

SPORTS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**Wednesday, November 8, 2023**

A Regular Meeting of the Sports and Recreation Advisory Committee convened on Wednesday, November 8, 2023 at 7:01 p.m. in the Council Committee Room, City Hall, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam, BC with the following persons present:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Councillor Dennis Marsden, Chair (arrived at 7:45 p.m.)
Councillor Matt Djonlic, Vice Chair
Yue-Ching Cheng, Citizen Representative
Dan Cooper, Citizen Representative
Stephen Lisik, Citizen Representative
Cameron McBryer, Citizen Representative
Isabel Silvestre, Citizen Representative
Cydney Smythies, Citizen Representative
Carl Trepanier, Citizen Representative
Andrea Mattinson, Coquitlam Sports Centre Users Association
Bruce Kennedy, Coquitlam Tennis Club

REGRETS: Erin Davidson, Citizen Representative
David Jones, Coquitlam Field Sports Association

GUESTS: John Casey, Executive Director, Tri-City Challenger Baseball

STAFF: Jody Addah, Manager Capital Construction
Saarah Arkoulis, Manager Facilities Capital Project Management
Kathleen Reinheimer, Manager Parks
Michael Fox, Community Recreation Manager – Aquatics
Doron Fishman, Park Planning and Design Manager
Raj Singh, Parks Planner 2
Caley Amundsen, Committee Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

Councillor Djonlic assumed the role of the Chair and provided an Indigenous territorial acknowledgment.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES**1. Minutes of the Sports and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, September 13, 2023**

The Minutes of the Sports and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, September 13, 2023 were approved.

NEW BUSINESS**2. Introduction to Community Recreation Groups – Tri-City Challenger Baseball**

John Casey, Executive Director, Tri-City Challenger Baseball, provided introductory comments that covered the following topics:

- Tri-City Challenger Baseball overview, including events, media coverage, venues, participant demographics and community partnerships
- Challenger baseball programs and leagues across BC

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Whether Tri-City Challenger Baseball partners with Special Olympics BC
- Accessibility challenges for participants using baseball diamonds and fields at Town Centre Park
- Desire for Tri-City Challenger Baseball to host tournaments/jamborees at BC Place stadium and concern regarding wheelchairs not being allowed on stadium turf
- Possibility of connecting Tri-City Challenger Baseball with other sports organizations to raise community awareness of Challenger Baseball programs

3. Capital Delivery Update

The Manager Capital Construction and Manager Parks provided a presentation entitled “Facilities and Parks Capital Construction – Project Updates” that covered the following topics:

- Overview, challenges, funding sources and timelines of City facilities and parks capital construction projects across Coquitlam in 2023
- Overview of 2024 park projects

Councillor Marsden arrived to the meeting at this time (7:45 p.m.).

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Desire for Mundy Park Lacrosse Box to be included in 2024 park projects
- Potential for pickleball courts and whether washrooms will be open to park users at Burke Mountain Park
- Lights in Coquitlam parks and measures to deter copper wire theft
- Park shade structures and their durability in terms of waterproofing
- Scott and Hoy Creeks’ walking bridges and whether every bridge will be replaced
- Spani Pool concession vendor, dive tank depth, potential for a new three-metre diving board and whether park users will be able to access the Pool’s

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washrooms

- Mariner Field and whether outdoor exercise equipment will return to the Field
- Desire for Mackin Park to have lighting at night
- Coquitlam Crunch extension timeline
- Desire for the City to install environmental and climate change education signage in Coquitlam parks
- Desire for unpaid social spaces at Town Centre Park Community Centre (TCPCC) and whether its meeting rooms will be accessible to sports user groups
- Positive community response to outdoor table tennis facilities
- Challenges of installing pickleball courts in neighbourhood parks

4. Fraser Mills Park Development Update

The Park Planning and Design Manager provided introductory comments relative to the Fraser Mills Park Development Update.

The Parks Planner 2 provided a presentation entitled “City of Coquitlam – Fraser Mills Park Development Update” that covered the following topics:

- Fraser Mills Park Development Project (hereon “the Project”) background, overview, community partnerships, public engagement opportunities and construction timeline

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Potential for the Project to include a bike trail to connect Colony Farm Park and New Westminister, fire pits, an open air amphitheatre and fishing along Fraser River, parking options, hosting festivals and events, accessible public greenspace and water taxi service to New Westminister
- Fraser Mills agreements between the City and developer, Beedie, to provide on-site amenities and subsidize transit service
- Fraser Mills condo tower height and placement
- Metro Vancouver’s Regional Greenways 2050 Plan and its impact on Fraser Mills
- Desire for City staff to work with Port of Vancouver to maintain view and public access to Fraser River shoreline

5. Priority Program Registration for Coquitlam Residents

The Community Recreation Manager – Aquatics provided a presentation entitled “Resident Priority Registration” that covered the City’s Resident Priority Registration Program (hereon “the Program”), including overview, timeline, challenges,

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registration provider and participant registration data.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Whether data exists comparing previous registration numbers to current registration numbers to measure the Program's success in terms of expanding resident access
- Barriers to accessing Coquitlam's recreation registration page despite the Program's recent implementation
- The City's Financial Assistance for Recreation (FAR) program and the residents it is designed to help
- Whether Coquitlam's recreation registration opening days coincide with other municipalities

6. 2023 Year-End Review/Identify Potential Items for Draft 2024 Work Plan

The Manager Parks and Community Recreation Manager – Aquatics provided introductory comments that covered the following topics:

- Review of 2023 Work Plan items and meetings
- 2024 Work Plan drafting process

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Desire for the draft 2024 Work Plan to include pickleball facilities, more parking and digital signage at Mundy Park, field hockey facilities, prioritizing the City's Sports Field Strategy, an updated Public Washroom Strategy, Eagle Mountain Park trail and road development, Coquitlam Sports Hall of Fame report, lit walking trails at night and an update on Widgeon Park
- Challenges of expanding parking at Mundy Park
- Whether park usage data exists and the possibility of shifting underutilized amenities to other locations in Coquitlam
- Timeline of the City's Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan (2017)
- The City's Sports Field Strategy and whether school fields are included in the Strategy
- How the Committee can help marginalized groups provide feedback on sports and recreation
- Challenges of encouraging youth to provide feedback on recreation, parks, culture and facilities
- Rationale for continued deferral of the 2005 Public Washroom Strategy and for its designation as a sub-category in the Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan (2017)
- The Committee's role in terms of making recommendations to Council
- Desire and appreciation for continued workshop-style discussions

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7. Committee Members' Roundtable / Emerging Issues

The Vice Chair invited Committee members to share information and emerging issues from the community.

The following topics and concerns were shared:

- Desire for Poirier Sport and Leisure Complex (PSLC) Arena 1 to be named after Les Wingrove and the City's naming policy to be reviewed
- Desire for more lighting at Town Centre Park pathways and parking lots
- Desire for the City to consider multi-level recreational facilities and Parks staff to be recognized for achievements
- Concern regarding large rocks and debris left on roads near Burke Mountain Park construction site
- The Coquitlam Sports Hall of Fame's Walk of Fame, including possible expansion to other City facilities and the desire for interactive legacy information signage to be installed at City fields and facilities
- Possibility of City purchasing the former Bed, Bath and Beyond building at 1175 Woolridge Street for conversion into a sports facility
- Possibility of combining Communities in Bloom Festival with the City's annual Sports Fair

OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING DATE – TBD (2024)

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Matt Djonlic, Vice Chair

Caley Amundsen, Committee Clerk