



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

**May 4, 2021
1:00 p.m.
Electronic Participation**

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

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:04pm.

2. TRADITIONAL LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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

3. APPROVAL/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Moved by Member Body THAT the agenda dated May 4, 2021 be approved as presented/amended.

CARRIED

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

None

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by Member Mutton THAT the minutes dated April 6, 2021 be adopted as presented/amended.

CARRIED

6. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

None

7. COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

None

8. REPORTS

8.1 Legal Decision on Harbour and Riparian Rights

Moved by Member McGrath that the Legal Decision on Harbour and Riparian Rights be received for information purposes.

CARRIED

8.2 Draft Harbour Safety Manual - Teresa Behan, Deputy Director

The Deputy Director met with the group last Wednesday. She will add a complete list of participants to the Report to Council.

Member Mutton asked if the word "safe" should be changed to safer.

Action: The Deputy Director will review and make changes if necessary.

E-Coli will be tested as part of the dredging project and will continue throughout the summer

Moved by Member Pope THAT the Waterfront Safety Manual be accepted by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee.

CARRIED

8.3 West Beach - West Headland Natural Heritage Stewardship Plan

Member Body asked if the Ecology Garden would be part of the stewardship plan. The Deputy Director thinks it is but she will get confirmation.

In September the Committee will make a motion to combine the West Beach and West Headland.

Member Pope moved THAT the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee accept the Proposal for a Natural Heritage Stewardship Plan, Boardwalk Replacement from Beacon Environmental.

CARRIED

8.4 Beach Options for the Summer

The Deputy Director reviewed the Report to Council for May 31. The three options are:

1. That Council direct staff to implement the closure of Cobourg Beach until Friday September 11, 2021 inclusive and install metal fencing, barriers with emergency access points as necessary and continue with increased enforcement at the Cobourg Beach to ensure residents and visitors are complying with Provincial Orders and complying with Physical Distancing Guidelines as set out by Federal, Provincial and Public Health Units.

Or

2. That Council direct staff to open Victoria Beach, Monday to Friday inclusive and closed on weekends, and that this proposal run from Monday June 21 until Friday September 3, 2021 and that staff install metal fencing, barriers with emergency access points as necessary and continue with increased enforcement at the Cobourg Beach to ensure residents and visitors are complying with Provincial Orders and complying with Physical Distancing Guidelines as set out by Federal, Provincial and Public Health Units and that staff be hired to provide active screening and ensuring posted beach occupancy is adhered to and that bylaw and the police be delegated as authority to close the beach for the day if overcrowding happens and that the beach be considered to be a passive area with no rentals or events.

Or

3. That Council direct staff to keep Victoria Beach open, not fenced and continue with increased enforcement at the Cobourg Beach to ensure residents and visitors are complying with Provincial Orders and complying

with Physical Distancing Guidelines as set out by Federal, Provincial and Public Health Units and that bylaw and the police be delegated as authority to close the beach for the day if overcrowding exist.

The Committee agreed that it is best to let Council make the decision.

8.5 Beach Management Recommendations (other than by-laws and parking)

The Committee discussed the following:

1. Adding garbage bins and moving them behind lifeguard stands.
2. Adding additional change rooms and washroom facilities.
3. Changing parking meters to parking machines (Pay & Display)
4. Businesses operating from the beach - The Deputy Director advised that we have a staff report going to council on May 10 regarding Pop-Up Restaurants at the beach. The two proposed locations are the grassy area in front of the Marina and the concrete pad in Victoria Park.
5. Clear explanation of what tents are allowed with pictures.

The Committee suggested forming a waterfront management internal working group. Final discussion of a possible motion to Council will take place at the meeting in June.

ACTION: Item will be added to the June agenda.

8.6 Beach Use Recommendations Memo - Teresa Behan, Deputy Director

The Deputy Director is working on a report to Council. She will add additional items suggested today and circulate to the Committee.

Councillor Chorley has a chart that she will forward to the Deputy Director and bring it to the meeting in June.

8.7 Ad-Hoc Committee - Potential Affordable Housing Sites

The Director of Planning sent a motion to Council to continue with the review of municipally-owned properties for the purpose of potentially disposing of and/or using such lands to facilitate the creation of affordable housing by establishing an internal ad-hoc working group. The group will

provide a recommended shortlist and implementation plan to Council by September 13, 2021. It would include one member from Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee.

Member Mutton volunteered to represent PRAC on the working group.

ACTION: The Secretary will advise the Director of Planning.

ACTION: An item will be added to the agenda for Member Mutton to update the Committee.

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

10. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Trash to Treasures - Spring 2022

The Art Gallery of Northumberland will be starting a program called This Art is Garbage. The AGN Youth Council will be painting 25 metal garbage cans.

Adult Fitness Park - Extended to March 2022

Action: Add the Adult Fitness Park to the June Agenda

11. **COUNCIL MOTIONS**

Brookside Property - Councillor Chorley will contact Mayor Henderson to ask if he would be willing to have a meeting with her, Member McGrath and the Chair.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:08pm.

13. **NEXT MEETING**

June 1, 2021