A Regular Meeting of the Recreation, Sports and Culture Standing Committee convened on Monday, April 27, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam, B.C. with the following persons present:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Councillor Doug Macdonell, Chair  
Councillor Barrie Lynch, Vice-Chair (arrived at 5:05 p.m.)  
Councillor Brent Asmundson  

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Richard Stewart (arrived at 5:13 p.m.)  
Councillor Linda Reimer  
Councillor Selina Robinson  
Councillor Lou Sekora (arrived at 5:56 p.m.)  

STAFF:  
John DuMont, Deputy City Manager  
Tony Delmonico, Fire Chief  
Trevor Wingrove, General Manager Corporate Services  
Ken Wright, Acting General Manager Strategic Initiatives  
Joyce Fordyce, Manager Leisure Services  
Mike Nihls, Manager Parks & Open Space Services  
Marilyn Jollimore, Manager Leisure and Parks Services Planning  
Wendy Wiederick, Community Area Manager Leisure Services  
Dave Palidwor, Parks Plan, Design and Construction Manager  
Jason Blood, Leisure Complex Manager East  
Kathleen Reinheimer, Urban Park Operations Manager  
Brian Mclennan, Field Area Coordinator  
Mike Por, Park Supervisor Landscape  
Geoff Mallory, Supervisor Parks Sports and Infrastructure  
Heather Bradfield, Assistant City Solicitor  
Jay Gilbert, City Clerk  
Karen Wanders, Committee Clerk  

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

1. Minutes of the Recreation, Sports and Culture Standing Committee meeting held Monday, March 23, 2009  

The Committee approved the Minutes of the Recreation, Sports and Culture Standing Committee meeting held Monday, March 23, 2009.
BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

REPORTS OF STAFF

2. Report of Manager Parks and Open Space Services – Off-Leash Areas

The Deputy City Manager introduced Mr. Don Cunnings, the City's former Leisure and Parks Services Director, and stated that Mr. Cunnings was engaged to provide a third party opinion with respect to dog off-leash areas.

Councillor Lynch arrived at the meeting at this time (5:05 p.m.).

Mr. Cunnings provided an on-screen presentation pertaining to dog off-leash areas and highlighted the following:

- Distribution of Coquitlam Dog Licenses
- Recommendation #1 – Mundy Park (Hydro Right-of-Way)
  - under utilization of the land
  - site holds immense opportunities to meet the dog off-leash needs
  - implement innovative ways to ensure esthetically pleasing fencing to dog owners and users (i.e. ‘Ha-Ha’ Fence)
- Recommendation #3 – Miller Park
  - no reasonable walk alternative for dog owners residing in the area other than Miller Park
- The fact that Brookmere Park is not deemed a suitable alternative site to Miller park due to limited size and surrounding environmental habitat
- Urge the support of the “Majority Rule” principle
- Final recommendation - a three phased consultation process
  - Phase One – Southwest Coquitlam
  - Phase Two – City Centre Area
  - Phase Three – Northeast Coquitlam

Discussion ensued relative to the difficulty in addressing the needs of all those involved and the importance of holding the public consultation process.

Mayor Stewart arrived at this time (5:13 p.m.).
The Committee Recommends:

**COUNCIL ACTION**

That:

1. The site identified at Mundy Park (Hydro Right-of-Way) be recognized in 2009 as the primary, drive-to, fenced-off-leash park;
2. The Capital Budget allocated in 2009 for Miller Park be reallocated to design and develop Mundy Park (Hydro Right-of-Way);
3. Whereas no reasonable walk-to alternative site to Miller Park’s former fenced, off-leash area exists, Miller Park be retained as a neighbourhood, unfenced, off-leash area within the existing Park during daylight hours as it has been since 2002; and
4. Council endorse the phased public consultation process as outlined in section 15.0 of the report dated April 17, 2009 of the Manager Parks and Open Space Services entitled “Off-Leash Areas.”

3. **Verbal Report on the Thermonex System - Introduction by Ken Wright, Acting General Manager Strategic Initiatives and Presentation by Ian Hall, President & Principal, IMEC and Jeff Weston, Design Engineer & Partner, IMEC**

The Acting General Manager Strategic Initiatives provided introductory comments relative to the Thermonex System and stated that the innovative Thermonex System implemented at the Poirier Complex will help to reduce energy consumption and energy costs. He stated that presently the Poirier Library is being heated by surplus heat from the Aquatic Centre.

The Acting General Manager Strategic Initiatives introduced Mr. Ian Hall, President & Principal, IMEC and Jeff Weston, Design Engineer & Partner, IMEC.

Mr. Weston provided an overview of how the Thermonex System transfers heat and acts as an energy hub, greatly reducing the amount of energy used and the emission of greenhouse gases.

Discussion ensued relative to the amount of heat savings (approximately 40%) and the reduction in green house gases (more than 80%).
4. **Report of Acting General Manager Strategic Initiatives - Coquitlam Sport Centre Renewal Project, Value Engineering**

Discussion ensued relative to the additional office space to accommodate existing staff in the Poirier West building and the poor condition of the Poirier West Building.

The Committee agreed to divide the recommendation.

The Committee Recommends:

**COUNCIL ACTION**

That Council defer consideration of additional office space being provided in the main Arena building to accommodate existing staff presently resident in the Poirier West building at an estimated cost of $1,250,000 pending the receipt of additional information relating to the life span of the Poirier West building, maintenance costs and the cost to upgrade the building.

The Committee Recommends:

**COUNCIL ACTION**

That the Thermonex system for district heating and cooling of the Library, Ice Facilities, and Aquatic Centre be confirmed.

5. **Report of Acting General Manager Strategic Initiatives - Major Facilities Construction Progress Update**

The Acting General Manager Strategic Initiatives clarified that the construction of the Centennial Room upgrade is scheduled to be complete by August 15, 2009, not May 31, 2009, as noted on page 3 of the report.

The Committee received the report dated April 21, 2009 of the Acting General Manager Strategic Initiatives entitled “Major Facilities Construction Progress Update” for information.


The Committee agreed to amend the budget for the Sports Centre Renewal Project from $58.935M to $57.685M in order to reflect the recommended deferral of the $1,250,000 cost associated with the additional office space in the Poirier West building as noted under Item 4 of the Report of the Acting General Manager Strategic Initiatives entitled “Coquitlam Sport Centre Renewal Project, Value Engineering”.
The Committee Recommends:

COUNCIL ACTION

That the budget for the Sports Centre Renewal project be amended to $57.685M from $62.435M to reflect the most recent construction cost review and projected costing.

7. Report of Manager Parks and Open Space Services – Advertising Signage in City Parks, Buildings and Facilities

The Committee received the report dated April 9, 2009 of the Manager Parks and Open Space Services entitled “Advertising Signage in City Parks, Buildings and Facilities” for information.

8. Report of Manager Leisure Services – Affordable Recreation Program

The Community Area Manager Leisure Services provided an on-screen presentation relating to the Affordable Recreation Program and highlighted the following:

- City demographic snapshot – 2006 census
- Programs related to strategic goal #3
- Community Active Participation (CAP) Card Program - applicants by location
- Current snapshot of CAP Card Program
- Listening and responding to feedback relating to the CAP Card Program
- Low and no cost programming – successful “Season on a Shoestring” and “Try-It” opportunities
- Listening and responding to feedback relating to the cost of programs
- Participation in drop-in activities
- Participation in registered activities
- Physical activity locations
- Reduction of outdoor pool general admission
- Unlimited summer usage pass – for Coquitlam residents only
- Reduction in outdoor swim lesson fees – for Coquitlam residents only
- Strategies to address barriers to participation

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Advertising the revised rates
- Communicating the programs to those with language barriers
- Ensuring that the City is reaching those individuals it wants to reach
- Working with the School District to communicate City leisure programs to the students

Staff was requested to report back in the fall on the accomplishments of the Community Active Participation Card Program.
Councillor Sekora arrived at this time (5:56 p.m.).

The Committee received the report dated April 16, 2009 of the Manager Leisure Services entitled “Affordable Recreation Program” for information.


The Committee received the report dated April 16, 2009 of the Manager Leisure Services entitled “Spring Outdoor Sports Services Report” for information.

The Committee received a presentation from the Parks Supervisor of Sports and Infrastructure on snow mold mitigation and field operations which highlighted the following:

- Extensive snowfall and extended periods of snow cover experienced this season
- Providing fields for play through various snow removal methods
- The fact that cooler spring temperatures made perfect conditions for snow mold
- Snow mold damage – pink and grey snow mold at Eagle Mountain
- Snow mold remediation – intensive renovation program (verticut, vacuum, aerate, over-seed)
- Spring field changeover
- Town Centre Park – flagship park, destination tournament facility, a family destination, a collaborative team, enhanced customer service
- Town Centre Tournament Site Usage – fields are at 85% allocation

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The types of grass that are more resistant to the different types of mold
- The change in the grass fertilization regiment
- The number of fields that are used in conjunction with the School District and sharing the field maintenance cost
- The City-Wide Youth Committee event “The Amazing Race” taking place on May 1, 2009

The Manager Parks & Open Space Services stated that the fencing changes and parking lot will be completed prior to May 30, 2009.

10. Report of General Manager Corporate Services – Coquitlam Athletic Commission

The Committee agreed to recommend the appointment of Councillor Doug Macdonell as the additional Council Commissioner for the Coquitlam Athletic Commission and staff recommendation (c) was amended accordingly.
In relation to recommendation (d) staff was requested to solicit one representative from the Coquitlam Field Sports Association and one representative from the Ice & Dry Floor Users Group and report back to the Committee.

The Committee Recommends:

**COUNCIL ACTION**

That Council:

(a) Approve the continued operation of the Coquitlam Athletic Commission;
(b) Re-appoint Councillor Brent Asmundson as Council's representative on the Coquitlam Athletic Commission;
(c) Appoint Councillor Doug Macdonell as a Council Commissioner for the Coquitlam Athletic Commission;
(d) Authorize staff to solicit interest from community sports user groups representatives – with the intention of increasing the Commission from three members to five - and to return to Council at a later date with recommendations for Commission appointments.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEE**

11. Minutes of Coquitlam Spirit of BC Community Committee meeting held Wednesday, March 11, 2009

The Committee received the minutes of the Coquitlam Spirit of BC Community Committee meeting held Wednesday, March 11, 2009.

12. Minutes of Multiculturalism Advisory Committee meeting held Tuesday, March 17, 2009

The Committee received the minutes of the Multiculturalism Advisory Committee meeting held Tuesday, March 17, 2009.

12.6 Review of 2009 Committee Work Plan Items

The Committee Recommends:

**COUNCIL ACTION**

That Council approve the 2009 Multiculturalism Advisory Committee Work Plan as follows:
- Local Government Orientation Program – provide input on the type of information that is needed from the City
• Community Resource Guide – provide input
• Support for the Bhutanese Refugees – receive information and provide input
• CitySoup website – content review
• Customer Service Initiatives:
  o Advise on how City Hall and City facilities can become more welcoming
  o Advise on how the City best meet the needs of new immigrants and other cultures
• Employment Opportunities
  o Overview of jobs that are available at the City
  o What are some of the barriers that are preventing newcomers from seeking employment or becoming employed by the City
• Multicultural Strategic Plan – provide input at key milestones in the process
• Other Issues as they arise
• 2009 Committee Review and Feedback

13. Minutes of Disability Issues Advisory Committee meeting held Wednesday, March 18, 2009

The Committee received the minutes of the Disability Issues Advisory Committee meeting held Wednesday, March 18, 2009.

13.3 Review of 2009 Committee Work Plan Items

The Committee Recommends:

COUNCIL ACTION

That Council approve the 2009 Disability Issues Advisory Committee Work Plan as follows:
• Provide input into the 2009 Accessibility Awards and review process and policy for future accessibility recognition
• Evergreen Line – station design / accessibility to SkyTrain facilities
• Annual Audible Pedestrian Signal Review
• Sidewalk Program Prioritization
• Adaptable Housing Brochure
• Addressing social, systemic and attitudinal barriers to disabilities, including “hidden” disabilities – what is the City’s role
• SPARC BC Parking Permit Program – survey other jurisdictions regarding their experiences with the SPARC program and enforcement measures and review possible enforcement options for the parking permit program
• Continue to monitor the wheelchair accessible taxi service and HandyDART
13.5 2009 Accessibility Awards

The Committee Recommends:

COUNCIL ACTION

That Council encourage Accessibility Awards nominations and endorse a change in format to celebrate the successes of all nominees instead of having category winners and runner-up Honourable Mentions.

14. Minutes of Coquitlam Olympic Torch Relay Task Force meeting held Friday, April 3, 2009

The Committee received the minutes of the Coquitlam Olympic Torch Relay Task Force meeting held Friday, April 3, 2009.

15. Minutes of Coquitlam Spirit of BC Community Committee meeting held Wednesday, April 8, 2009

The Committee received the minutes of the Coquitlam Spirit of BC Community Committee meeting held Wednesday, April 8, 2009.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

NEXT MEETING DATE – MAY 11, 2009
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT

_____________________________ CHAIR

Karen Wanders
Committee Clerk