

# City of Port Moody

## Minutes

### Parks and Recreation Commission

Minutes of the meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission held on Wednesday, May 11, 2022 via Zoom.

#### **Present**

Councillor Hunter Madsen – Vice-Chair  
John Callaghan  
Kyla Knowles  
Wilhelmina Martin (arrived at 7:03pm)  
Connie Meisner  
Pedram Moshirfatemi  
Emma Owen  
Leah Song (arrived at 7:03pm)  
Cleone Todgham  
Megan Traverse (arrived at 7:03pm)

#### **Absent**

Councillor Amy Lubik – Chair  
John Grasty (Regrets)  
Haven Lurbiecki (Regrets)

#### **In Attendance**

Esin Gozukara – Committee Coordinator  
Jim LaCroix – Manager of Recreation  
Bryan Moffatt – Urban Forestry Technician  
Robbie Nall – Superintendent of Parks

#### **Also In Attendance**

Amelia Needoba, Principal, Diamond Head Consulting

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#### 1. Call to Order

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#### **Call to Order**

1.1 The Vice-Chair called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

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#### 2. Adoption of Minutes

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#### **Minutes**

#### 2.1 PRC22/011

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

**THAT the minutes of Parks and Recreation Commission meeting held on Wednesday, April 13, 2022 be adopted.**

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#### 3. Unfinished Business

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#### 4. New Business

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- 4.1 Presentation: Amelia Needoba, Principal, Diamond Head Consulting and Bryan Moffatt, Urban Forestry Technician  
To be distributed on-table.

Amelia Needoba, Principal, Diamond Head Consulting gave a presentation on Urban Forest Management Strategy Update, and noted the following:

- as per the direction provided by Council, the Tree Protection Bylaw review is being conducted concurrently with the Urban Forest Management Strategy Project;
- more targeted public engagement for the Tree Protection Bylaw Review is scheduled to begin in Fall 2022;
- for this project, Task 1 (Background Research and Review) was completed, activities planned for Task 2 (Community Engagement) are scheduled to start in June 2022, and Task 3 (Inventory Mapping and Analysis) is mostly completed;
- Task 4 (Recommendations and Action Plan) is scheduled to be completed in Spring 2023;
- Task 1 also included a review of the City's current practices, best management practices on certain issues (e.g. climate change), and the literature to support urban forest criteria and indicators;
- for Task 1, interviews were conducted with Engineering and Operations, Planning, and Parks and Environment staff to understand synergies and conflicts;
- Port Moody's overall performance was rated as "fair" based on the assessment of 37 criteria and indicators developed from sustainability research;
- draft standards on urban forestry are being developed by the Sustainable Forest Institute, and they will be included as best practices for this Strategy;
- the canopy cover analysis for Task 3 was completed using aerial imagery from 2019 and LiDAR, and it showed that city's tree canopy was at 58%;
- the canopy cover is not distributed evenly, most of it is in park land, and in urban areas tree canopy coverage is lower than the city-wide average;
- the canopy cover is different between neighbourhoods, the highest coverage is in loco and northwest of the city, and the lowest is in Coronation Park;
- areas of impervious canopy cover experience higher temperatures compared to high coverage areas;
- equity issues related to canopy cover distribution will be further explored in the Strategy;

- an i-Tree study done in 1999 estimated the canopy cover at 62%, while study done in 2018 showed that the canopy cover declined to 55.6%;
- the tree inventory was recently completed, it demonstrated that the species diversity is low, causing vulnerability, and diversification is necessary;
- the first phase of public engagement is scheduled to be launched in May 2022, including a mapping tool for residents to highlight valuable places or problem areas, and an online open house;
- stakeholder workshops are scheduled for November 2022 and an open house for the Tree Protection Bylaw review is scheduled for Spring 2023;
- the distribution of the tree canopy cover, including the gaps in the tree canopy, and places for tree planting will be analysed for Task 3; and
- the vision statement will be completed via community engagement for Task 4, recommendations will be worked into action plans, and priority and costing information will help guide the implementation.

The Commission noted the following:

- the tree losses experienced from the windstorms in 2006 should be factored in in the Strategy;
- as the hazardous trees are removed from ravines, replanting should be planned, and residents might assist with the replanting efforts;
- communication will be a significant part of this Strategy, and community organizations could help with creating forums for educational opportunities;
- there are seniors living in low canopy areas that experience higher temperatures, especially in the Woodland Park area;
- if the tree canopy on both public and private lands is considered as one entity, residents may find the potential impacts of this Strategy on private land concerning, and maintenance costs and delays may occur; and
- it is not onerous to get permits for plant maintenance on private lands, and an arborist's help could be requested if necessary.

Ms. Needoba noted the following in response to questions from the Commission:

- the i-Tree canopy analysis goes back to 1999, and the provincial aerial forest health annual survey can provide supplementary information;
- the recommendations that will come out of the public

- engagement process will inform decisions about tree protection on private property;
- for regulating the trees, both the broad range of tools and best practices and how these tools and practices reflect the values of the community are important;
  - the Strategy will rely on provincial guidance for planting in native forests and determining which species will be suitable for which areas, and guidelines will be provided for future planting;
  - 58% indicates considerable tree coverage for the city, targets set by this Strategy will focus on land use, and its outcomes and can inform development and streetscape standards;
  - the Strategy may also drive stewardship and encourage planting specific types of trees on private land;
  - wildfire management will be integrated in the Strategy, species and planting recommendations will be made accordingly, and it will be ensured that the targets are not going to result in high wildfire risk places;
  - this Strategy has a separate purpose and objective, and the outcome is not going to be an Environmentally Sensitive Area Strategy;
  - the community's values and vision and achieving that vision is important for the Strategy;
  - the Strategy is a guiding policy document and will not impact private properties, Tree Protection Bylaw update may directly affect the private properties, and residents' input during the public engagement process will be influential;
  - best practices will be shared during the Tree Protection Bylaw update consultation process, without a one size fits all approach, and municipal and private landowner contexts and bylaw enforcement capacities are different for cities;
  - Metro Vancouver's Tree Regulations toolkit includes best practices and guidelines, and can be utilized; and
  - further data could be provided to compare Port Moody's canopy coverage with neighbouring municipalities.

The Urban Forestry Technician noted the following in response to questions from the Commission:

- the City plants approximately 500 trees per year, and diversification of tree species will be planned by staff;
- aside from several small-scale planting events, residents did not help planting trees, and donations of trees were received in the past;
- street trees on boulevards, and adequate soil volumes to support mature trees were requested for the Woodland Park project,;

- appropriate species can be planted on Glenayre Drive in areas that are outside of the power lines; and
- current tree planting by the City is focused on areas where hazardous trees were removed, and places with lower canopy coverage could be targeted for planting in the future.

Ms. Needoba, the Urban Forestry Technician, and Pedram Moshirfatemi left the meeting at this point and did not return.

**Fees and Charges  
Bylaw Review**

4.2 Attachment: Proposed Fee Report for the Parks and Recreation Commission

The Manager of Recreation noted that the list of community of associations was updated, further feedback from the curling club was requested, and no other changes were made to the report since it was presented to the Commission at the April 2022 meeting.

PRC22/012

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

**THAT the proposed Fees Bylaw changes be approved as presented at the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting held on May 11, 2022.**

The Manager of Recreation left the meeting at this point.

**Pop-Up Parks  
Subcommittee  
Update**

4.3 Presentation: Pop-Up Parks Subcommittee  
To be distributed on-table.

The Pop-Up Parks Subcommittee gave a presentation on Pop-Up Parks Subcommittee Update, and noted the following:

- the Subcommittee conducted site visits with the Superintendent of Parks, and identified potential locations for Pop-Up Parks;
- if the Kyle Centre location is selected for this project, the Port Moody Art Centre would like to be involved in the planning process as they use the area for classes;
- a public consultation would be required to install a Pop-Up Park as there are residences near the City's empty lot on Kyle Street;
- the Recreation Complex entrance could be brightened up by painting some areas, a handrail could be added to ensure accessibility for the pit, and the drain could be covered by placing a play table on top;
- a street piano could also be added to the Recreation Complex entrance with sound mitigation measures also considered;

- Pioneer Park could be activated by using hammocks, game tables, lights, and art board cut outs for taking pictures;
- access to Pioneer Park from the Recreation Complex could be improved;
- a temporary dog park, game tables, volleyball nets, giant foosball, and a portable playground could be installed at the Old Firehall Site, if it is selected for this project;
- game tables and volleyball nets or basketball hoops could be suitable for Chip Kerr Park, and there is no place to borrow equipment from for this location; and
- an area could be cleared out at Chip Kerr Park for free creative play for kids and to ensure visibility for parent supervision.

Leah Song left the meeting at this point and did not return.

The Manager of Recreation returned to meeting at this point.

The Commission noted the following:

- local businesses could donate bistro tables and chess boards could be painted on tables;
- clearing out vegetation might be unsuitable;
- activating the Old Firehall Site through this project would be a good fit;
- tables and chairs should be selected with accessibility needs in mind;
- a street piano, if one will be placed in the selected location, should be in a secured area, and protected from weather conditions; and
- activating the entrance of Recreation Complex is a welcome idea, and a gentler waterpark for smaller kids could also be added considering the existing drain in the pit.

In response to questions from the Commission, the Subcommittee noted that finding spaces besides the existing parks were outside of the scope of the site visits, and specific items to install in the selected location for this project are yet to be identified.

The Superintendent of Parks noted that staff is favouring Kyle Centre, and this project is a great opportunity to activate that space.

**Staff Updates**

5. Information


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5.1 There were no updates at this time.

6. Adjournment

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6.1 The Vice-Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:57pm.



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Councillor Hunter Madsen,  
Vice-Chair



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Esin Gozukara,  
Committee Coordinator