

Parks and Natural Environment Advisory Committee

7pm November 22, 2023

1730 Crown Street – DNV operations centre

Minutes

Present: Katrina Labue, Vice-Chair
Alasdair Douglas
Amy Tsang
David Wilson
Thomas Benett
Maria Villarroel
Steffanie Warriner
Adam Vasilevich
Nicole Foth

Absent: Councillor Muri
Johanna Moretto
Karin Pottery, Chair

The meeting was called to order at 7:04pm

1. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Dave

Seconded by Katrina

THAT the November 22, 2023 agenda is approved.

CARRIED

2. Adoption of Minutes

2.1. September 27, 2023 Parks and Natural Environment Advisory Committee meeting

Moved by Alasdair

Seconded by Amy

THAT the minutes of the September 27, 2023 Parks and Natural Environment Advisory Committee are adopted.

CARRIED

3. Recycling in Parks

Presentation was made by staff about study and analysis of recycling pilot and waste audit in Panorama, Deep Cove and Whey-ah-Wichen/Cates parks in summer of 2023.

Feedback was received from PNEAC ;

- *Organics would be a good way to expand from dog waste, recyclables.*
- *Expand to other parks in future is desired.*
- *Signage must be clear, and education is needed for success*
- *Order of bins is critical too and accessibility of bins.*
- *Make it the right container for site and access.*
- *Support for expanding and improving opportunities for recycling in parks.*

3.1. Natural Areas Trails Strategy

Presentation by staff on the draft of the Natural Areas Trails Strategy. First presented to PNEAC in 2022, there has been 2 rounds of public input and PNEAC feedback. The feedback has been

incorporated into draft. The draft was sent out to PNEAC prior to the meeting for review. Looking for feedback as will present to Council as next step.

Feedback from PNEAC ;

- *All agreed the strategy is comprehensive and staff have done a good job in balancing and addressing all concerns and opportunities.*
- *Discussion ensued on:*
 - *Benefits and trends information is important and could be emphasized at beginning of plan.*
 - *Incorporate Appendix B info into Goals section.*
 - *Support amenities (waste, parking, etc) are important; more waste receptacles are needed in natural areas.*
 - *Information and education on trail safety and etiquette is important.*
 - *Emphasis on shared stewardship is important including creating more opportunities for involvement.*
- *Discussion ensued on balancing level of detail in the plan to ensure the document is useful for staff to operationalise and for the community at large to understand the goals and priorities; general consensus that this balance has been well struck.*

Moved by Katrina

Seconded by Alasdair

THAT the Parks and Natural Environment Advisory Committee support the draft Natural Areas Trails Strategy

CARRIED

4. Review of 2023 DNV parks and PNEAC work and 2024 review of draft work plan

- Parks staff provided list of upcoming work priorities for 2024.
- Discussion ensued with interest by PNEAC to provide input to the following in 2024: NVRCC indoor/outdoor rec + sport facility plan; Sports court strategy; WAW/Cates Park shoreline restoration; Nature + biodiversity plan (next phase); People, Dogs, and Parks plan (next phase); pay parking in parks; Natural Areas Trails Strategy Implementation/Next Steps; Forest Resiliency Implementation Next Steps
- Many of these plans PNEAC has reviewed in 2023 and the next phase of these plan/projects will advance in 2024.
- Parks staff also shared examples of upcoming parks master planning projects that will advance in 2024 pending Council budget approval.
- Parks staff committed to develop a draft work plan with the ideas discussed for review and adoption by the new committee at the first meeting in 2024.

5. Other Business

It was noted that this was the last meeting for a number of members as they have reached the limit of the committee term. Staff thanked Dave and Alasdair for their time and feedback over the years and contribution to PNEAC.

Discussion ensued and feedback was offered to staff that PNEAC was very well run this year and members expressed appreciation for the opportunity for more in-depth discussion and opportunity for engagement at every meeting.

PNEAC recognized lots of work was accomplished by Parks staff in 2023, appreciated the opportunity to provide input and all look forward to the topics identified for 2024.

Staff shared that recruitment is underway for new membership and encouraged members to reach out to their networks and encourage potential candidates to apply.

6. Next meeting: TBD

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9pm