



**The Corporation of The Town of Cobourg  
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee  
Special Meeting  
MINUTES**

**March 9, 2021, 1:00 p.m.  
Electronic Participation**

Members Present: Emily Chorley  
Beth Bellaire, Chair  
Dora Body  
Miriam Mutton  
Richard Pope  
Trish Whitney

Staff Present: Jodi Ware-Simpson  
Teresa Behan, Deputy Director, Community Services

Absent: James McGrath

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 1:03pm.

**2. TRADITIONAL LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Chair, Beth Bellaire, recited the Traditional Land Acknowledgement statement.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**

There were no declarations of interest declared by the members.

**4. REPORTS**

**4.1 West Headland as A Natural Environment Motion**

## Motion

Moved by Member Mutton

**Whereas** the Town of Cobourg's Strategic Plan, Strategic Action #7 under the Subsection on Places, states: "...the natural environment of the West Harbour will be safeguarded and Protected;"

And, the Staff Report from the Director of Community Services, submitted to Council at the March 9, 2020 Committee of the Whole meeting identified the West Headland as a Landmark Park (under the name Marina Park);

And, according to the Parks Master Plan a Landmark Park "should enhance tourism and economic development" and "accommodate increased commercial use" (PMP 2013, p. 33) with a primary function as support for "tourism, festivals and large gatherings" (PMP 2013 p. 27);

And, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee believes this categorization does not provide adequate protection for the natural environment of the West Harbour and an important waterfront ecosystem and public space for passive recreation;

**Therefore**, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee recommends that Council strengthen the environmental protection of the West Headland by designating it as a Nature Park under Schedule A of the Parks Use By-Law, and defined as "parks that are predominantly natural in character and exhibit landscape/environmental characteristics common to Cobourg or the surrounding area. The focus of these parks is conservation, nature appreciation, and interpretation. They provide a nature-based experience and environmentally compatible passive recreation activities."

**Further**, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee recommends that Council consider developing related policy regulations for the West Headland as a Natural Environment component of harbour infrastructure with respect to the *Lake Ontario Shoreline Management Plan* (Zuzek Inc., November 5, 2020), the overarching principle of which is the promotion of "sustainable coastal development in the future through integrated coastal zone management." Key objectives include increasing the resilience of

coastal communities, incorporating nature-based solutions to reduce coastal hazards where possible, and, protecting and enhancing existing public amenities along the coast (Zuzek Inc, page 3).

CARRIED

#### **4.2 Keith Oliver Comments - Future Operation of Cobourg Beach**

THAT the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee receive the correspondence for information purposes.

CARRIED

#### **4.3 Beach Survey Results - Public Engagement Report**

The Deputy Director reviewed the highlights of the survey.

The committee discussed parking at Donegan Park

**ACTION:** The Deputy Director will obtain the Donegan Park usage from 2019.

The Committee agreed to focus on the following items:

- Practical Recommendations
- Access
- Rules for By-Law
- Investment/Tourism
- Parking
- Legal Restrictions

At the next meeting, April 6, the Committee will look at:

- Rules for By-Law
- Parking

**ACTION:** These two items will be added to the April 6 agenda.

**ACTION:** The Parking By-Law and the Events Application will be sent to the Committee.

### **5. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Member Body THAT the meeting be adjourned at 2:45pm.