

**Parks Master Plan
Steering Committee Meeting # 12
Parks Training Room
October 9, 2007 7 - 9 pm**

Present: Hal Gibbard, Dennis, Larry Hutchings, Dennis, Katia Gauvin,
Bryan Melnyk,
Staff: Gary Darrah, Alison Meyer
Regrets: Helen Tremaire, Councilor Madoff
Public: Cornelia Lange

1.) Cornelia gave an update on the Parks 4 Us:

Children and Youth Forum:

- People liked the event
- Good turn out from younger age groups – but harder to attract older age groups
- The youth random survey covers off youth
- The morning was, dedicated to the children and the afternoon focused on the panel of experts: Some of the recommendations include:
 - Lack of spaces for wheeled activities
 - Older children are not using parks as much – they need more adventurous activities
 - Need to feel safe
- Cornelia will provide a full report. Draft recommendations were provided to the Committee in a separate document
- Had discussion re: how do we create adventurous spaces, but manage the City's risks.
- Question: What do kids need more of / less of?

2.) The Committee reviewed the draft of the principles and revisions that had been made since the spring.

3.) Recommendations:

- Develop more washrooms
 - Usual means
 - Try to get a compost demo
 - Pay as you go
- Improve park infrastructure/amenities (quiet areas, trails, local neighborhood parks, natural parks and urban forests, access to water and beaches, trails and pathways, greenways and boulevards)
 - Integrate with other planning processes
 - Outline priorities
- Based on updated inventory, where we are deficient develop goals recommendations/strategies to address deficiencies

- In developing standards consider neighboring municipalities
- Work in partnership with cultural organizations and schools, so they can't sell without offering it to the City
 - Lobby school board to encourage gift of land since it is public
- Educate public about parks
 - Incorporate inventory and description in PMP
 - Website
 - New map in Leisure guide
 - Develop brochure and map
 - Develop "friends of"
 - Special events
- Develop park areas for Seniors or anyone with mobility issues (E.g. Seniors Wellness Park in Richmond)
 - Partnerships/donations
 - Capital projects
 - Integrate with other activities
- Construct, upgrade and enhance public pathways within parks
 1. Complete Inventory
 2. Set priorities based on user needs (e.g. seniors, schools)
- Natural Areas Management
 - Biophysical inventory

4.) Parking Lot

- Do we need a new classification system for parks?
- Prioritize upgrading of parks and what amenities we focus on.
- Determine Parks Std.

5.) The Committee agreed to review the consultation materials related to the neighborhoods and to formulate goals and strategies. (E.g. what needs to be done and how is it going to be accomplished.) The following Committee members will review the material for each neighborhood.

Burnside / Gorge – Katia

Hillside / Quadra

Downtown – Dennis

Fairfield / Gonzales – Hal

Fernwood – Larry

Harris Green – Dennis

North Park – Dennis

Oaklands – Larry

Rockland

South / N. Jubilee – Larry

Victoria West – Bryan

James Bay – Helen

6.) The next meetings will be on:

- Tuesday November 6, 2007
- Tuesday November 29, 2007
- Tuesday December 4, 2007