

Meeting Minutes

Parks and Environment Committee

Wednesday, October 23, 2019

10:00 AM

6th Floor Boardroom
625 Fisgard St.
Victoria, BC V8W 1R7

PRESENT:

Directors: B. Isitt (Chair), D. Screech (Vice Chair)(10:11 am), L. Helps (10:05 am), G. Holman, M. Hicks, D. Howe, J. Ranns, L. Seaton, J. Bateman (for M. Tait), N. Taylor, B. Thompson (for R. Windsor), M. Alto (for G. Young), C. Plant (Board Chair, ex-officio)

Staff: L. Hutcheson, General Manager, Parks and Environmental Services; G. Harris, Senior Manager, Environmental Protection; J. Leahy, Senior Manager, Regional Parks; C. Nielson, Senior Manager, Human Resources; M. MacIntyre, Regional Parks Manager of Operations; S. Henderson, Manager, Real Estate; E. Gorman, Deputy Corporate Officer; S. Closson, Committee Clerk (Recorder)

Regrets: Director Howe

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 am.

1. Territorial Acknowledgement

Chair Isitt provided a Territorial Acknowledgement.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Chair Isitt, **SECONDED** by Director Hicks,
That the agenda be amended to move Item 6.5. for consideration before Item 6.1.
CARRIED

MOVED by Chair Plant, **SECONDED** by Alternate Director Bateman,
That the agenda be amended to permit two (2) additional delegations to speak,
Christine Dalzio of the Outdoor Club of Victoria and Liz Bicknell of the Vancouver
Island Trail Association.
CARRIED

MOVED by Director Seaton, **SECONDED** by Alternate Director Alto,
That the agenda for the October 23, 2019 Parks and Environment Committee
meeting be approved as amended.
CARRIED

3. Adoption of Minutes

3.1. [19-719](#) Minutes of the July 24, 2019 Parks and Environment Committee Meeting

MOVED by Director Helps, **SECONDED** by Director Taylor,
That the minutes of the July 24, 2019 Parks and Environment Committee meeting

be adopted as circulated.
CARRIED

- 3.2. [19-721](#) Minutes of the September 4, 2019 Special Parks and Environment Committee Meeting

MOVED by Director Helps, **SECONDED** by Director Taylor,
That the minutes of the September 4, 2019 Parks and Environment Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.
CARRIED

4. Chair's Remarks

Chair Isitt welcomed delegates from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and the Coast Ways Management Association attending conferences in the region. The Chair noted that public engagement has also started on the Solid Waste Management Plan and encouraged participation. With the considerable interest in the Mountain Bike Policy Item 6.5 and the number of delegations speaking, the Chair requested that delegates keep the remarks concise and brief if possible.

5. Presentations/Delegations

- 5.1. [19-865](#) Delegation - Alon Soraya; Representing the South Island Mountain Bike Society: Re: Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion
Alon Soraya spoke in favour of Item 6.5, Mountain Bike Policy.
- 5.2. [19-866](#) Delegation - Yvonne Mendel; Representing the South Island Mountain Biking Society and Greater Victoria Cycling Coalition: Re: Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion
Yvonne Mendel spoke in favour of Item 6.5, Mountain Bike Policy.
- 5.3. [19-867](#) Delegation - Mandy Farmer; Representing Accent Inns/Hotel Zed: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion
Mandy Farmer spoke in favour of Item 6.5, Mountain Bike Policy.
- 5.4. [19-868](#) Delegation - Adam Walker; Representing The Cycling Co. and Cycling BC: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion
Adam Walker spoke in favour of Item 6.5, Mountain Bike Policy.
- 5.5. [19-895](#) Delegation - Megan Misovic; Resident of Central Saanich: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion
Megan Misovic spoke in favour of Item 6.5, Mountain Bike Policy.
- 5.6. [19-869](#) Delegation - Daniel Cammiade; Representing the Nature Trails Society and Citizen Canine: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion

Daniel Cammiade spoke in favour of Item 6.5, Mountain Bike Policy.

- 5.7.** [19-870](#) Delegation - Heather Rose; Representing the Sooke Bike Club: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion
Heather Rose spoke in favour of Item 6.5, Mountain Bike Policy.
- 5.8.** [19-871](#) Delegation - Matt Dilay; Representing the Conway Hector Loop Neighbourhood Association: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion
Matt Dilay spoke in favour of Item 6.5, Mountain Bike Policy.
- 5.9.** [19-872](#) Delegation - Bob Noakes; Resident of Oak Bay: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion
Bob Noakes spoke in favour of Item 6.5, Mountain Bike Policy.
- 5.10.** [19-873](#) Delegation - Maureen Scott; Representing Simbs: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion
Maureen Scott spoke in favour of Item 6.5, Mountain Bike Policy.
- 5.11.** [19-874](#) Delegation - Hazel Prince; Resident of Saanich: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion
Hazel Prince spoke in favour of Item 6.5, Mountain Bike Policy.
- 5.12.** [19-875](#) Delegation - Geoff Pendrel; Resident of Saanich: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion
Geoff Pendrel spoke in favour of Item 6.5, Mountain Bike Policy.
- 5.13.** [19-876](#) Delegation - Wayne Clayton; Resident of Colwood: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion
Wayne Clayton spoke in favour of Item 6.5, Mountain Bike Policy.
- 5.14.** [19-877](#) Delegation - Stephen Parslow; Representing North Saanich Freeride Park: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion
Stephen Parslow spoke in favour of Item 6.5, Mountain Bike Policy.
- 5.15.** [19-878](#) Delegation - David Hope; Resident of Highlands: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion
David Hope spoke in favour of Item 6.5, Mountain Bike Policy.
- 5.16.** [19-879](#) Delegation - Aaron Mills; Resident of Victoria: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion
Aaron Mills did not speak.

- 5.17.** [19-880](#) Delegation - Liesl Fulton; Representing Equestrians Working with Mountain Bikers of Victoria: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion
Liesl Fulton spoke in favour of Item 6.5, Mountain Bike Policy.
- 5.18.** [19-881](#) Delegation - Riley Beise; Representing TNBC: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion
Riley Beise spoke in favour of Item 6.5, Mountain Bike Policy.
- 5.19.** [19-882](#) Delegation - T. Bryn Grey; Resident of Saanich: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion
Bryn Grey spoke in favour of Item 6.5, Mountain Bike Policy.
- 5.20.** [19-883](#) Delegation - Rolf Warburton; Resident of Victoria: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion
Rolf Warburton spoke in favour of Item 6.5, Mountain Bike Policy.
- 5.21.** [19-884](#) Delegation - Tim Quirk; Resident of Victoria: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion
Tim Quirk spoke in favour of Item 6.5, Mountain Bike Policy.
- 5.22.** [19-885](#) Delegation - Nitya Harris; Resident of Langford: Re: Agenda Item 6.2.: Regional Parks - Sustainability
Nitya Harris spoke in favour of Agenda Item 6.2 and renewing the Land Acquisition Fund.
- 5.23.** [19-886](#) Delegation - Terra Murdoch; Representing the Dirty Girlz MTB Club: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion
Terra Murdoch spoke in favour of Item 6.5, Mountain Bike Policy.
- 5.24.** [19-887](#) Delegation - Christina J. Schlattner; Resident of Sooke: Re: Agenda Item 6.2.: Regional Parks - Sustainability, Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion, Agenda Item 6.6.: Dogs On-Leash Policy within District of Sooke Parks - Notice of Motion
Christina Schlattner did not speak.
- 5.25.** [19-888](#) Delegation - Patrick Nolan; Representing Nolan Riding: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion
Patrick Nolan spoke in favour of Item 6.5, Mountain Bike Policy.
- 5.26.** [19-891](#) Delegation - Scott Mitchell; Representing Trek Bikes Victoria, Island Cup Series: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion

Scott Mitchell spoke in favour of Item 6.5, Mountain Bike Policy.

- 5.27.** [19-893](#) Delegation - Michael Richards; Representing Russ Hay's The Bicycle Shop: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion
Michael Richards spoke in favour of Item 6.5, Mountain Bike Policy.
- 5.28.** [19-897](#) Delegation - Alison Spriggs; Resident of Saanich: Re: Agenda Item 6.2.: Regional Parks - Sustainability
Alison Spriggs spoke in favour of Agenda Item 6.2 and renewing the Land Acquisition Fund.
- 5.29.** [19-898](#) Delegation - Lister Farrar; Representing the Tripleshot Cycling Club, Nature Trail Society: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Motion of Notice
Lister Farrar spoke in favour of Item 6.5, Mountain Bike Policy..
- 5.30.** [19-899](#) Delegation - Ray Zimmerman; Representing Sea to Sea Greenbelt Society: Re: Agenda Item 6.2.: Regional Parks - Sustainability
Ray Zimmerman spoke in favour of Agenda Item 6.2. Regional Parks Sustainability and increase to the proposed levy.
- 5.31.** [19-900](#) Delegation - Rebecca and Zachary Littlejohn; Residents of Langford: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion
Rebecca and Zachary Littlejohn spoke in favour of Item 6.5, Mountain Bike Policy.
- 5.32.** [19-901](#) Delegation - Alastair Craighead; Resident of Victoria: Re: Agenda Item 6.2.: Regional Parks - Sustainability
Alastair Craighead spoke in favour Item 6.2. Regional Parks Sustainability and an increase to the proposed levy.
- 5.33.** [19-902](#) Delegation - Mia Barksay; Representing the Nature Trails Society: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion
Mia Barksay spoke in favour of Item 6.5, Mountain Bike Policy.
- 5.34.** **Delegation - Christine Dalzio; Representing The Outdoor Club of Victoria: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion**
Christine Dalzio spoke in favour of Item 6.5., Mountain Bike Policy.
- 5.35.** **Delegation - Liz Bicknell; Representing The Vancouver Island Trail: Re: Agenda Item 6.5.: Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion**
Liz Bicknell spoke in favour of Item 6.5., Mountain Bike Policy.

6. Committee Business

6.5. [19-780](#) Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion from Director Tait

L. Hutcheson spoke to the Mountain Bike Policy - Notice of Motion from Director Tait.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- mountain biking current trails and future considerations
- Board priority alignment
- Terms of Reference
- regional/municipal trail connections
- advisory committee member group considerations
- policy framework

MOVED by Alternate Director Bateman, **SECONDED** by Director Taylor, **WHEREAS** CRD Parks has significant land holdings suitable for forest-based recreation on the South Island, and that Harbourview has opened in recent years and includes mountain biking as a promoted and encouraged activity;

AND WHEREAS the Hartland mountain biking area has been proven to mitigate trail system challenges through appropriate management over the past 20 years;

AND WHEREAS investment into trail infrastructure comes at a much lower cost with more longevity when qualified volunteer members of the public are involved in specific aspects of park maintenance relating to their particular approach to utilizing trail systems;

AND WHEREAS a Mountain Bike Policy would provide the necessary framework to coordinate and focus volunteer activities and events, target challenges and develop formalized strategies to fairly and effectively defuse them, identify capital improvements and budget for the necessary funding to sustain and enhance the overall trail experience for constituents and visitors, while creating job opportunities for Parks staff;

THEREFORE be it resolved that the CRD Parks & Environment Committee recommend that the Board approve a budget and provide staffing to strike a task force whose goal is to develop a Mountain Biking Policy for CRD Parks, within a defined timeframe. The MTB Policy would formalize and enshrine, in a living document, a policy framework for mountain biking in CRD Parks that creates an ongoing working relationship between volunteers, unionized workers, management, the board of directors, First Nations and Local Government Councils and staff and contractors.

MOVED by Alternate Director Bateman, **SECONDED** by Director Helps, That the motion be amended so that the words "a task force" be replaced with the words "an advisory committee" after the words "...approve a budget and provide staff to strike ..." and before the words "...whose goal is to develop a Mountain Biking Policy...".

CARRIED

MOVED by Director Helps, **SECONDED** by Director Taylor, That the motion be amended so that the words "to strike" be replaced with the words "and request that staff develop the Terms of Reference for" after the words "...approve a budget and provide..." and before the words "...an advisory committee whose goal it is...".

CARRIED

MOVED by Director Isitt, **SECONDED** by Director Hicks,
That \$40,000 be placed in the 2020 Financial Plan to support the creation of an advisory committee whose goal is to develop a Mountain Biking Policy for CRD Parks.

MOVED by Director Isitt, **SECONDED** by Alternate Director Bateman,
That the motion arising, "That \$40,000 be placed in the 2020 Financial Plan to support the creation of an advisory committee whose goal is to develop a Mountain Biking Policy for CRD Parks." be referred to agenda item 6.1.
CARRIED

MOVED by Director Isitt, **SECONDED** by Alternate Director Bateman,
That the motion be amended so that the the words "user groups, clubs, commercial operators" be added after the words "...the board of directors, First Nations..." and before the words "...and Local Government Councils and staff and contractors."
OPPOSED: Alto, Helps, Hicks, Screech, Seaton, Taylor
DEFEATED

MOVED by Director Plant, **SECONDED** by Alternate Director Hicks,
That the motion be amended to remove the words "The MTB Policy would formalize and enshrine, in a living document, a policy framework for mountain biking in CRD Parks that creates an ongoing working relationship between volunteers, unionized workers, management, the board of directors, First Nations and Local Government Councils and staff and contractors."
OPPOSED: Isitt
CARRIED

The question was called on the main motion as amended.
MOVED by Alternate Director Bateman, **SECONDED** by Director Taylor,
WHEREAS CRD Parks has significant land holdings suitable for forest-based recreation on the South Island, and that Harbourview has opened in recent years and includes mountain biking as a promoted and encouraged activity;
AND WHEREAS the Hartland mountain biking area has been proven to mitigate trail system challenges through appropriate management over the past 20 years;
AND WHEREAS investment into trail infrastructure comes at a much lower cost with more longevity when qualified volunteer members of the public are involved in specific aspects of park maintenance relating to their particular approach to utilizing trail systems;
AND WHEREAS a Mountain Bike Policy would provide the necessary framework to coordinate and focus volunteer activities and events, target challenges and develop formalized strategies to fairly and effectively defuse them, identify capital improvements and budget for the necessary funding to sustain and enhance the overall trail experience for constituents and visitors, while creating job opportunities for Parks staff;
THEREFORE be it resolved that the CRD Parks & Environment Committee recommend that the Board approve a budget and provide staffing and request that staff develop the Terms of Reference for an advisory committee whose goal is to develop a Mountain Biking Policy for CRD Parks, within a defined timeframe.
CARRIED

Alternate Director Alto left the meeting at 12:15 pm.

6.1. [19-861](#) 2019-2022 Parks & Environment Service Planning

L. Hutcheson spoke to the 2019-2022 Parks & Environment Service Planning report.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- FTE and auxiliary positions
- community needs summaries
- new initiatives

MOVED by Director Plant, **SECONDED** by Director Isitt,
That \$40,000 be placed in the 2020 Financial Plan to support the creation of an advisory committee whose goal is to develop a Mountain Biking Policy for CRD Parks.

CARRIED

MOVED by Director Isitt, **SECONDED** by Director Helps,
That the report return to the Parks and Environment Committee at the next meeting.

CARRIED

MOVED by Director Isitt, **SECONDED** by Director Screech,
That the Parks & Environment Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:

That the new initiatives proposed in the provisional budgets related to the Parks & Environment Committee mandate (Appendix A: Community Needs Summary - Climate Action & Adaptation, Appendix B: Community Needs Summary - Parks & Natural Resource Protection and Appendix C: Community Needs Summary - Landfill & Recycling) be advanced to the October 30, 2019 Provisional Budget review process.

CARRIED

6.2. [19-857](#) Regional Parks - Sustainable Funding

L. Hutcheson spoke to Regional Parks Sustainability.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- infrastructure renewal maintenance and current requirements
- community support for \$20 levy
- additional households in the region increase the overall contribution to the levy
- partnerships for land acquisitions
- surplus transferred to capital reserve
- alignment with Climate Emergency Declaration

MOVED by Director Isitt, **SECONDED** by Director Screech,
That the Parks & Environment Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:

1. That the Land Acquisition Fund be renewed for an additional 10 years (2020-2029) at a levy of \$15/household; and,
2. That land acquisitions be funded with an averaged contribution from community partners at an additional 25% (equivalent to \$5/household); and,
3. That an additional \$925,000 be requisitioned each year for capital reserves to fund the refurbishment and replacement of existing assets, and;
4. That staff report back in 2020 on strategies to ensure that sufficient funding is in place in future years to sustain the Regional Parks service.

MOVED by Director Helps, **SECONDED** by Director Isitt,
That the levy of \$15/household in Recommendation 1. be changed to \$20/household.

OPPOSED: Plant, Seaton, Thompson
CARRIED

MOVED by Director Helps, **SECONDED** by Director Isitt,
That the words "...(equivalent to \$5/household);..." be removed after the words "...at an additional 25%..." and before the word "...and...".
CARRIED

MOVED by Director Isitt, **SECONDED** by Director Screech,
The question was called on the main motion as amended.
1. That the Land Acquisition Fund be renewed for an additional 10 years (2020-2029) at a levy of \$20/household; and,
2. That land acquisitions be funded with an averaged contribution from community partners at an additional 25%; and,
3. That an additional \$925,000 be requisitioned each year for capital reserves to fund the refurbishment and replacement of existing assets, and;
4. That staff report back in 2020 on strategies to ensure that sufficient funding is in place in future years to sustain the Regional Parks service.
CARRIED

6.3. [19-849](#) Reducing Single-Use Expanded Polystyrene Waste Items

This matter was postponed.

6.4. [19-852](#) Mapping Sunken Vessels

This matter was postponed.

6.6. [19-781](#) Dogs On-Leash Policy within District of Sooke Parks - Notice of Motion from Director Tait

This matter was postponed.

7. Notice(s) of Motion

Director Taylor read the following Notice of Motion into the record for consideration at the next meeting:
That staff be directed to report back with options for contributing up to two million dollars for the acquisition of the King's Road community green space.

8. New Business

There was no new business.

9. Adjournment

MOVED by Director Hicks, **SECONDED** by Director Helps,
That the October 23, 2019 Parks and Environment Committee meeting be adjourned at 1:35 pm.
CARRIED

Chair

Recorder