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**Minutes of a Meeting of the
Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
Held Tuesday, June 23, 2015 at the Juan de Fuca Local Area Services Building,
3 – 7450 Butler Road, Otter Point, BC**

PRESENT: L. Paterson (Chair), K. Douch, S. Jorna, M. Kimmel,
W. Vowles (Alternate Director)
Staff: R. Hamilton, Parks & Recreation Manager; E. Taylor, Local Area
Planning; C. Stewart, Regional Parks; W. Miller, Recorder
ABSENT: C. Bennett, A. Boquist, V. Braunschweig, P. Sloan
PUBLIC: 0

The meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m.

1. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED by Commissioner Jorna, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Kimmel that the agenda be approved. **CARRIED**

2. Adoption of the Minutes from the Meeting of May 26, 2015

MOVED by Commissioner Kimmel, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Jorna that the minutes from the meeting of May 26, 2015 be adopted. **CARRIED**

3. Chair's Report

No report.

4. Director's Report

No report.

5. Delegations

a) Local Area Planning – Rezoning Referral RZ000236 (6215 Powder Main Road)

E. Taylor outlined the staff report considered by the Land Use Committee at its meeting of May 20, 2015. It was confirmed that the applicants are wishing to rezone a 4 ha portion of the property from Rural Resource Land (RRL) to Tourist Commercial – Soule Creek (TC-SC) in order to permit tourist accommodation. As the applicants are not pursuing subdivision, the proposal is not subject Section 941 of the *Local Government Act*. The proposal is subject to the policies of the Rural Resource Lands Official Community Plan (OCP) including Part 1 – General Policies and Part 2 – Enhancing Park Land and Natural Areas.

Discussion comments included:

- there is opportunity for trails to be developed for use by the public as part of the property's development as a tourist/recreation destination
- area is inhabited by osprey and elk
- area is used by osprey for nesting
- Qualified Environmental Professional assessment may be required should property development proceed
- application is being pursued to legalize an existing use
- rezoning is small scale

MOVED by Commissioner Jorna, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Kimmel that the Commission state that it:

- is neutral on the issue of rezoning
- is aware of potential critical habitats (osprey and elk)
- is aware of the desirability of future trails
- supports these elements being considered as the development moves forward

CARRIED

b) Local Area Planning – Update – East Sooke and Shirley/Jordan River Official Community Plan Reviews

As the Commission is reviewing its Divisional Initiatives for 2016 – 2019, E. Taylor provided a brief update on the park/trail interests communicated by the communities of East Sooke and Shirley/Jordan River through the OCP review process. E. Taylor confirmed that the OCPs will be formally referred to the Commission and that the OCPs continue to reference the Community Parks Strategic Plan.

Discussion ensued regarding the Commission's interest in developing a trail from Petrel Drive to the Juan de Fuca shoreline, the community's interest in establishing a trail between Juan de Fuca Provincial Park and the undeveloped easement held by CRD Regional Parks connecting the hamlet to Waters Edge Drive.

c) CRD Regional Parks – Trans Canada Trail

C. Stewart provided an update on the Trans Canada Trail. It was advised that the initiative started in 1992 with the CRD joining in 1999 to develop trails to connect to Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD). Trail development is now at the engineered drawing stage with Juan de Fuca Local Area Planning and Community Parks providing input. Initially it was hoped that the trail would be routed through Wigglesworth Lake Community Park. However, due to a bear den, this route is now not being considered.

C. Stewart responded to questions from the Commission identifying:

- emergency access routes
- proposed CRD washroom locations
- proposed CVRD washroom/parking locations

C. Stewart advised that an opportunity to connect to Wigglesworth Lake Community Park can be considered in future and that the Trans Canada Trail will be fully connected prior to July 1, 2017.

6. Staff Reports

a) Staff News

2016-19 CRD Service Planning

The Manager circulated a draft of the 2016-19 Juan de Fuca Parks and Recreation Service Plan. As it is not known when the new funding bylaw will be approved, it was advised that the Service Plan will need to consider what an amalgamated budget would look like, as well as separate budgets for the parks and recreation programs, for the next four years. It was advised that the amalgamated budget includes a lift of 10% in the first year to adjust for lost revenue and impacts of not being able to keep pace with cost of living increases since 2008 (the year the current bylaw maximum tax levy for parks was reached). It was advised that without an amalgamated budget hard decisions will have to be made regarding the parks program.

The Alternate Director stated support for meeting with the Regional Director to discuss the amalgamated budget.

The Manager directed attention to the proposed divisional initiatives and advised that:

- it is understood that the Friends of Coppermine may be forwarding initiatives for the Commission's consideration
- an Edward Milne Community School work placement was unfortunately not able to be supported for 2015
- donations can be accepted to support parkland acquisition
- the current bylaw for use of land account funds cannot be used to purchase Statutory Rights of Way
- an amendment to the bylaw will be sought to provide for more flexibility in the use of these funds
- an appraisal of a Statutory Right of Way would be required to determine a purchase value

The Commission agreed to add parking and docking facilities at Kemp Lake as a potential recreational initiative for 2017.

Sale of Lot 6, 3569 Waters Edge Drive, Jordan River

A staff report to the CRD Board has been prepared for approval by the Electoral Area Services Committee at its July 15 meeting.

William Simmons Development Project

A revised sign plan was circulated.

It was reported that:

- the new 6"x6" cedar signs posts and the new information kiosk were installed on June 12
- new signs still to be installed
- final funding donation of \$22,000 from the Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC has been received
- new docks and aluminum ramp ways were ordered on June 16
- concrete pads have been poured for the new picnic area, portable toilet and picnic shelter BBQ area
- concrete pads for the two docks still to be poured
- split rail fencing was installed along the new parking area during the week of June 15

Commission discussion ensued regarding the status of the original property entrance now that the new parking area/entrance is nearing completion.

New Basketball Hoop – Copper Mine Park

The new height adjustable basketball hoop, located in the tennis court, was installed on June 11.

William Simmons Park Orchard Pruning

The second round of pruning was completed during the week of June 15. Staff assisted in brushing back areas around additional trees to assist arborist maintenance.

Port Renfrew Tennis Court

The Regional Director has made arrangements for a paving company working in Port Renfrew to patch holes and depressions in the tennis court. On June 17, staff power washed the court and opened up a section of the fencing for paving equipment access.

SEAPARC Strategic Plan 2015

On June 16, the Manager and Local Area Planner Emma Taylor met with the strategic planning consultant David Hewko. The purpose of the meeting was to provide feedback on a specific Action Item in the plan outline which states: "*Strengthen linkages and relationships with other recreation and community service-providers to create regional efficiencies*". The Manager and Planning are seeking opportunities on how SEAPARC and Juan de Fuca Parks & Recreation can complement and/or collaborate on recreational programs within the electoral communities.

The Commission forwarded support for inviting the JdFEA SEAPARC representative to a meeting of the Commission.

New Recreation Program – Shirley/Jordan River

The former karate instructor for Shirley/Jordan River is no longer providing classes. Go Ju Karate has agreed to provide karate classes in the area if there is sufficient interest. If 8-10 individuals express interest, a program contract will be initiated in October.

Park Maintenance Staff Progress

The Manager provided an update on park and trail works.

At this time, Commission members requested an update on designation of the Sheringham Point Lighthouse and follow up on support for parks acquisition west of Sooke River.

Sheringham Point Lighthouse

The Manager advised that it is understood that the Sheringham Point Lighthouse Preservation Society is still pursuing acquisition of all the lighthouse property through the Heritage Lighthouse Protection Act designation. The CRD position to date has been to proceed with removing public access risk and liability on Sheringham Point Road and parking lot Statutory Rights of Way it holds, while ensuring continued public access and use of the Sheringham Point Lighthouse View Trail.

Support for Parks Acquisition

Further to discussion at the May meeting regarding community interest in Muir Creek, Commission comment was forwarded noting that the areas west of the Sooke River consisting of Otter Point, Shirley, Jordan River and the Rural Resource Lands have less than 3% of the land mass protected by park reserve.

MOVED by Commissioner Jorna, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Kimmel that the Commission write CRD Regional Parks and request that the priority of acquiring park reserve west of the Sooke River be increased and in particular that funds derived from Jordan River park reserve be applied to the acquisition of park reserve west of the Sooke River.

CARRIED

7. Unfinished Business

- a) Subdivision Referral S-05-12 (Brown's Mountain, Port Renfrew)
- b) Subdivision Referral S-03-14 (6649 Godman Road – Lum)
- c) Long Term Trail Program

8. Public Question Period

9. Next Meeting

July and August meetings at the call of the Chair.

Next regular meeting is scheduled for September 22, 2015.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

Louise Paterson, Chair

Wendy Miller, Recorder