipment. The oxygen-generating system was purchased in July 2022. Based on current progress, construction of the Elk Lake oxygenation system is anticipated to start in Fall/Winter 2022/23 and expected to be completed in early 2023, with the system in operation by Summer 2023. The design team has considered the potential impacts of the operation of the system on the ecological, cultural, recreational and operational values in Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park and surrounding lands. Following an assessment of all of those values, a site near Hamsterly Road was selected as most appropriate because it was the most operationally feasible and environmentally responsible (equipment access, no disruption of recreational activities, minimal disruption to wildlife habitat and no tree removal required). The building is a single story building with a footprint of approximately 20'x 28'. The oxygenation system has been specified to have a maximum sound rating of 71 dB which is equivalent to the sound generated from a standard washing machine or dishwasher. Considering that the oxygenation system is housed inside a building, it is anticipated the sound emitted from this building would be minimal.

6. Adjournment

MOVED by Melanie Parrott, **SECONDED** by Mike Edgell

That the June 21, 2022 Elk/Beaver Lake Recreational Use Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned at 3:05pm.

CARRIED