

Meeting Minutes

Regional Parks Committee

Wednesday, November 24, 2021

10:00 AM

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

PRESENT

Directors: R. Mersereau (Chair), G. Young (Vice Chair), G. Holman (EP), B. Isitt, R. Martin (EP), J. Ranns (EP), D. Screech, L. Seaton, M. Tait (EP), N. Taylor,

Staff: L. Hutcheson, General Manager, Parks and Environmental Services; J. Leahy, Senior Manager, Regional Parks; M. Lagoa, Deputy Corporate Officer; T. Pillipow, Committee Clerk (Recorder)

EP - Electronic Participation

Regrets: Director C. Plant (Board Chair, ex officio), Councillor J. Olsen

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am.

1. Territorial Acknowledgement

Director Taylor provided a Territorial Acknowledgement.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Director Taylor, **SECONDED** by Director Isitt,
That the agenda for the November 24, 2021 Regional Parks Committee meeting
be approved as amended to permit one (1) delegation to speak.
CARRIED

3. Adoption of Minutes

3.1. [21-861](#) Minutes of the October 27, 2021 Regional Parks Committee Meeting

MOVED by Director Screech, **SECONDED** by Director Isitt,
That the minutes of the Regional Parks Committee meeting of October 27, 2021
be adopted as circulated.
CARRIED

4. Chair's Remarks

Chair Mersereau recognized the efforts of parks staff dealing with the extreme weather events we've seen of late.

5. Presentations/Delegations

5.1. [21-865](#) Delegation - Rob Thomas; Representing South Island Disc Golf Society:

Re: Agenda Item 6.2.: Regional Parks - Strategic Plan Update

R. Thomas spoke to Item 6.2.

- 5.2. [21-866](#) Delegation - Yvonne Mendel; Representing South Island Mountain Bike Society: Re: Agenda Item 6.1.: Mountain Biking Opportunities in Regional Parks and Item 6.2.: Regional Parks - Strategic Plan Update

Y. Mendel spoke to Item 6.1. and Item 6.2.

- 5.3. [21-880](#) Delegation - Josh Nobleman; Representing Vancouver Island Slacklining Association: Re: Agenda Item 6.2.: Regional Parks - Strategic Plan Update

J. Nobleman spoke to Item 6.2.

6. Committee Business

- 6.1. [21-850](#) Mountain Biking Opportunities in Regional Parks

J. Leahy spoke to Item 6.1.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- trail management at regional parks
- the challenge of balancing conservation and recreation within the parks
- the consultation process with stakeholders when creating trails
- the status of the Sea-to-Sea regional parks management plan
- working with South Island Mountain Biking Society (SIMBS) to close unsanctioned trails
- creating new mountain biking opportunities
- collaborating with stakeholders on parks signage
- applying the impact assessment to other activities within the parks
- creating an opportunity for SIMBS to meet with staff informally to discuss a broader range of items

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

That the Mountain Biking Opportunities in Regional Parks report be received for information.

**MOVED by Director Isitt, SECONDED by Director Taylor,
That the motion be amended to include the wording, "That the Regional Parks Committee direct staff to report to the Capital Regional District Board in a closed meeting on options for creating a third permitted Mountain Biking area in the region."
CARRIED**

The question was called on the main motion as amended.

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

1. That the Mountain Biking Opportunities in Regional Parks report be received for information.
2. That the Regional Parks Committee direct staff to report to the Capital Regional District Board in a closed meeting on options for creating a third permitted Mountain Biking area in the region.

CARRIED

6.2. [21-854](#) Regional Parks - Strategic Plan Update

L. Hutcheson spoke to Item 6.2.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- starting the process with a roundtable workshop of this committee, with additional workshops for various stakeholders
- the 2021 resident survey
- providing the committee with an update on the trails network as well as a sample size of the survey results
- completing a program evaluation

Director Ranns left the meeting at 11:00 am.

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

That the Board extend the 2012-2021 Regional Parks Strategic Plan's term for eight months and that staff bring back an updated Strategic Plan for Board approval in July 2022.

**MOVED by Director Isitt, SECONDED by Director Screech,
That the motion be amended to add the wording, "And that a workshop of the Regional Parks Committee members be convened in January 2022 to provide input on the plan."**

CARRIED

**MOVED by Director Isitt, SECONDED by Director Taylor,
That the motion be amended to add the wording, "That staff report back at the January workshop with a list of proposed stakeholders for direct engagement."**

CARRIED

**MOVED by Director Isitt, SECONDED by Director Taylor,
That the motion be amended to add the wording, "That the committee request that staff, including the First Nations Relations division, engage all First Nations in the region in an early, meaningful and ongoing manner in the development of the plan"**

CARRIED

The question was called on the main motion as amended.

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

1. That the Board extend the 2012-2021 Regional Parks Strategic Plan's term for eight months and that staff bring back an updated Strategic Plan for Board approval in July 2022.
2. And that a workshop of the Regional Parks Committee members be convened

in January 2022 to provide input on the plan.

3. That staff report back at the January workshop with a list of proposed stakeholders for direct engagement.
4. That the committee request that staff, including the First Nations Relations division, engage all First Nations in the region in an early, meaningful and ongoing manner in the development of the plan.

CARRIED

6.3. [21-855](#) CRD Regional Parks - Interpretive Program

J. Leahy spoke to Item 6.3.

Discussion ensued on evaluating the effectiveness of these programs.

Director Tait left the meeting at 11:55 am.

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

**That the CRD Regional Parks Interpretive Program report be received for
information.**

CARRIED

6.4. [21-859](#) Debrief - Severe Weather Event - Verbal Update

J. Leahy provided a verbal report on Item 6.4.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- staff reporting back to the committee on overall repair costs
- sharing findings on the Thetis Lake dam with View Royal staff
- evaluating a strategic retreat from compromised structures

**MOVED by Director Screech, SECONDED by Director Seaton,
That the Severe Weather Event Verbal Update be received for information.**

CARRIED

Director Martin left the meeting at 12:06 pm.

7. Notice(s) of Motion

There were no notice(s) of motion.

8. New Business

There was no new business.

9. Adjournment

**MOVED by Director Seaton, SECONDED by Director Taylor,
That the November 24, 2021 Regional Parks Committee meeting be adjourned at
12:10 pm.**

CARRIED

CHAIR

RECORDER