



City of Port Moody

Minutes

Parks and Recreation Commission

Minutes of the meeting of the Parks and Recreation
Commission held on Wednesday, April 13, 2022 via Zoom.

Present

Councillor Amy Lubik – Chair
John Callaghan
John Grasty
Haven Lurbiecki
Wilhelmina Martin
Connie Meisner
Pedram Moshirfatemi (arrived at 7:09pm)
Emma Owen
Leah Song
Cleone Todgham
Megan Traverse

Absent

Councillor Hunter Madsen – Vice-Chair
Kyla Knowles (Regrets)

In Attendance

Karen Devitt – Environmental Coordinator
Esin Gozukara – Committee Coordinator
Devin Jain – Manager of Cultural Services
Jim LaCroix – Manager of Recreation
Julie Pavey-Tomlinson – Director of Environment and 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 PRC22/009

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting held on Wednesday, March 9, 2022 be amended by adding “staff could approach the owners of the loco property regarding leasing the bowling green for a short term for pickleball” under item 4.3;

AND THAT the minutes of Parks and Recreation Commission meeting held on Wednesday, March 9, 2022 be adopted as amended.

3. Unfinished Business

4. New Business

Pioneer Park Rental Fees

4.1 Devin Jain, Manager of Cultural Services

The Manager of Cultural Services noted that there is a new rental fee structure for events organized in Pioneer Park, and free community events will not pay a fee, a dollar per ticket surcharge is imposed for ticketed events, and \$200 daily fee will be charged for a fundraising event or an entry-by-donation event.

The Commission noted the following:

- utilizing Pioneer Park for Brewhalla Beer and Music Festival, considering the other uses of the park, might not be appropriate;
- the Park is a quiet and sacred place of reflection for residents;
- beer gardens were located at Queen's Street Plaza and along Queen's Street during Car Free Day events, and that area may be more suitable for an event like Brewhalla;
- the tree canopy in the Park is vulnerable and may be negatively impacted by a large-scale event;
- Old Firehall Site could be used for this Festival since it is also close to transit and the maintenance on the site is minimal compared to the Park; and
- Inlet Field could also be considered for the Festival.

The Manager of Cultural Services noted the following in response to questions from the Commission:

- Crossroads Hospice Society was contacted to discuss the use of the park for the Festival;
- the Park is not expected to be booked every weekend, and power at the site is currently very limited;
- there is a limited number of appropriate spaces in the city for organizing cultural events, Rocky Point Park is well used, and street closures is not an option due to geography;
- considering its proximity to transit, Pioneer Memorial

Park is a viable location, and parking and transit options are limited for Westhill and Old Orchard Parks;

- even though it sometimes is rented as a part of Inlet Theatre, closing the traffic circle in front of City Hall would only provide a limited amount of space, and can create challenges with accessing the Library;
- Queen's Street Plaza and Queen's Street held smaller beer gardens in the past, and it is a sloped area that does not allow a proper set up for vendors; and
- how much longer Inlet Field can be used is uncertain given the redevelopment plans for the Field.

PRC22/010

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT alternative locations to Pioneer Memorial Park be investigated for the Brewhalla Beer and Music Festival.

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

**Climate Resilient
Landscaping
Standards**

4.2 Presentation: Karen Devitt, Environmental Coordinator

The Environmental Coordinator gave a presentation on Climate Resilient Landscaping Standards, and noted the following:

- climate change can impact annual plant cycles, and this may alter the design and maintenance of landscapes;
- Metro Vancouver and other organizations started developing tools for urban forest management to maximize climate adaptation benefits;
- the City's current practices were assessed with consultants to create landscaping standards, and these standards will help ensure that the landscaped areas remain resilient to climate change impacts;
- the standards will be used internally by the horticulture team, and will guide capital projects that have landscaping areas;
- the standards will also be available to large developers who are required to make street improvements or include public park space as a part of their project;
- the standards provide graphics that demonstrate designs for horticulture beds and landscaped areas in parks, as well as scenarios for planting pallets, streetscapes, and rain gardens;
- rain gardens are beneficial for managing and filtering stormwater, and can be used to prevent polluted water from entering the water streams; and
- climate resilient landscaped areas might not look as manicured; therefore, education and outreach will be an important component of implementing the standards.

The Commission noted that education is a key component for upholding these standards, as residents might think that the landscapes are not maintained.

The Environmental Coordinator noted the following in response to questions from the Commission:

- grass is not climate resilient landscaping, and the standards advise converting grass to climate resilient landscape alternatives available for each site;
- a balanced approach is important for converting grass considering different uses and user groups of sites;
- some of the boulevard areas within the city will be retrofitted based on the standards;
- the Environment and Parks Department takes part in the development application review, and City property standards requirements for boulevards were developed in 2021 to provide guidance for developers when needed;
- considering different priorities for the streetscape, including bike lanes and utilities servicing, implementing greener features along streetscapes can be challenging;
- the standards are planned to be made public;
- some of the ivy along Shoreline Trail will be removed as part of sanitary sewer and trail upgrades in the area; and
- California poppies are an emerging invasive in some areas, therefore it is being monitored and the seed blend that is currently being developed does not include California poppies for this reason.

The agenda was reordered to address item 4.4 at this point.

Tri-City Nature Challenge

4.4 Presentation: Julie Pavey-Tomlinson, Director of Environment and Parks

The Environmental Coordinator gave a presentation on Tri-City Nature Challenge, and noted the following:

- Tri-City Nature Challenge is a friendly competition to see which city can gather the most observations of nature;
- the Cities of Port Moody, Port Coquitlam, and Coquitlam are collaborating with local organizations and Metro Vancouver Parks for this challenge;
- the Challenge will take place between April 29-May 2, 2022, and results will be announced between May 9-13, 2022;
- participants will submit their observations using an app, and these submissions help the city and researchers to understand how climate change affects species and biodiversity; and

- several events in the city have been planned for this challenge, and participants can join in the challenge on their own time.

The Chair invited the Commission members to participate in Tri-City Nature Challenge and share the event details with their networks.

The Environmental Coordinator left the meeting at this point and did not return.

The agenda order was resumed at this point.

Fees and Charges Bylaw Review

- 4.3 Presentation: Jim LaCroix, Manager of Recreation Attachments:
- a) Recreation Fees
 - b) Proposed Fee Report

The Manager of Recreation gave a presentation on Fees and Charges Bylaw Review, and noted the following:

- Recreation Fees are determined based on feedback from Council, demand and cost for the services, and other inputs;
- Council approved increasing the curling fees 0.03% during the 2022-2026 Five-Year Financial Plan deliberations at the April 5, 2022 Finance Committee Meeting; and
- most fees stayed the same for the past two years because of COVID-19.

The Commission noted that leisure access program information could be shared with SHARE Family and Community Services Society for the program to be promoted.

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

- the most recent data for event bookings is from 2019 for different sites rented out by the City, Queen Street Plaza is mostly rented for a daily rate of \$500, and PCT Performance Stage often is booked for weddings;
- the effect of decreased team fees on participation is being observed as attendance is affected by various factors;
- the leisure access program offers a 50% discount on posted rates and up to four registered programs each year, the super senior rate is available for seniors older than 85 years old, and income thresholds are determined based on family size;

- the leisure access program could be promoted again with low-income seniors living in the area, and the Club could be contacted to share this information;
- this program is scheduled to be reviewed in short-term;
- nearby curling clubs are privately owned; therefore, their fees are unknown, and it is challenging to determine the current market rates for this sport;
- priority use of recreation facilities is to be determined by the allocation policy that is currently being updated;
- the free use of parks recreation facilities section of the Bylaw is to be updated as a few community associations were not listed;
- updated fees were recently presented to the curling club and staff is awaiting response; and
- a review of the recreation fees could be completed at the May 2022 Commission meeting due to several pending changes.

5. Information

Staff Updates

5.1 The Director of Environment and Parks noted the following:

- the Inlet Field project funding announcement of an eight-hectare multi-use sport facility being built was made on April 12, 2022;
- Inlet Field is transit accessible and can be accessed through trails and multi-use paths;
- artificial turf will be installed, and two playgrounds will be built; and
- the tennis courts LED light instalment is ongoing, and high efficiency and energy saving lights are being used.

The Director of Environment and Parks noted the following in response to questions from the Commission:

- there is a designated space for a field house in Inlet Field, but it is planned to be built through a separate project;
- City facilities are scheduled to switch to LED lighting, including the oldest lights being replaced first, design work being done to switch to dark sky compliant technologies, and the timeline is mostly cost dependent;
- lights at City parks and fields are switched on based on bookings and may remain on until 11 pm, and new lighting features are planned to be installed to allow for scheduling the lights more efficiently;
- hours during which lights are on may be adjusted based on residents' feedback;

- Inlet Field Project is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2023;
- due to design challenges, pine trees bordering onto Murray Street will be removed and replanted, and this will be communicated to the residents; and
- a new parking lot for 88 vehicles will be built in Inlet Field with electric vehicle charging stations and accessible parking along with a designated drop off area.

The Manager of Recreation noted that the new spin bikes are getting delivered soon, pickleball lines are painted in Arena 2, and the pickleball club was invited to book the space.

6. Adjournment

6.1 The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:00pm.



Councillor Amy Lubik,
Chair



Esin Gozukara,
Committee Coordinator