



City of Port Moody

Minutes

Parks and Recreation Commission

Minutes of the meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission held on Wednesday, July 14, 2021 via Zoom.

Present

Councillor Hunter Madsen, Chair
John Callaghan
John Grasty
Kate Le Souef
Haven Lurbiecki
Wilhelmina Martin
David Parker
Cleone Todgham

Absent

Councillor Steve Milani, Vice-Chair
Rajeev Sharma (Regrets)
Megan Traverse (Regrets)
Chris Zhao

In Attendance

Jessi Connaughton, Recording Secretary, Raincoast Ventures Ltd.
Jim LaCroix – Manager of Recreation
Robbie Nall – Superintendent of Parks

1. Call to Order

Call to Order

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

2. Adoption of Minutes

Minutes

2.1 PRC21/010

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting held Wednesday, June 9, 2021 be adopted.

3. Unfinished Business

4. New Business

Sports Award

- 4.1 Jim LaCroix, Manager of Recreation
Attachment: Sports Award Scoring Rubric
Link: Civic Awards - 2021 Sports Award
File: 01-0360-20-10-01

The Manager of Recreation provided an overview of the Sports Award and Scoring Rubric, noting that the Award recognizes exceptional contributions that have furthered the growth, reputation, and/or character of sport through administration, coaching, officiating, and participation.

The Commission noted the following in response:

- the weight on clarity could result in a candidate being chosen based on how a nomination was written, rather than the substance of what was achieved;
- applicants will not have access to the Rubric this year, but it may be provided for next years' applications;
- the Rubric was developed in response to feedback that it was a challenge to judge an appropriate award winner, as there is a wide range of criteria and nominees;
- the Rubric could be used as a trial this year, and revised to facilitate the judging process for future years; and
- in future years, the application could include a preamble outlining the criteria for judging.

PRC21/011

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the Sports Award include the Scoring Rubric that weights submissions in part by clarity, completeness, and relevance to criteria, and in part by their overall impact.

Dog Management Working Group – Final Report

- 4.2 Dog Management Working Group
To be distributed on-table.

The Dog Management Working Group provided an overview of the updates and recommendations in the report, noting the following:

- the COVID-19 pandemic saw an increase in dog ownership, which highlighted the need to support dog-friendly initiatives in the City;
- there are limited dog off-leash areas in Port Moody, resulting in dog owners utilizing space not designated for off-leash walks;
- there has been a noted increase in conflict between dogs and humans in the City and surrounding communities;

- the report was updated to include recommendations for commercial dog walkers, issues around parking, and a pilot project idea for an off-leash area at Inlet Centre;
- the Firehall site could be used as a temporary dog off-leash area when the site;
- determining needs through community engagement is a recommendation for City staff to prioritize;
- temporary use permits could be issued for vacant land as temporary off-leash dog parks until development commences;
- liability for temporary off-leash dog parks should be considered; and
- creative options for temporary off leash spaces are required.

PRC21/012

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the “Paws In Port Moody” report be received and its recommendations be used to guide development of a municipal strategy addressing issues related to dogs in the City;

AND THAT this work be prioritized.

**Pickleball/Tennis –
Draft Report**

- 4.3 Jim LaCroix, Manager of Recreation
Attachment: Tennis and Pickleball Preliminary Report, dated July 2021
File: 01-0360-20-10-01

The Manager of Recreation provided an overview of the Tennis Pickleball Preliminary Report, and the following was noted:

- noise associated with pickleball is contentious in many communities;
- sound mitigation is a costly endeavour in outdoor spaces;
- a tented structure, similar to the Poirier Forum, could be considered;
- the opportunity for a structure that allows for year-round pickleball could motivate players to seek funding from stakeholder groups;
- a report published by Tennis BC and Pickleball BC indicates that both sports are growing in popularity, and combining courts for dual use is not a preferred option;
- the loco Lawn Bowling Association could be approached to consider leasing the lawn bowling area for pickleball; and
- there are limited locations for pickleball courts that would not present noise concerns for neighbouring areas.

Girls and Women in Sport

- 4.4 Presentation: Jim LaCroix, Manager of Recreation
Attachment: Girls and Women in Sport, dated July 2021
File: 01-0360-20-10-01

The Manager of Recreation gave a presentation on statistics and benefits of girls' participation in sports, noting the following:

- a significantly low percentage of girls participate in sports in comparison to boys, particularly during the teen years and into adulthood;
- female participation in sport is beneficial, in terms of health, body image, and career opportunities;
- providing a safe and inclusive environment is key to increasing participation;
- the City is working to increase girls' participation through school programs, girls-only programs, highlighting female role models, developing positive messaging, etc.;
- the City is addressing barriers by understanding who is more or less likely to participate; and
- City staff received training through the Canadian Association for the Advancement of Women and Sport and Physical Activity to understand ways to be more inclusive and welcoming for girls and women.

The Commission noted the following:

- the Get Active and Stay Active programs for students in grade five and six is under review;
- low uptake on the Get Active program has been attributed to families' time and scheduling issues;
- the presentation only captures one aspect of physical activity, where health and wellness can be found through other means such as yoga, hiking, running, etc.;
- the slide stating girls who play sports are more likely to enter male dominated fields should be removed;
- focus should not be on deficits or negative statistics;
- there are opportunities for being socially well and physically active outside of sports;
- statistics related to benefits of sports at an early age versus older ages would be of interest;
- there is poor coverage in media of female sports, and this may result in comparatively low rates of females pursuing sports;
- the idea of "cliques" in sports may be a deterrent;
- teachers and coaches must find innovative ways to build a positive team culture, and to make sports welcoming and inclusive for all;
- the inclusion of LGBTQ+ individuals in sports should also be considered; and

- the City could explore how many Sports Awards have been issued to males versus females.

Westhill Sports Box Allocation Policy

4.5 Jim LaCroix, Manager of Recreation

The Manager of Recreation advised that Westhill Sports Box use has increased and that a draft allocation policy to ensure fair access to both renters and the public will be brought forward to the Commission for review and feedback in Fall 2021.

The Commission noted the following:

- usage at Westhill increased during COVID-19, but it is anticipated the site will continue to be busy as multiple users are interested (e.g., lacrosse, floor hockey, pickleball, etc.);
- allocation policies may be required for many fields, pools, and gymnasiums in the city; and
- the language in the policies around allocation for Port Moody residents must consider use by Tri-City organizations.

COVID-19 Update

4.6 The Manager of Recreation provided updates on recreation facilities, considering the easing COVID-19 restrictions, and noted the following:

- the Province is in Phase Three of its reopening plan;
- more facilities are opening, and staff positions are increasing;
- fitness classes are moving back inside, with numbers increased to 20 individuals per class;
- spin classes are operating with 12 individuals per class;
- the arenas are scheduled to open to the public in August 2021;
- recreation centres are scheduled to be open to the public in late August or early September 2021; and
- programs at Kyle Centre would not be impacted by the warming shelter.

The Superintendent of Parks advised that Port Moody trails and the Westhill track have reverted to two-way traffic and that the City is proceeding with removing physical distancing signage. The Superintendent of Parks also advised that no picnic or special event bookings will be accepted for Summer 2021.

Staff noted the following in response to questions from the Commission:

- the City is taking a cautious approach to reopening, recognizing that airborne transmission of COVID-19

requires the maintenance of physical distancing measures (e.g., spin bikes will be placed two metres apart);

- summer programs are full without long waitlists;
- signage is being modified to reflect the latest public health guidelines;
- some signs will remain in place to provide direction and prevent 'bunching' of people when accessing recreation facilities (e.g., separate entrances at Rocky Point Pool); and
- signs provide an important reminder for people to continue to self-regulate.

5. Information

Staff Updates

5.1 No updates were provided.

2021 Parks and Recreation Commission Work Plan

5.2 Attachment: 2021 Parks and Recreation Commission Work Plan
File: 01-0360-20-10-01

Action: Staff to include discussion of the Commission Work Plan as an item in the next meeting agenda.

Trails Information

5.3 Attachments:
a) Port Moody Parks and Trails Map
b) Port Moody and TORCA Maintained Inventory of Trails, Multipaths, Pathways and Stairs
File: 01-0360-20-10-01

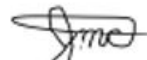
This item was provided for information only.

6. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:02pm.



Councillor Hunter Madsen,
Chair



Jessi Connaughton,
Recording Secretary