

**Capital Regional District
Sooke & Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission
Minutes of a Regular meeting held Tuesday, September 13, 2016
SEAPARC Leisure Complex Board Room, Sooke, BC**

Mission Statement:

*“Sooke Parks & Recreation Commission creates recreational opportunities for the public through the planning, development, provision and operation of recreational facilities, programs and activities with a focus on the people of the Sooke and Juan de Fuca Electoral Area”
(Mission Statement adopted October 16, 1991)*

Present: Commissioners: M. Hicks - Chair (JDF Director), M. Tait (Sooke Director), B. Berger, J. Perkins (Vice-Chair)
Staff: S. Knoke, SEAPARC Manager, L. MacDonald, Recording Secretary, C. Hoglund, Program Services Manager
Absent: D. Bishop, P. Grove
Public: 0
Press: 0

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOVED by Commissioner Berger, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Perkins that the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by Commissioner Perkins, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Berger that the minutes of the June 14, 2016 meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Rotary Club of Sooke – Junior A Hockey Game Ice Rental

Review of request from the Rotary Club of Sooke’s Neil Flynn that the arena be provided at no cost for the Club’s September 3, 2016 Junior A Hockey Grizzlie’s fundraiser game in recognition of the support provided by the Club to youth programs in Sooke and the Juan de Fuca area.

MOVED by Commissioner Berger, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Perkins that, in recognition of the Rotary Club of Sooke’s ongoing support of community youth, beginning in 2016 and every year thereafter, ice rental fees for the Rotary Club of Sooke’s annual Junior A Hockey Grizzlies game fundraiser will be waived.

CARRIED

5. CHAIR’S REPORT

The Chair noted that the CRD Board will review a Bylaw to transfer monies from the Swimming Pool Service Capital Reserve Fund to the Sooke Electoral Area Recreation Capital Reserve Fund at their September 14, 2016 meeting. The transfer will allow the funds to be used for or in respect of future capital projects of all types. On July 13, 2016 the CRD Board adopted Bylaw No. 4029 converting the two separate Swimming Pool and Recreation services into one service covering the scope of all recreation facilities and community programs.

The Chair thanked all staff involved with DeMamie Creek Golf Course for their efforts in preparing and operating the course this summer. He noted the good condition of the course and positive feedback he has received from golfers.

6. DIRECTORS' REPORT

Director Tait queried whether the golf course will remain open all year round. The SEAPARC Manager responded that efforts were being made to operate the course at a break-even basis and keeping the course open in the fall/winter would be cost prohibitive. Plans are for the course to be open May through September in 2017.

7. STAFF REPORTS

a) Staff News

PROGRAMS:

Staffing

Darcy Smith accepted the four month term Recreation Coordinator position replacing Megan McKeigan who is on parental leave until November 7, 2016. Desirae Meija is serving as Recreation Assistant during this period.

Tara Seeburger has been hired as the new ECE Preschool Instructor. Tara has been working for SEAPARC since 2012 in the Licensed Preschool as the Assistant Preschool Instructor. Samantha Law and Alysa McIntosh have been hired as the ECE Assistant Preschool Instructors.

Other recent hires include:

- 4 auxiliary Golf Course Hosts employed June-October
- 7 Skate Instructors
- 1 Skate Park Host.
- 8 new Lifeguard/Instructors

The Program Services Manager thanked Elizabeth Olsen and Lindsay Brown for their efforts in completing a lengthy and involved aquatic department orientation process.

Community Recreation

62 camps were offered this summer with the SEAPARC Adventure Camps and new Wild Trekkers Camp (ages 9-13) at maximum capacity most of the summer. The free Play in the Parks program was once again offered this year 5 days per week with the Rotary Club of Sooke providing financial support to assist with the purchase of program equipment/supplies. A Camp Volunteer 101 course was offered in June, with nine youth registered. Eight of those participants volunteered in summer camps for an average of 30-60 hours each.

The Program Services Manager commended Darcy Smith, Desirae Meija, along with the camp staff and volunteers, for going above and beyond expectations in leading a fantastic summer for Sooke youth.

Aquatics

SEAPARC hosted a free Olympics Themed Fun Swim on August 20th, as a result of receiving a PARTICIPACTION Grant. Approximately 100 people attended. Activities included water polo, javelin and kayaking. Healthy snacks were provided as well.

Summer swim lesson registration numbers were steady however enrollment was lower than expected this year with 203 registered compared to 267 in 2015.

Afternoon Fun Swims were held each day throughout July and August. These swims offer a variety of themes and activities for children and families to enjoy and were very well attended. Both large pool inflatables were put out in the pool regularly throughout the summer.

Sixty Summer Splash Passes were sold. This pass provides youth ages 7-18 years with unlimited access to the pool for the summer for just \$31.50.

ADMINISTRATION:

De Mamiel Creek Golf Course

The course has been well received by local golfers with over 800 bookings and approximately \$20,000 in revenue in the ten weeks since opening July 5. Seniors' Day and Family Evening specials were implemented in August to provide increased opportunities for access and a special greens fee of 18 holes for the price of 9 will be offered in September. Staff are exploring options for Journey Middle School and EMCS Hockey Academy students to utilize the course. The last day of operation for 2016 will be October 2 and the 2017 opening anticipated for May 1. The house is being readied in for rental/lease this fall.

Several challenges arose this year with greens fee collection and water storage/irrigation as the most significant. An additional water pump was temporarily installed to access additional water storage on the grounds. 2017 capital plan includes investment that addresses water storage and irrigation. The SEAPARC Manager recommends excavating the pond to increase water storage capacity this fall.

The SEAPARC Manager recognized the extraordinary efforts of SEAPARC staff and contractors who worked through many challenges to ensure the course opened on time, was well maintained and staffed. He acknowledged the hard work of the Program Services Manager, Administration, Reception, Maintenance, Recreation staff and contractors.

MOVED by Commissioner Perkins, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Berger that up to \$10,000 be accessed from the Capital Reserve Fund for pond remediation work at DeMamiel Creek Golf Course.

CARRIED

Project Updates

- LED Lighting project is 70% complete with the installation of exterior and pool lights anticipated to be complete by November 1
- The Pool Natural Gas Boiler retrofit is now underway and is expected to be complete by November 1
- Perfect Mind Software implementation is underway and is expected to be online and operational in December
- Skate Park Repair Station, made possible through the CRD People Power Program funded in part by the Victoria Foundation and the Traffic Safety Commission, will be installed soon
- Sound system upgrade is complete
- Stan Jones field soil exchange is complete
- Quotes are being received for a proposed EV car changing station in the SEAPARC parking lot

Sooke Fine Arts Show

This year's 30th annual Sooke Fine Arts Show was a success with approximately 8,000 in attendance. Approximately 300 children attended the show with 100 participating in the planned activities on Kid's Day.

Other News

A Travel Assistance Grant of \$200 was provided to Nin Dougall and Ryan Parkhouse to assist with their participation in the Canadian Fastball Championships this summer.

SEAPARC patron Dr. John Green passed away on August 21, 2016. Dr. Green was a frequent visitor to the pool and walking group participant who is fondly remembered by both staff and patrons. In his memory, Dr. Green's family suggested donations be made to SEAPARC.

John Topolinki, Rotary Club of Sooke President, extended a thank you to SEAPARC staff for their assistance with the September 3 Grizzlies Game. Approx. 360 people attended the Rotary fundraising event.

Mr. Anthony Mormino has advised staff that he has decided not to pursue obtaining road access through SEAPARC property due to the costs involved.

The SEAPARC Manager thanked Councillor Rick Kasper for his contributions to SEAPARC during his tenure as CRD Director for the District of Sooke and SEAPARC Commissioner.

8. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

9. ROUND TABLE

The Commission and staff extend their sincere condolences to the Navarrete family on the loss of their son Carter. Commissioner Berger thanked staff for the SEAPARC road sign tribute to Carter.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 2:05 pm.

Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 18

Mike Hicks, Chair

Lynn MacDonald, Recorder