



City of Port Moody

Minutes

Parks and Recreation Commission

Minutes of the meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission held on Wednesday, March 9, 2022 via Zoom.

Present

Councillor Amy Lubik – Chair
John Callaghan
John Grasty
Kyla Knowles
Haven Lurbiecki
Wilhelmina Martin (arrived at 7:03pm)
Connie Meisner
Emma Owen
Leah Song
Megan Traverse

Absent

Councillor Hunter Madsen – Vice-Chair
Pedram Moshirfatemi (Regrets)
Cleone Todgham (Regrets)

In Attendance

Esin Gozukara – Committee Coordinator
Geoffrey Keyworth – Transportation Engineer
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 7:02pm.

2. Adoption of Minutes

Minutes

2.1 PRC22/005

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting held on Wednesday, February 9, 2022 be adopted.

3. Unfinished Business

4. New Business

E-Mobility in Parks

4.1 Geoffrey Keyworth, Transportation Engineer

The Transportation Engineer gave a presentation on E-Mobility in Parks, and noted the following:

- over the last few years, the capability of electric micro-mobility has been increasing, the cost has been going down, and there is a wide variety of devices available to consumers;
- the willingness to make daily use of electric micro-mobility devices is on the rise worldwide;
- these devices are challenging to regulate and the ability to enforce these regulations is limited; and
- staff is working on an update of the Streets, Traffic, and Public Places Bylaw and for this update, coordination with the Parks and Community Facilities Rules and Regulations Bylaw should be considered.

The Transportation Engineer noted the following in response to questions from the Commission:

- there are no details in the Motor Vehicle Act about the reasons why electric micro-mobility devices are forbidden on roads;
- sidewalks are regulated by the local bylaws and, usually for the comfort of pedestrians, these devices are not allowed on sidewalks;
- the provincial government is running the e-mobility pilot project with several municipalities participating, and it is an opportunity to explore these devices;
- for participation in this pilot project, an up-to-date Streets, Traffic, and Public Places Bylaw is required; therefore, the City is not in a position to participate;
- electric micro-mobility devices may utilize conventional bike lanes or creating dedicated micro-mobility lanes may be necessary considering different capability levels and user types;
- some respondents of the St. Johns Street Multi-Use Path Community Survey raised concerns regarding the usage of these devices;
- one barrier for the electric micro-mobility devices is the lack of secure storage facilities throughout the city;
- some of the electric rental vehicle providers require their users to do a competency test before use and consider geo-fencing for allowing control of the speed of the vehicle;
- since users can considerably extend their trip distances with these devices, collaboration with neighbouring cities

when planning for infrastructure and updating regulations could be beneficial; and

- there is insufficient data for user groups and overall usage of electric micro-mobility devices, but according to Transportation Association of Canada's taxonomy, there are 20 different types of devices.

The Commission noted the following in discussion:

- some electric micro-mobility devices, like electric unicycles, may create confusion for pedestrians and cause conflicts on sidewalks;
- when crafting regulations for these devices, coordination with the province and other municipalities could be beneficial;
- electric micro-mobility devices could help students with their daily commute to school and reduce the volume of traffic around schools during drop-off and pick-up times;
- renting and buying e-bikes could be cost prohibitive for students considering the price of a concession Compass Card;
- when visiting the city, tourists can make use of these devices for exploring;
- a discussion around speed-based licensing could be helpful for the safety of all road users; and
- these devices are often very silent, making it hard for them to be noticed by others.

The Transportation Engineer left the meeting at this point and did not return.

**Subcommittee and
Working Group
Formation**

4.2 PRC22/006

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the Neighbourhood Park Promotion Subcommittee be formed with John Grasty as Chair and Wilhelmina Martin as Vice-Chair.

PRC22/007

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the Paws 2.0 Subcommittee be formed with Haven Lurbiecki as Chair and Wilhelmina Martin as Vice-Chair.

Pickleball Facility

4.3 Presentation: Robbie Nall, Superintendent of Parks, and Jim LaCroix, Manager of Recreation

The Superintendent of Parks gave a presentation on Pickleball Facility, and noted the following:

- the Pickleball Strategy was introduced in 2021, staff conducted a location assessment within the city and is

currently seeking the Commission's input for two locations;

- at Westhill Sports Box, temporary pickleball lines are either drawn by chalk or taped;
- the first potential location is Northshore Community Park where the parking lot would be changed to accommodate a potential pickleball court, and the nearest houses are about 60 metres away; and
- the second potential location is Town Centre Park, and the gravel area next to the tennis courts would be utilized.

The Superintendent of Parks and the Manager of Recreation noted the following in response to questions from the Commission:

- Town Centre Park may be able to accommodate up to four pickleball courts;
- staff is in contact with the pickleball club;
- Glenayre Pickleball Club has been playing at Westhill Sports Box and noise complaints or conflict with other users seem to be unlikely;
- the sound that comes from a pickleball tends to travel across and up, and sound barriers may be installed to mitigate noise;
- there is likely to be public consultation if Northshore Community Park is selected; and
- Old Landfill Site is contaminated, not zoned as park land, and currently used as storage for City vehicles and equipment; therefore, it is not a suitable location.

The Commission noted the following in discussion:

- there is heavy traffic around Westhill Sports Box, especially during the weekends;
- due to pickleball's increasing popularity and social engagement aspect, it is desirable to have a larger space with multiple courts, and the City can coordinate with the pickleball club when looking at design elements;
- sound mitigation measures are critical for the location and design of a new pickleball facility;
- staff could approach the owners of the loco property regarding leasing the bowling green for a short term for pickleball;
- staff could have a meeting with School District No. 43 to see if it is possible to utilize any space within schools in the city; and
- the City should also plan to include indoor pickleball courts to its capital plans given the growth and value of this sport.

*Amended by resolution
PRC22/009*

Pop-Up Parks

4.4 Presentation: Robbie Nall, Superintendent of Parks

The Superintendent of Parks gave a presentation on Pop-Up Parks, and noted the following:

- Pop-Up Parks is a 2022 capital project;
- City Hall Library Plaza, Town Centre Parking Lot, Chip Kerr Park, and Pioneer Park are identified as possible locations; and
- the Commission's feedback regarding other locations and features to be added are welcome.

PRC22/008

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the meeting be extended for up to 15 minutes.

The Commission noted the following in discussion:

- Old Orchard Park or Suter Brook Village could be suitable locations for this project;
- The Parks and Recreation Master Plan could be reviewed to identify underutilized green spaces; and
- Brewery District could also be considered for this project by possibly by eliminating a few parking spots along Murray.

5. Information

Staff Updates

- 5.1 The Superintendent of Parks noted that there a few volunteer spots left for the community pollinator planting event at Westhill Park, and a local seed supplier was contacted to create a pollinator blend for distribution.

6. Adjournment

- 6.1 The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:06pm.



Councillor Amy Lubik,
Chair



Esin Gozukara,
Committee Coordinator