

Minutes
Regular Meeting
Shawnigan (Area B) Parks and Recreation Commission
Feb. 28, 2013 at SLCC

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm.

Attendance: Margaret Symon, Gaileen Flamen, Scott Overhill, Lori Treloar, Bill Savage, Bruce Fraser, Brian Jackson, Graham Gidden (CVRD),

Guests: Warrick Whitehead, David Thompson, Sarah Malerby

1. Koksilah Old Growth Forest.

Warrick Whitehead and David Thompson gave a presentation giving an overview of the Koksilah River Ancient Forest. A number of organizations have come on board to help support the preservation of the old growth stand along with the acquisition of land from the Kinsol Trestle to Kapoor hill. Negotiations will commence in the near future with Timberwest, the title owners of the property. Shawnigan Lake Parks and Recreation unanimously supports the acquisition. Warrick has offered to take commission members and public on a tour of the proposed park.

2. Sarah Malerby gave us an update regarding the construction of a connector trail from West Shawnigan Lake Provincial Park up to the Cowichan Valley Trail. Sarah has requested that the Commission provide \$3000 for material required and has organized a group of volunteers to complete the improvement. She will attend our March meeting with the final plan.

MOTION: Shawnigan Lake Parks and Recreation Commission agrees to provide the \$3000 for this trail expansion from West Shawnigan Lake Provincial Park to the Cowichan Valley Trail subject to a final review of the proposed plan.

4. Graham Gidden gave the Commission an update regarding the invasive species in our area. Due to cost restrictions, it is recommended that we focus on eradicating the more dangerous species and smaller clusters at this time. It is also important to inform the public with a brochure, including pictures, and ways to dispose of these plants in a safe and proper manner.

5. Bruce Fraser suggested that we add a revision to the Shawnigan Parks Master Plan for the acquisition of the Koksilah Park and Old Growth Forest. Bruce also mentioned that the new village space is located at 1760 Shawnigan Mill Bay Road and all are welcome to stop by and visit. This space is for groups to meet, organize, plan, and/or discuss community activities. The Shawnigan gathering is April 6th and 7th and the Parks and Recreation Commission are invited to set up a table at the gathering and Melissa Nottingham is the contact to book a table.

6. Beach Estates.

There will be an upgrade to the bulletin board at the Beach Estates main entrance and Gaileen has offered to oversee the project and give us updates regarding improvements.

7. Meadowview Property.

After much confusion, the CVRD has announced that this lot is officially part of our Parks inventory. Discussed was the possibility of selling this parcel due to the fact that it is so close to Shawnigan Hills Athletic Park. Refer to 2006 recommendations of original acquisition.

8. Park Place Green Belt.

The adjacent property owner has made an official offer to purchase this land from CVRD Parks. The Commission feels that it should not be sold, as it would set a precedent for the sale of other properties. The Commission requests that all encroachments be removed from this land so that it can be used for its original intent which is public access and Fire Department access to the greenbelt.

9. Road Ends.

CVRD Parks has officially obtained permits for the use of Bell-Irving, Worthington and May Roads. The Commission recommends that surveys be done on these properties immediately so that we can begin improvements to them for public use and access to Shawnigan Lake. The Commission will submit another list shortly for the management of another group of Road Ends in order to fulfill the community's needs as requested in the Shawnigan Lake Parks Master Plan.

10. South Cowichan Parks Commission has announced improvements to the church foundation in Mill Bay as well as much needed upgrades to Bright Angel Park.

Next Meeting: March 21, 2013.