

Meeting Minutes

Regional Parks Committee

Wednesday, April 28, 2021

10:00 AM

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

PRESENT

Directors: R. Mersereau (Chair), G. Young (Vice Chair) (EP), G. Holman (EP), B. Isitt (10:20 am) (EP), R. Martin (EP), J. Ranns (10:20 am) (EP), D. Screech, L. Seaton, M. Tait (EP), N. Taylor, C. Plant (Board Chair, ex officio)

Staff: L. Hutcheson, General Manager, Parks and Environmental Services; J. Leahy, Senior Manager, Regional Parks; B. Schultz, Manager Planning, Resource Management and Development, Regional Parks (EP); M. MacIntyre, Regional Parks Manager of Operations; T. Moss, Visitor Services & Community Development Manager, Regional Parks (EP); M. Lagoa, Deputy Corporate Officer; T. Pillipow, Committee Clerk (Recorder)

EP - Electronic Participation

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

1. Territorial Acknowledgement

Director Taylor provided a Territorial Acknowledgement.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Director Taylor, **SECONDED** by Director Holman,
That the agenda be amended to permit five (5) additional delegates to speak.
CARRIED

MOVED by Director Screech, **SECONDED** by Director Taylor,
That the agenda for the April 28, 2021 Regional Parks Committee meeting be approved as amended.
CARRIED

3. Adoption of Minutes

3.1. [21-333](#) Minutes of the February 24, 2021 Regional Parks Committee Meeting

MOVED by Director Seaton, **SECONDED** by Director Screech,
That the minutes of the Regional Parks Committee meeting of February 24, 2021 be adopted as circulated.
CARRIED

4. Chair's Remarks

Chair Mersereau thanked members of the public who have shared their correspondence.

5. Presentations/Delegations

- 5.1. [21-336](#) Delegation - Alastair Craighead; Resident of Victoria: Re: Agenda Item 6.2. CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines
Alastair Craighead spoke against Item 6.2.
- 5.2. [21-337](#) Delegation - Alison Spriggs; Resident of Victoria: Re: Agenda Item 6.2. CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines
Alison Spriggs spoke against Item 6.2.
- 5.3. [21-338](#) Delegation - Michael Jakeman; Resident of Sooke: Re: Agenda Item 6.2. CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines
Michael Jakeman spoke against Item 6.2.
- 5.4. [21-339](#) Delegation - Mahon Lamont; Representing The Cycling Co.: Re: Agenda Item 6.2. CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines
Mahon Lamont spoke against Item 6.2.
- 5.5. [21-340](#) Delegation - Sarah Gose; Resident of Highlands: Re: Agenda Item 6.2. CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines
Sarah Gose spoke against Item 6.2.
- 5.6. [21-341](#) Delegation - Kenn Faris; Resident of Highlands: Re: Agenda Item 6.2. CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines
Kenn Faris spoke against Item 6.2. without an amendment.
- 5.7. [21-342](#) Delegation - Diana McMinn; Resident of Highlands: Re: Agenda Item 6.2. CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines
Diana McMinn spoke against Item 6.2.
- 5.8. [21-343](#) Delegation - Victoria Stevens; Resident of Saanich: Re: Agenda Item 6.2. CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines
Victoria Stevens spoke against Item 6.2.

- 5.9. [21-344](#) Delegation - Sam Goldman; Resident of Oak Bay: Re: Agenda Item 6.2. CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines
Sam Goldman spoke against Item 6.2.
- 5.10. [21-345](#) Delegation - Peter Gose; Resident of Highlands: Re: Agenda Item 6.2. CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines
Peter Gose spoke against Item 6.2.
- 5.11. [21-346](#) Delegation - Chris Mills; Resident of Victoria: Re: Agenda Item 6.2. CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines
Chris Mills spoke against Item 6.2.
- 5.12. [21-347](#) Delegation - Steve Grundy; Resident of Sooke: Re: Agenda Item 6.2. CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines
Steve Grundy spoke against Item 6.2.
- 5.13. [21-348](#) Delegation - Rose Stanton; Resident of Highlands: Re: Agenda Item 6.2. CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines
Rose Stanton spoke against Item 6.2.
- 5.14. [21-350](#) Delegation - Ray Zimmerman; Resident of Victoria: Re: Agenda Item 6.2. CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines
Ray Zimmerman spoke against Item 6.2.
- 5.15. [21-351](#) Delegation - Vicky Husband; Resident of Highlands: Re: Agenda Item 6.2. CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines
Vicky Husband spoke against Item 6.2.
- 5.16. [21-352](#) Delegation - Jim Pine; Representing Sea to Sea Greenbelt Society: Re: Agenda Item 6.2. CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines
Jim Pine spoke against Item 6.2.
- 5.17. [21-353](#) Delegation - Alon Soraya; Representing South Island Mountain Bike Society: Re: Agenda Item 6.2. CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines
Alon Soraya spoke against Item 6.2.
- 5.18. [21-354](#) Delegation - Mike Wulder, Resident of Saanich: Re: Agenda Item 6.2. CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines
Mike Wulder spoke against Item 6.2.

- 5.19. [21-358](#) Delegation - Adam Walker; Representing Cycling Co.: Re: Agenda Item 6.2.: CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines
Adam Walker spoke against Item 6.2.
- 5.20. [21-359](#) Delegation - Nitya Harris; Representing Coexisting with Carnivores Alliance: Re: Agenda Item 6.2.: CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines
Nitya Harris spoke against Item 6.2.
- 5.21. [21-360](#) Delegation - Jason Oliver; Resident of Saanich: Re: Agenda Item 6.2.: CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines
Jason Oliver spoke against Item 6.2.
- 5.22. [21-361](#) Delegation - JJ Wytrwal; Resident of Victoria: Re: Agenda Item 6.2. CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines
John Wytrwal spoke against Item 6.2.
- 5.23. [21-362](#) Delegation - Daniel Cammiade; Representing Southern Vancouver Island Nature Trails Society: Re: Agenda Item 6.2.: CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines
Daniel Cammiade spoke against Item 6.2.

6. Committee Business

- 6.1. [21-307](#) Sustainable Funding Model for Future Land Acquisitions

L. Hutcheson spoke to Item 6.1.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- cost implications of accepting this motion
- comparison of the cost estimates of various types of trails
- policy determining pit toilet infrastructure requirements

Director Martin left the meeting at 11:30 am.

**MOVED by Director Screech, SECONDED by Director Seaton,
The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:**

- 1. That all future recommended regional park land acquisition purchases include a detailed unique operating cost schedule until a management plan is completed, and all draft management plans presented to the Regional Parks Committee will identify a cost schedule for plan implementation.**
- 2. That costs required for future property acquisitions be identified within the subsequent Capital Regional District Regional Parks Financial Plan.**

CARRIED

6.2. [21-296](#) CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines

J. Leahy spoke to Item 6.2.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- including external stakeholders in the management planning process
- environmental impacts of allowing e-bikes on trails
- protecting the biodiversity in our parks
- Mountain Biking Advisory Committee (MBAC) recommendations deemed out of scope
- the license agreements with biking groups
- the process groups should take in approaching the CRD to work together
- the dichotomy between recreation and conservation

MOVED by Director Ranns, **SECONDED** by Director Screech,
The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:
That the CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines and the Short-term Actions to support the Mountain Biking Advisory Committee Advice and Guidance Report be approved.

Director Plant left the meeting at 12:45 pm.

MOVED by Director Isitt, **SECONDED** by Director Taylor,
That the motion be amended by adding the following additional direction: 2.
That the CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines be reviewed in the context of the Regional Parks Strategic Plan update.
CARRIED

MOVED by Director Ranns, **SECONDED** by Director Screech,
The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:
1. That the CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines and the Short-term Actions to support the Mountain Biking Advisory Committee Advice and Guidance Report be approved.
2. That the CRD Regional Parks Mountain Biking Guidelines be reviewed in the context of the Regional Parks Strategy Plan update.
CARRIED
OPPOSED: Tait

MOVED by Director Young, **SECONDED** by Director Taylor,
1. That we consider mountain bike opportunities in considering CRD parks acquisitions, and;
2. That we entertain requests from the mountain biking community for design and construction of mountain bike trails in appropriate locations within CRD parks.

MOVED by Director Taylor, **SECONDED** by Director Screech,
That this motion be referred back to staff.
CARRIED

MOVED by Director Tait, **SECONDED** by Director Screech,
That the CRD Regional Parks committee recommend that the CRD Board develop

a mountain bike policy for CRD Regional Parks.
CARRIED

Director Screech left the meeting at 1:47 pm.

7. Notice(s) of Motion

Directors Mersereau, Isitt and Holman Notice of Motion for consideration at the next committee meeting:

Whereas one of the two goals of regional parks is “protecting the region’s extraordinary biodiversity in perpetuity” and whereas the existing Regional Parks Acquisition Strategy prioritizes acquisition of park land to protect ecological values;

Therefore be it resolved, that staff be directed to report on how ecological values and biodiversity are protected and monitored in regional parks and on the CRD’s staffing and resource capacity to evaluate the effectiveness of ecological protection in the regional parks system, including consideration of wildlife habitat and disturbance, biodiversity, impacts of new infrastructure, and the CRD's declared climate emergency.

8. New Business

There was no new business.

9. Motion to Close the Meeting

9.1. [21-334](#) Motion to Close the Meeting

MOVED by Director Ranns, **SECONDED** by Director Seaton,
That the closed session items be postponed until the next meeting of the Regional Parks Committee.
CARRIED

10. Adjournment

MOVED by Director Seaton, **SECONDED** by Director Taylor,
That the April 28, 2021 Regional Parks Committee meeting be adjourned at 1:51 pm.
CARRIED

Chair

Recorder