

City of Port Moody Minutes

Parks and Recreation Commission

Minutes of the meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission held on Wednesday, October 13, 2021 via Zoom.

Present

Councillor Hunter Madsen, Chair

John Callaghan
John Grasty
Kate Le Souef
Haven Lurbiecki
Wilhelmina Martin
David Parker
Leah Song
Megan Traverse

Cleone Todgham (arrived at 7:23pm)

Absent

Councillor Steve Milani, Vice-Chair

In Attendance

Esin Gozukara – Committee Coordinator

Kirk Heaven – Deputy Fire Chief Community Safety, Training, and Emergency Management, Port Moody Fire Rescue (arrived at 8:42pm)

Kim Law – Manager of Project Delivery Services (arrived at 7:13pm)

Jennifer Mills – Committee Coordinator

Julie Pavey-Tomlinson – Director of Environment and Parks

Ding Yu – Project Manager

1. Call to Order

Call to Order

- 1.1 The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.
- 2. Adoption of Minutes

Minutes

2.1 PRC21/015

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting held Wednesday, September 8, 2021 be adopted.

3. Unfinished Business

4. New Business

Old Orchard Park Visioning Exercise

4.1 Ding Yu, Project Manager
Attachment: Old Orchard Park Visioning Exercise

The Project Manager gave a presentation on Old Orchard Park Visioning Exercise, and the following was noted:

- a working document was sent out to the Commission members to evaluate and provide preliminary input for the Old Orchard Park Master Plan process, and six responses were received;
- the essential park experiences to preserve, new park experiences to add, opportunities and challenges, and the role of Old Orchard Park in the City's Park System were discussed;
- the Park does not have an existing stand-alone Master Plan as it was coordinated with the overall shoreline planning process in the past;
- the Park's proximity to residential areas and Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs), sloped topography, and existing parking capacity may limit the enhancement opportunities;
- revitalizing Old Orchard Park may help relieve pressure from Rocky Point Park;
- activities for older children, easily accessible washrooms, and places to eat and gather could be added:
- facility booking and detailed usage information could be obtained from staff to help inform the relationship between the Old Orchard Hall and the Park in the Master Plan:
- adding a concession stand or having food trucks on site could attract more families and children to the Park;
- environmental best practices and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) guidelines and procedures are used when replenishing the sand at the beach;
- marine recreation options suitable for the Park can be explored:
- water quality monitoring reports can be made available to the public to communicate that it is safe to swim in the area;
- there is no water access at the park during certain parts of the tidal cycle as there are mudflats in front of the beach, and a seabus operating between Old Orchard Park and Rocky Point Park may become viable in the future:
- the clear goal of the Master Plan needs to be identified;

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- the scope for improvements for the Park is moderate; and
- staff will consolidate the comments made by the Commission, and they will be incorporated into the analysis of the Master Plan.

The Manager of Project Delivery Services entered the meeting at this point.

Parkland Acquisition Strategy

4.2 Ding Yu, Project Manager Attachment: Parkland Acquisition Strategy, Project Update, dated October 13, 2021

The Project Manager gave a presentation on Parkland Acquisition Strategy (PAS), and the following was noted:

- population growth and densification may put pressure on parks and natural systems;
- the PAS will review parkland supply in the city, identify the types of parks required, and focus on the increasingly densified and underserved neighbourhoods;
- the 2015 Parks and Recreation Master Plan,
 Development Cost Charges (DCC) Bylaw, and Parks
 and Recreation Commission's 2019 Parkland Acquisition
 Strategy Working Group Report constitutes the
 foundational work of the project, and similar strategies
 from other cities were referenced for the project;
- the total parkland target of 2.5 hectares(ha)/1,000 people (the 2.5 target) will be reviewed, and an analysis of other factors and measurements for calculating and meeting parkland acquisition targets will be conducted;
- the project scope identifies the guiding questions, and outlines the technical work to be completed in chronological order; and
- the draft timeline for completion may be updated if necessary.

The Manager of Project Delivery Services noted the following in response to Commission members' questions:

- parkland acquisition costs were calculated based on an average purchase cost of \$2.5 million per hectare in the DCC Bylaw, and this number was reached based on a technical review conducted by a consultant in 2015;
- there will be a minor update for the DCC Bylaw in 2022; major updates are permitted by the Province every 5 years; and
- the Parkland Acquisition Strategy will provide specific information about the type and location of land that where and what the City should purchase, and the City

will work with a land development consultant to help determine the costs associated with the purchases.

The Commission noted the following in discussion;

- updates to the DCC Bylaw could include different scenarios based on several population projections; and
- the impact of parks on wellness and quality of life could be reviewed to ensure the PAS target meet the different needs of each neighbourhood.

The Manager of Project Delivery Services left the meeting at this point and did not return.

The Deputy Fire Chief entered the meeting at this point.

Community Wildfire Protection Plan Park

4.3 Kirk Heaven, Deputy Fire Chief Community Safety, Training and Emergency Management
Attachment: City of Port Moody Community Wildfire Protection Plan 2019, dated October 13, 2021

The Deputy Fire Chief gave a presentation on the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP), and the following was noted:

- the CWPP was updated in 2019;
- the impacts of climate change and the City's location in the driest region in the province for the first time in history in 2021 must be considered in wildfire protection and action planning; and
- communication and education policies are critical for understanding fire threats and behaviour.

PRC21/016

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the meeting be extended for up to 30 minutes.

The Deputy Fire Chief continued the presentation, and the following was noted:

- the goal for fuel management is to develop prescriptions to treat areas with hazardous fuels in the areas that border built neighbourhoods;
- prescription is an operational plan that describes how a set area for which harvesting and other proposed treatments, such as removing dead hemlock and/or branches, will be managed;
- prescriptions provide details for ecological, riparian, wetlands, and other areas to ensure that ecological considerations within these areas are balanced:

- yard cuttings and waste that are discarded in backyard forests present challenges as these materials can get mixed in with normal vegetation and require clean-up;
- educational material is delivered through the FireSmart Program, social media channels, and face-to-face interactions in neighbourhoods;
- within the framework of the FireSmart program, crews demonstrate home safety improvements through ways such as pruning, gutter cleaning, and removing firewood in carports; residents are not permitted to go beyond their property line and cut trees;
- the FireSmart program includes a \$500 rebate for residents that complete \$1,000 worth of mitigation work in their homes;
- high schools are scheduled to be targeted in 2022 through various education events;
- CWPP documentation is scheduled to be posted on the website;
- a wildfire preparedness assessment of all critical infrastructure required and how the infrastructure will be be protected during an emergency will need to be explored;
- conducting evacuation exercises and providing training for City staff are significant elements of wildfire preparedness; and
- collaborating with other stakeholders and continuing educational outreach is the key for success of the CWPP.

Parks and Recreation Commission Work Plan Review

4.4 Attachment: 2021 Parks and Recreation Commission Work Plan Calendar, dated October 6, 2021

This item was deferred to the November meeting.

The meeting was automatically adjourned at 9:30pm.

5. Information

Staff Updates

5.1 This item was not addressed.

Parks and Recreation Master Plan

5.2 Attachment: Master Plan Update Survey Report for Port Moody, dated May 26, 2014

This item was not addressed.

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6. Adjournment

The meeting was automatically adjourned at 9:30pm.

Councillor Hunter Madsen,

Chair

Esin Gozukara,

Committee Coordinator