

SPORTS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, June 14, 2023

A Regular Meeting of the Sports and Recreation Advisory Committee convened on Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 7:00p.m. in the Spragg Family Centre (third floor), Bettie Allard YMCA, 555 Emerson Street, Coquitlam, BC, with the following persons present:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Councillor Matt Djonlic, Vice Chair
Yue-Ching Cheng, Citizen Representative
Dan Cooper, Citizen Representative
Erin Davidson, Citizen Representative
Stephen Lisik, Citizen Representative
Cameron McBryer, Citizen Representative
Isabel Silvestre, Citizen Representative
Cydney Smythies, Citizen Representative
Carl Trepanier, Citizen Representative
David Jones, Coquitlam Field Sports Association
Andrea Mattinson, Coquitlam Sports Centre Users Association

REGRETS: Councillor Dennis Marsden, Chair
Bruce Kennedy, Coquitlam Tennis Club

GUESTS: Rob Maisey, Head Coach, Rumblefish Underwater Hockey Club
Gillian Parker, Secretary/Treasurer, Rumblefish Underwater Hockey Club

STAFF: Graham Stuart, Director Corporate Planning
Kathleen Reinheimer, Manager Parks
Michael Fox, Community Recreation Manager
Brian Forrester, Sports Services Manager
Mark Thompson, Project Manager – Corporate Planning
Caley Amundsen, Committee Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair assumed the role of the Chair and provided an Indigenous territorial acknowledgment.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Sports and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, April 12, 2023

The Minutes of the Sports and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, April 12, 2023 were approved.

NEW BUSINESS**2. Introduction to Community Recreation Groups – Rumblefish Underwater Hockey**

Rob Maisey, Head Coach, and Gillian Parker, Secretary/Treasurer, Rumblefish Underwater Hockey Club, provided the Committee with an on-screen presentation entitled “Rumblefish Underwater Hockey” that covered the following topics:

- Overview of the Rumblefish Underwater Hockey Club
- Details of underwater hockey and how it is played
- The ideal pool environment for underwater hockey
- Type of athletes and age groups involved in underwater hockey
- Health and social benefits of playing underwater hockey
- The lack of underwater hockey youth programs in the Lower Mainland
- Challenges that hinder underwater hockey’s growth such as the lack of pool space, insufficient funding, low number of participants and the lack of connections with other community groups
- The desire for an underwater hockey youth program to be established

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The composition of underwater hockey teams for recreational and competitive play
- The possibility of establishing a future underwater hockey league
- Snorkel and goggle technology for underwater hockey
- Demand of underwater hockey on facilities and whether other sport organizations can use the facilities simultaneously
- Aging facilities adding to the challenge of finding sufficient pool space
- Canadian Underwater Games Association (CUGA) as the national governing body for underwater hockey
- The Canadian Sport for Life Program and underwater hockey’s place in the Program

3. Code of Conduct Introduction to Community Recreation Groups

The Community Recreation Manager provided introductory comments relative to the following:

- History of the City’s Parks, Recreation and Culture Facilities (PRCF) Code of Conduct (hereon “the Code”)
- The Code’s purpose and application
- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) considerations and community feedback for the Code’s revisions
- Timeline of the Code’s revision process
- Disciplinary and corrective actions for residents who violate the Code

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Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The rationale for changing and updating particular terminology
- Whether there is a plan to inform user groups of the Code’s revisions
- Guidelines around documenting violation incidents and when senior management is informed of incidents
- Staff’s involvement for incident reporting
- Whether the Code applies to YMCA facilities
- Which staff are responsible for investigating serious violations and the possibility of involving independent third parties in the process
- The relationship between the City and sports user groups
- The Code focusing on individual versus club conduct
- Whether there is a grievance process for violations and disciplinary actions
- The need for explicit guidelines on how violation investigations are conducted

4. Spotlight on Sport 2023 Update

The Sports Services Manager provided the Committee with an on-screen presentation entitled “City of Coquitlam Parks, Recreation, Culture and Facilities – Spotlight on Sport Update” that covered the following topics:

- Background and overview of the City’s Spotlight on Sport Program (Hereon “the Program”)
- Lessons learned from community feedback and input
- Third party involvement with the Program’s events and activities
- Marketing efforts and mediums for dissemination of the Program’s information
- The Program’s positive impacts including the promotion of sports user groups and raising awareness of lesser-known sports
- The Program’s current focus and goals
- The City’s Sports Hosts Program, Annual Sports Fair at Town Centre Park and Adopt-A-Dugout Program
- Current sports programming gaps and efforts to grow smaller, more niche sports in Coquitlam
- Challenges of growing niche sports in Coquitlam such as the lack of community champions and structured organizations
- Underutilized field spaces in Coquitlam and City efforts to enhance their usage
- Resources for residents to discover where they can go to find field space
- The Program’s future opportunities and the need for community input and support

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The Program’s lack of focus on indoor sports
- The possibility of sports user groups installing large signage at City facilities and parks
- The possibility of digital signage boards at Coquitlam fields and parks

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- Whether residents can consume alcohol in City parks and which parks are off-limits to drinking
- Whether there are plans to expand disk golf
- The COVID-19 pandemic having a negative impact on sport programming gaps
- The possibility of using QR code signage for residents to access sport and facility information

5. 2024 – 2027 Strategic Plan Renewal: Opportunity for Input

The Director Corporate Planning and the Project Manager – Corporate Planning provided the Committee with an on-screen presentation entitled “2024 – 2027 Strategic Plan Renewal” that covered the following topics:

- Overview of the City’s Strategic Plan (hereon “The Plan”)
- Key objectives, timeline and engagement opportunities for the Plan’s renewal process
- Synergy between the Plan and other City corporate plans
- The Plan’s core components and components that will be updated in 2024 and 2028
- Key themes identified by the annual Business Plan and online Ipsos Community Satisfaction Survey
- How the Committee’s feedback will be reported to Council and used to develop actionable items

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- In regards to the *Safe and Complete Neighbourhoods* theme, including broken windows theory for public safety, safe and accessible community services, active transportation networks, building complete communities, safe pedestrian walkways, wayfinding and lighting features, e-mobility options, more mental health supports, increased community block watches, building vibrant communities, and creating more public spaces and social hubs
- In regards to the *Local Economy and Local Jobs* theme, including economic and volunteer opportunities for youth, working with business improvement associations, supporting small and local businesses, creating more business districts, diversifying economic opportunities, building more hotels, investment in the green economy, and sustainability
- In regards to the *Healthy Community and Active Citizens* theme, including building more recreation facilities, active transportation options, better signage at trailheads, City facilitated cultural events, housing policies that support intergenerational living, facilitating volunteer opportunities across the City, active greenspace, parks revitalization, and encouraging democratic participation by diverse residents
- In regards to the *Sustainable Services, Environment and Infrastructure* theme, including Multi-Use Pathways (MUPs), upgrading electric vehicle (EV) and green infrastructure, and safety signage at public green spaces

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- In regards to the *Excellence in City Governance* theme, including accountability, transparency around Council and staff decisions, receiving community input before decisions are made, utilizing community engagement opportunities, more casual opportunities to engage with Mayor and Council, considering public/private partnerships, recruitment and retention strategies, public education about municipal governments and their activities, Council representation at larger governing bodies, services being connected to population growth, streamlining City services, and synergy between City departments
- The TransLink Mayor’s Council on Regional Transportation and Coquitlam’s representation on the Council
- Concern that Coquitlam is overlooked in TransLink’s Transport 2050 Plan

6. **Committee Members’ Roundtable / Emerging Issues**

The Vice Chair invited the Committee members to share information and emerging issues from the community. The following topics and concerns were shared:

- The lack of recreation amenities in the Fraser Mills neighbourhood
- The possibility of a dike trail extension to Port Coquitlam and New Westminster
- Openness to pay higher fees for safety mats to be installed surrounding home plates at baseball and softball diamonds
- The desire to consider installing e-bike parkades similar to models in Europe
- The Guildford Way Greenway Micromobility Project, its protected bike lanes and the possibility of establishing bike to school groups
- Concerns regarding poisoning of wildlife at Meadowbrook Park
- The lack of outdoor pools in Northeast Coquitlam and outdoor water amenities throughout the community
- The decaying BC Hydro access road to the Eagle Mountain baseball diamond
- Progress being made on the installation of specific facilities for field hockey
- The June 15, 2023 Coquitlam Sports Hall of Fame Event at the Centennial Theatre
- The desire for an update on the Blue Mountain Wading Pool and its future
- The proposed Northeast Community Centre on Burke Mountain
- 55+ BC Games to be held in Abbotsford from August 22 to 26, 2023
- The desire for public and sports group access to school gymnasiums
- The desire to see the booking ratio and capacity of City owned and operated gyms

NEXT MEETING DATE – Wednesday, September 13, 2023

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ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Matt Djonlic, Vice Chair

Caley Amundsen, Committee Clerk