



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

**April 6, 2021, 1:00 p.m.  
Electronic Participation**

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

Members Absent: James McGrath

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

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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. APPROVAL/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Moved by Member Whitney THAT the agenda dated April 6, 2021 be approved as presented/amended.

CARRIED

**4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**

**4.1 Dora Body - Brookside Property Potential Uses**

Member Body declared pecuniary interest as her property backs on to the Brookside property.

5. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Moved by Member Pope THAT the minutes dated March 2, 2021 be adopted as presented/amended.

March 9 Special Meeting - Moved by Member Whitney THAT the minutes dated March 9, 2021 be adopted as presented/amended.

CARRIED

6. **DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

6.1 **By-Law Fines - Brent Larmer**

Brent Larmer, Municipal Clerk, reviewed the Bylaw fines and procedures.

Renee Champagne, Administrator Engineering and Public Transit, joined the discussion to answer questions related to parking and explained to the Committee the rates for parking, parking lots and information about parking passes.

7. **COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE**

7.1 **Parking Pass - Waterfront**

The Committee discussed the idea of waterfront parking passes for local residents.

8. **REPORTS**

8.1 **Brookside Property Potential Uses**

Dora Body declared a conflict on this item. (Member Body declared pecuniary interest as her property backs on to the Brookside property).

The Committee passed the following motion:

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee strongly recommends **THAT** Council seriously consider making an attempt to acquire the Brookside property as a community benefit.

CARRIED

8.2 **Beach Use Survey**

The Committee discussed the results from the beach use survey concentrating on bylaws and parking. The following suggestions were made:

- Increase signage and include icons for the bylaws
- Increase bylaw enforcement officers during busier times
- Explore new limits to put on activities at the West Beach increase signage, including asking people to stay on paths
- Improve the drop off locations with signage and add additional locations
- Increase all charges in the parks bylaw and the parking bylaw
- Tow illegally parked cars
- Have a “beach” page on the Town of Cobourg web site, with maps for parking and other information
- Install water filling stations
- Council to review events, i.e. ones that take up the whole park and / or a large portion of the beach
- Review options to have “shoulder” season on beach
- If the beach is over populated, is there a way to close it to more people?

### Parking

- Increase the per hour rate for parking along the waterfront, however, the committee is concerned that this will push people into the downtown for cheaper parking
- Provide some designated Cobourg resident parking around the waterfront
- Sell resident parking passes at a one-time amount for parking around the waterfront from May long weekend until Thanksgiving weekend (suggested rate is \$ 50.00 per pass)
- Consider installing parking meters on the side streets
- Encourage parking at Donegan Park with signage

### Parks Bylaw

- A clear explanation of the types of tents that are allowed on beach

**ACTION:** The Deputy Director will work on a report to council concentrating on parking and bylaws. She will bring it to the committee for review in May.

### **8.3 Natural Heritage Stewardship Plan for the West Beach - Outline and Costing**

Reviewed the Proposal for a Natural Heritage Stewardship Plan, Boardwalk Replacement from Ontario Street to Hibernia Street from Beacon Environmental.

Councillor Chorley advised that Council will be making the final decision on the PRAC motion regarding the designation of the West Headland tonight. (Approved - See wording under Item 11 Council Motions).

## **9. NEW BUSINESS**

Native Plant Sales - Member Whitney advised that the native plant sale was very successful. The plants will be arriving May 15. It will be held again next year.

Cutting the Willows – The Deputy Director advised that an email regarding this issue was sent to Council. As she reported, it is our responsibility as town employees to make safety a priority. We have to make a safe walkway for the Dragon Boat and Canoe Clubs so the kids won't be walking through the parking lot.

## **10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Waterfront Safety Manual

Trash to Treasures - Spring 2022

Adult Fitness Park - Extended to March 2022

**Action:** Add to the June Agenda

Legal Opinion Prior to Further Attempts to Regulate On-Water Activities - Deferred until a new legal opinion is obtained. Brent Larmer, Legislative Clerk, is working on this.

## **11. COUNCIL MOTIONS**

Regular Council - April 6, 2021

Moved by Councillor Chorley

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Seguin

WHEREAS at the Committee of the Whole Meeting on March 29, 2021, Council considered a Memo from the Secretary, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee, regarding West Headland as a Natural Environment;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the designation of the West Headland be changed from 'Landmark Park' to 'Nature Park' in the Parks Use By-Law;

AND FURTHER THAT the Town's stewardship of its nature parks be explored through the Committee.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:28pm

**13. NEXT MEETING**

May 4, 2021