



**Minutes of a Meeting of the Peninsula Recreation Commission
Held Thursday, March 28, 2024, in the Panorama Boardroom
1885 Forest Park Drive, North Saanich BC**

Present:

Commissioners: N. Paltiel (Chair), P. DiBattista, K. Frost, S. Garnett, V. Kreiser, C. McNeil-Smith, P. Murray, S. Riddle (EP)

Staff: L. Brewster, Senior Manager; A. Sharp, Manager, Administrative Services; M. Curtis, Manager, Facilities & Operations; K. Beck, Manager, Program Services; L. Gregg, Facilities & Operations Supervisor; D. Toso (recorder)

Regrets: P. Jones, R. Windsor

EP = Electronic Participation

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm

1. Territorial Acknowledgement

Commissioner DiBattista provided a territorial acknowledgement.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was amended to include item 7.1 Centennial Park Sport Box Flooring.

MOVED by Commissioner Garnett, **SECONDED** by Commissioner DiBattista
That the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

3. Adoption of Minutes of February 22, 2024

MOVED by Commissioner McNeil-Smith, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Murray,
That the minutes of the February 22, 2024 meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

4. Chair's Remarks: The Chair reported on visits to local councils to share the good work the commission is doing. Visits to Sidney and Central Saanich have been completed and have been well received with positive feedback and questions; North Saanich is scheduled for the end of April, subject to the arrival of the Chair's new baby.

The Chair also reported that today is Matt Curtis's last day with Panorama; he will be going to SEAPARC. The Chair thanked Matt for his fantastic work and wished him best of luck at SEAPARC. Lorraine introduced Liz Gregg, Facilities & Operations Supervisor, who will be stepping in as Acting Manager until that position is filled.

5. Presentations/Delegations: There were none.

6. Commission Business

6.1 Fees and Charges Policy Revision

K. Beck provided an overview of the report. Discussion ensued regarding:

- Current ratio of user pay to tax target is 50:50.
- Regionally, Panorama is in the middle of the range for fees and charges.
- The revisions have no financial impacts.
- Staff are in the early stages of discussions with organizations that can provide programming for children who need additional and/or specialized assistance so that private lessons, which can be prohibitively expensive, are not the child's only option.
- The need to make the statement about affordability of fees stronger, without using the phrase "the vast majority."

MOVED by Commissioner Riddell, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Kreiser,
That staff be directed to add a principle under section A.11.1 with the spirit being that the vast majority of people using the service should be able to afford it.

DEFEATED
Commissioners DiBattista, Garnett, Murray and Paltiel **OPPOSED**

MOVED by Commissioner Murray, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Riddell,
That staff be directed to report back with improved wording under section A.11.1 that makes clear the Commission's intention that fees be affordable to most users.

MOVED by Commissioner McNeil-Smith, **SECONDED** by Commissioner DiBattista,
That the Peninsula Recreation Commission approve the revised Fees and Changes Policy.

CARRIED

6.2 Greater Victoria Leisure Involvement for Everyone (LIFE) Program Changes

K. Beck provided an overview of the report. Discussion ensued regarding:

- Low income cut off (LICO) guidelines.
- Including post-secondary students in the LIFE program. City of Victoria has not seen significant increase in costs or loss of revenue since adopting this change. Staff was directed to investigate the estimated financial impact of including post-secondary students in the LIFE program.
- "Budget neutral" means no cost to the recreation centre participating in the LIFE program.
- Other municipalities that have already adopted the proposed changes have not seen the change create barriers for other users.
- The Commission thanked staff for looking at opportunities to remove barriers to recreation.

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MOVED by Commissioner Murray, **SECONDED** by Commissioner DiBattista,
That the Peninsula Recreation Commission approve the proposed changes for the 2025 LIFE program intake.

MOVED by Commissioner Kreiser, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Frost,
That staff be directed to monitor the financial impact of including post-secondary students in the LIFE program for six months and report back to the Commission.

MOVED by Commissioner Murray, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Kreiser,
That the staff be directed to discuss with the intermunicipal group the potential implications post-secondary recreation policies have regionally and explore further advocacy for students.

6.3 Sub-Regional Recreation Needs Assessment Study

L. Brewster provided an overview of the report. Discussion ensued regarding:

- CAOs in each municipality would be on the steering committee and would direct any additional staff who needed to be involved.
- Clarifying that public/private and included/excluded are used interchangeably in the document when referring to recreation facilities.
- The importance of creating a baseline for any future growth or development by identifying what recreation opportunities are already being provided and by whom.
- Staff met with representatives from the Pickleball Association who were very happy to be included as interest holders.
- The Chair spoke with Tim Dunford of School District 63 who is very keen on breaking down barriers for this purpose.
- First Nations will be invited into steering committee but if they decline, they will be engaged as key interest holders.
- The timeline is a general guideline with the aim of completing the assessment study by the end of the year.

There is no recommendation. This report is for information only.

6.4 Maintenance Report - Verbal

M. Curtis reported on:

- Greenglade parking lot project – Repaving and repainting are complete. The bus parking has been moved closer to school to make it safer for the children to get to and from the bus; two temporary drop-off and pick-up spots will be added next to the accessible spots. A subgrade failure down the middle of the parking lot, which needed emergency repair, as well as a pothole between the curb and the property line led to the project being over budget by \$26,000. A budget amendment will be coming to the Commission at the April meeting.
- Pool shut down - April 2 to 18 this year, trialing a new time based on feedback from the program area including dead times and minimal impact to users. Main pool filter

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replacement, leisure pool underwater lights replacement, sauna doors, tile and grouting, deep cleaning of changerooms, etc. will be completed during this period.

- Centennial Park Multi-Sport Box project – CRD brought this project forward to the WSÁNEĆ Leadership Council on our behalf, and a cultural monitor will be onsite during excavation. The tender for the steel structure received one bid and has been awarded to JDG construction out of Vancouver. They are on target for budget, but the delivery date has not been set. The tender for the remaining work will be posted at the end of April. The grant transfer from the District of Central Saanich to the CRD has been approved; staff are waiting for legal paperwork to come through and be fully executed, at which point the construction agreement can be finalized.

6.5 Staffing Update – Verbal – See Item 4 Chair’s Remarks.

7. New Business:

7.1 Centennial Park Sport Box Flooring

Discussion ensued regarding:

- The Peninsula Lacrosse Association strongly prefers concrete over asphalt for the playing surface. Commissioner DiBattista requests getting an updated quote for the project with a concrete playing surface so that the cost benefit can be discussed.
- Lorraine reviewed the staff report brought to the commission in January 2023 where concrete and asphalt playing surfaces were discussed, with \$300,000 being the estimated additional cost for concrete.
- The Sport Box in Nanaimo has a concrete playing surface that is too slippery for both the Lacross and Pickleball groups. They are now looking at doing an acid wash on the surface at a cost of \$10K.
- Acrylic coating on top of the playing surface, whether asphalt or concrete, is desired because the court lines show up better on the acrylic coating, making the multi-sport box more accessible for people with visual impairments.
- The cost of acrylic on asphalt is about \$3.50 per square foot, or \$60K with a repaint cost of \$1.50 per square foot after 15 years. Acrylic on concrete costs an additional two dollars per square foot because the concrete surface must be prepped first.
- There is currently no written standard for a lacrosse or pickleball playing surface.
- Assuming the same company can do both, the tender going out next month could include an A and B component in the bid, one with concrete, one with asphalt.
- Failure to take weather into account was a factor at Nanaimo, compared to the outdoor facility in Delta, which has successfully managed the challenges of a concrete playing surface outdoors.
- Lifespan of asphalt is 20-25 years; 30-35 for concrete.
- The need to balance Peninsula Lacrosse as the primary user with multi-sport users, including Pickleball.
- The need to balance programming with available time for drop-in play.
- The need to explore all the options before moving forward: Is there a significant risk here on usability for other users? Is there funding support from any user groups?

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K. Beck left the meeting at 7:43 pm

- The grant funding was predicated on building a multi-sport facility.
- The Commission has set out to build a multi-sport box, not a new lacrosse box.
- Staff was directed to report back on cost, accessibility, user impact, design, weather and funding considerations.

MOVED by Commissioner Kreiser, **SECONDED** by Commissioner DiBattista,
That the staff be directed to proceed with tendering as scheduled but with both the
concrete and asphalt options for the playing surface, and report back.

CARRIED

8. Adjournment

MOVED by Commissioner Garnett, **SECONDED** by Commissioner McNeil-Smith,
That the meeting be adjourned at 7:51 pm.

CARRIED

CHAIR

RECORDER