METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT
REGIONAL PARKS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Metro Vancouver Regional District (MVRD) Regional Parks Committee held at 9:01 a.m. on Wednesday, April 1, 2020 in the 28th Floor Committee Room, 4730 Kingsway, Burnaby, British Columbia.

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Chair, Mayor John McEwen, Anmore
Vice Chair, Councillor Michael Wiebe, Vancouver*
Mayor Neil Belenkie, Belcarra*
Councillor Pietro Calendino, Burnaby*
Councillor Diana Dilworth, Port Moody*
Councillor Laurie Guerra, Surrey*
Mayor George Harvie, Delta*
Councillor Craig Hodge, Coquitlam*
Councillor Tracy Miyashita, Pitt Meadows*
Councillor Lisa Muri, North Vancouver District*
Councillor Maureen Nicholson, Bowen Island*
Councillor Darrell Penner, Port Coquitlam*
Councillor Kim Richter, Langley Township*
Councillor Bill Soprovich, West Vancouver
Councillor Mary Trentadue, New Westminster*

MEMBERS ABSENT:
None.

STAFF PRESENT:
Mike Redpath, Director, Regional Parks, Parks and Environment
Jerry W. Dobrovolny, Chief Administrative Officer
Genevieve Lanz, Legislative Services Coordinator, Board and Information Services

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1.1 April 1, 2020 Regular Meeting Agenda

It was MOVED and SECONDED
That the Regional Parks Committee adopt the agenda for its regular meeting scheduled for April 1, 2020, as circulated.

CARRIED

*denotes electronic meeting participation as authorized by Section 3.6.2 of the Procedure Bylaw
2. **ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

2.1 **March 11, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes**

*It was MOVED and SECONDED*
That the Regional Parks Committee adopt the minutes of its regular meeting held March 11, 2020, as circulated.

**CARRIED**

3. **DELEGATIONS**

No items presented.

4. **INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

No items presented.

5. **REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE OR STAFF**

5.1 **Regional Parks Public Programming Strategy**

Report dated February 24, 2020 from David Leavers, Division Manager, Visitor and Operations Services, Regional Parks, Parks and Environment, seeking endorsement of the *Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Public Programming Strategy*, providing strategic direction for delivering public programs within regional parks.

Members were provided with a presentation on the *Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Public Programming Strategy*, highlighting visitor diversity and statistics and accessibility barriers, incentivizing educational institution participation, and developing dialogic interpretation and school programming.

Members commented on the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on public programing service delivery, regional parks marketing, and visitation management.

Presentation material titled “Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Public Programming Strategy” is retained with the April 1, 2020 Regional Parks Committee agenda.

*It was MOVED and SECONDED*
That the MVRD Board:
a) endorse the *Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Public Programming Strategy* as presented in the report dated February 24, 2020, titled “Regional Parks Public Programming Strategy”; and

b) direct staff to include the financial implications associated with advancing the Strategy in the annual budget process.

**CARRIED**
5.2 **Forest Health Aerial Survey of Regional Parks**
Markus Merkens, Natural Resource Management Specialist, Regional Parks, Parks and Environment, provided members with a presentation on the Forest Health Aerial Survey project, highlighting forest health and condition assessment, data collection and severity rating, and common forest diseases monitoring.

Presentation material titled “Forest Health Aerial Survey of Regional Parks – Results 2019” is retained with the April 1, 2020 Regional Parks Committee agenda.

5.3 **Status of Regional Parks Capital Expenditures to December 31, 2019**
Report dated March 6, 2020 from Mike Redpath, Director, Regional Parks, Parks and Environment, providing information on the financial performance of the Regional Parks capital program for the year ending December 31, 2019.

It was MOVED and SECONDED
That the MVRD Board receive for information the report dated February 28, 2020, titled “Status of Regional Parks Capital Expenditures to December 31, 2019”.

CARRIED
Councillor Hodge absent at the vote.

5.4 **Manager’s Report – Regional Parks**
Report dated March 25, 2020 from Mike Redpath, Director, Regional Parks, Parks and Environment, providing members with an update on the Regional Parks Committee 2020 Work Plan, regional parks events, and an update on the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic response.

Members commented on the challenges associated with maintaining physical distancing in regional and municipal parks, and potential closures and resident-only restrictions.

In response to questions, members were informed of increased visitation at regional parks compared to previous years’ metrics.

Request of Staff
Staff was requested to provide members with the March 2020 regional park visitation statistics.

It was MOVED and SECONDED
That the Regional Parks Committee receive for information the report dated March 25, 2020, titled “Manager’s Report – Regional Parks”.

CARRIED

6. **INFORMATION ITEMS**
No items presented.
7. **OTHER BUSINESS**  
   No items presented.

8. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM DELEGATIONS**  
   No items presented.

9. **RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING**

   **It was MOVED and SECONDED**
   That the Regional Parks Committee close its regular meeting scheduled for April 1, 2020, pursuant to the *Community Charter* provisions, Section 90 (1) (e) and (i) as follows:
   “90 (1) A part of the meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:
   (e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the board or committee considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the regional district; and
   (i) the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose.”

   **CARRIED**

10. **ADJOURNMENT/CONCLUSION**

   **It was MOVED and SECONDED**
   That the Regional Parks Committee adjourn its regular meeting of April 1, 2020.

   **CARRIED**
   (Time: 10:49 a.m.)

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Genevieve Lanz,      John McEwen, Chair
Legislative Services Coordinator