

**Minutes of the Cowichan Station/Glenora/Sahtlam Parks and Recreation Commission  
Annual General Meeting, held on January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the Sahtlam Fire Hall,  
Sahtlam,**

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**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Frank McCorkell.

**Introductions**

The Chairman welcomed the approximately 30 residents attending the AGM and introduced the Commission members present.

**Purpose of the Meeting**

At this point Chairman McCorkell outlined the purpose of the meeting namely, to provide a general outline and review of the work undertaken by the Commission, and the Parks and Trails Department staff during the past twelve months (2013). In addition there would be nominations for members of the public to serve on the Commission during 2014 (five positions). A further four individuals appointed by Director Duncan to the Commission bringing the total to nine members.

**Minutes**

The Minutes of the 2013 Annual General Meeting were distributed to those present and reviewed. After the review there were no questions raised.

Moved: Larry Whetstone  
Second: Howard Heyd

That the 2013 Annual General meeting minutes be adopted.

CARRIED

**The Chair's Report**

The Chairman touched on a number of parks and trails projects that took place in the Sahtlam area over the past year. This included the ongoing work at Currie Park and the new acquisition of land in the Hanks Road area where a fence has been erected separating the park land and adjacent properties. He also mentioned the upgraded water line installed to the washrooms at the Glenora Trails Head Park in Glenora.

Director Duncan informed those present of the improvements undertaken along Busy Creek Park which included a trail and salmon enhancement work. He indicated there will be a new kiosk constructed at a viewing area at the creek in 2014. As well as other projects were undertaken at Maplewood Park which is also adjacent the creek last year.

On behalf of the Commission Frank McCorkell also thanked those who assisted with the work done throughout the year at Currie Park. This included Paul Slade and Drillwell Enterprises, the Cowichan Trap & Skeet Club, the Sahtlam Volunteer Fire Department and Mrs. Irene Evans.

## **Minutes of the Area E Parks and Recreation Commission Annual General Meeting of January 30, 2014 continued:**

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He then mentioned a number of improvements to other community parks within the Electoral Area and said that as for additional work at Currie Park the Commission would like to have further input from the community to decide what other amenities should be included in the coming years. For 2014 it is planned to get the well operational, install a holding tank and erect a necessary pump house/electrical building. Some new trees will also be planted. Furthermore, he mentioned that Keating Park located on Langtry Road would largely be phased out since there was very few using the small park, the size of the local community, and further there would likely be changes to the land use changes in the immediate area.

### **Discussion and Questions on Other Community Parks and Trails**

Director Loren Duncan spoke about the Jack Fleetwood Memorial Park at Cowichan Station adjacent the Koksilah River and the problems with the park shoreline. The bank, which is largely a mud/clay, needs to be stabilized and this may require some pea gravel put down and possibly a few willow trees planted. Any work would require guidance from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

He also spoke about the Sahtlam Greenways, which at the moment does not have a 'plan' developed, but rather is a long term 'idea' to create both north-south as well as east-west trails throughout the Sahtlam area. He showed those in attendance the location of the present community parks as well as the location of the Cowichan River Provincial Park and explained how this trail system could develop and link the various parks on both sides of the river.

At this point John Howe asked about the costs associated with the parks and trails development given the changes to the local economy. Director Duncan acknowledged that the regional economy was changing significantly and will continue to change and that there were less and less jobs connected to the forest and lumber manufacturing sector within the valley. Another resident asked about the trail system that would go from Hanks Road to the Cowichan River and Director Duncan indicated the general idea of connecting the trail from the Hanks Road area is definitely being planned, although the exact timing for its construction has not determined at this time. Also he mentioned some other changes he could see occurring on other large blocks of land in the near future.

### **Nominations for the Parks & Recreation Commission for 2014**

At this point Secretary Ron Smith asked for nominations from the residents to serve on the Commission for a one year term. This would be five positions with another four appointed by Director Duncan. The following were nominated, Paul Slade, Mike Lees, Roland Brown, Larry Whetstone and Howard Heyd. Director Duncan then mentioned that he would be appointing Irene Evans, Frank McCorkell, Patty John and Ron Smith to the for a one year term to the Commission.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.