



# City of Port Moody

## Minutes

### Parks and Recreation Commission

Minutes of the meeting of the Parks and Recreation  
Commission held on Thursday, November 19, 2020 via Zoom.

#### **Present**

Councillor Steve Milani, Chair  
Tyler Brown  
John Callaghan  
Ruth Cox  
John Grasty  
Kate Le Souef  
David Parker  
Jeff Poste  
Megan Traverse

#### **Absent**

Councillor Hunter Madsen, Vice-Chair  
Edward Dwyer  
Steve McGinley (Leave of Absence)  
Haven Lurbiecki (Regrets)

#### **In Attendance**

Jim LaCroix – Manager of Recreation  
Jennifer Mills – Committee Coordinator  
Bryan Moffat – Urban Forestry Technician  
Julie Pavey-Tomlinson – Director of Environment and Parks

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#### 1. Call to Order

#### **Call to Order**

1.1 The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:03pm

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#### 2. Adoption of Minutes

#### **Minutes**

##### 2.1 PRC20/018

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

**THAT the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Commission  
meeting held on Wednesday, October 14, 2020 be adopted.**

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#### 3. Unfinished Business

#### 4. New Business

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##### Trail Updates

##### 4.1 Presentation: Julie Pavey-Tomlinson, Director of Environment and Parks, and Bryan Moffat, Urban Forestry Technician

The Director of Environment and Parks introduced the Urban Forestry Technician and advised that the presentation will include an update on the trail work undertaken in 2020, the environmental impacts related to the work undertaken, a review of the TORCA partnership and the work undertaken through this partnership, and emerging issues related to trail usage.

The Urban Forestry Technician gave a presentation on Trails Update and the following was noted:

- the popularity of trails in Port Moody continues to increase for recreational and transportation uses and highlights the importance of trails in the community;
- the recent hiring of a full-time Trail Maintenance Worker has provided a dedicated resource and allows for long-term planning and continuity in the department;
- a comprehensive trail network plan coordinates trails and bikeways and expands the existing trail network connectivity;
- the department rented power equipment to help with larger projects related to surfacing and drainage work;
- the Shoreline Trail boardwalk replacement included the replacement of the boardwalk while ensuring low environmental impacts, and improvements in accessibility and railing design;
- the Memory Program is a partnership with the Port Moody Foundation where individuals can donate funds to purchase a bench or picnic table that enhances Port Moody parks, trails, beaches, and public buildings; the benches and picnic tables are maintained by the City for a life span of 10 years;
- the resurfacing project at the Shoreline Trail north-side walking path included resurfacing along the section of trail that runs from the mouth of Noons Creek to the Herons colony by the pond, improvements to the drainage system, and tread repairs to mitigate tripping hazards;
- the pandemic has lead to an increase in trail usage at Bert Flinn Loop Trail from user groups including hikers, cyclists, runners, school groups, and dog walkers;
- the Bert Flinn Loop Trail work included the resurfacing of approximately 500m of the trail, starting at the far end of the dog off-leash area, to improve uneven surfaces, drainage issues, and mud pits;
- the Alfred Howe geotechnical improvement work

included the creation of a new ditch, backfilling of the slope failure surface, and the installation of a new section of railing at the bottom of the slope to deter access to the area;

- the Moody Secondary trail crib stair repairs included the replacement of approximately 100 stairs and minor trail reroutes to prevent surface sheet flow from eroding the trail; this trail has portions that fall within multiple jurisdictions including Port Moody, Coquitlam, and School District 43;
- the trail counter collects data by detecting emitted infrared wavelengths; the trail counter data and data collected from the Park Hosts has been used to inform decision making related to trail use and signage during the pandemic;
- the TORCA agreement includes the maintenance and upkeep of the agreed upon trails in Port Moody;
- an environmental assessment of the Heritage Mountain bike trails was undertaken to provide a quantitative assessment of the current condition of the trails, to assess the impacts that the trails are having on the local ecology, and to provide framework that permits repeated quantitative and qualitative measurement for long-term monitoring;
- the assessment included recommended best management practices for trail building while protecting and enhancing the environment; and
- the Trail Strategy is a plan to address the growing demands on trails that provide active recreation, transportation, and circulation within parks.

The Urban Forestry Technician advised that the Parks and Recreation Master Plan calls for the development of a comprehensive trail and walkway network plan and requested Commission members' feedback on items for inclusion in the Trail Strategy, and the following was noted:

- the use of cedar rather than treated lumber could be considered for its ease of use and long lifespan;
- the use of trail counters in neighbourhoods could help inform future changes to greenspace;
- the trails that include other infrastructure, such as sidewalks, must be maintained as a whole trail to ensure continuous network connectivity;
- the trails in the city that provide access to schools could be given a higher priority rating to encourage active transportation to school;
- the addition of more off-leash dog trails;
- the management of users on trails and conflict resolution methods related to e-bikes, scooters, and powered

- skateboards;
- the addition of a long steep pathway similar to the Coquitlam Crunch; visitor parking and associated impacts must be considered;
- the recommendations from the Age-Friendly initiative should be incorporated into the Strategy;
- the one-way direction on trails could be considered as a permanent change; and
- the inclusion of trail connectivity in development proposals should be considered.

The Director of Environment and Parks noted the following:

- trails for all user levels should be provided to ensure a range of trail types are available in the community;
- all official partner trails have signage in place at the trail head with information to help guide user conflicts;
- trail connectivity is considered in development applications as part of the Sustainability Report Card and the Trail Strategy will help identify opportunities to strengthen network connectivity;
- access for all ages and abilities is considered in trails; however, not all trails can be universally accessible and may only have portions that can be adapted;
- GIS can provide a connectivity assessment where opportunity to improve the connectivity can be reviewed;
- connecting neighbourhoods in a community that has not secondary access point nearby is important to encourage;
- monitoring of the Alfred Howe Trail will continue to be conducted to ensure no further erosion is taking place before finalizing the work and revegetating the area; and
- Victoria's Galloping Goose Trail was noted as an ideal trail network that includes access points along the entire trail route and excellent signage that informs the user where they are on the trail.

The Urban Forestry Technician left the meeting at this point and did not return.

PRC20/019

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

**THAT the meeting be extended for up to 15 minutes.**

**2020 Annual Report**      4.2 To be distributed on-table.

The Director of Environment and Parks provided an overview 2020 Parks and Recreation Commission Annual Report and requested Commission members' input.

PRC20/020

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

**THAT the 2020 Parks and Recreation Commission Annual Report be approved.**

5. Information

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**Staff Updates**

5.1 No updates were provided at this time.

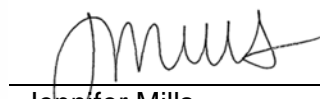
6. Adjournment

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6.1 The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:15pm.



Councillor Steve Milani,  
Chair



Jennifer Mills,  
Committee Coordinator