

**Parks Master Plan
Steering Committee Meeting # 15
Parks Training Room
November 6, 2007 7 - 9 pm**

Present: Hal Gibbard, Dennis Seed, Helen Tremaine, Larry Hutchings,
Katia Gauvin, Councilor Madoff
Bryan Melnyk,
Staff: Alison Meyer, Deirdre Peters
Public: Cornelia Lange

**1.) Cornelia gave an update on the Parks 4 Us:
Children and Youth Forum draft report**

- Both the children and the specialist had several issues that they identified as being important
- Missing the age group of 9 years old and up
- Draft includes pictures, data collection taken in the parks and newspaper articles
- Draft report includes a guiding principle:
“As key users of the City parks system, representing the future of our communities, children and youth should have every opportunity to contribute to the planning, design and implementation of the parks planning, today and in the future.”
- Need to keep checking in with youth
- Possibility to connect with youths is through the Community Centres
- Need to have a variety of activities within parks to appeal to a wide range of age groups
- Concept of a park leader
- Organized activities
- Get Seniors involved...parks wardens/matrons
- Build for portability.....meet needs of changing demographics
- Acknowledge First Nations People...significance of Coastal Salish culture in ways which are meaningful “Coastal Salish’s sense of pride and cultural association with the landscape
- Leave the door open for future consultation with Coast Salish people
- Alison stated that pictures from the forum will be posted to the City’s website

**2.) Review Draft Plan:
Natural Areas**

- Protect natural areas that already exist
- Designation for natural areas ie: like heritage buildings
- Develop and apply standards specific to natural areas (bmps)

- Plan should articulate that natural areas are as important as other areas
- Naturalize street curbs where possible

Boulevards:

- Planting boulevards, should include native species to create corridors for insects, bird, etc

Children and Youth

- Will incorporate recommendations from report from Parks 4 Us forum
- Strategies to be discussed between Alison and Cornelia

Programming in Parks

- Issues: needs more activities to lead to more use
- Goals to meet the need of specific age groups
- Define 'programming': organized, informal, recreational, informational & educational, cultural, interpretive
- Advertise activities that are happening within the parks
- City sponsored or sanctioned programs
- Encourage people/communities to use the parks
- Encourage/seek out volunteers
- Incorporate physical activity in parks
- Promote safety within parks

Views

- Develop compatible zoning adjacent to parkland to protect views: i.e. height of primary and accessory buildings, fences and landscape features
- Perhaps distinguish some parks as 'view' parks including but not limited to: Summit Park, Moss Rock Park and Gonzales Hill
- Explore the idea of buffer area or transition zones around parks
- Avoid 'in fill' or small lot subdivision
- Establish policy initiatives to ensure view (not just water) from within the park are maintained
- Parks staff to review development applications and impact on 'park views'

3.) The Next meeting will be on:

- Tuesday November 20, 2007