

BCRPA Region 2 Monthly Meeting Notes

Meeting Date: November 24, 2010

Host City: Vancouver

Tour: Oppenheimer Park

Attendees: Bill Manning, Shirley McKell, Todd Gross, Len Walters, Scott Lamont, Sue Nagata, Debra Barnes, Dave Turner, Ron Myers, Cindy Powell, Glen Minaker, Mac Stairs, Marty Benson

Review of Previous Meeting Notes

- A meeting calendar for all of 2011 is being developed and will be made available on the BCRPA website. The calendar should be available by the 1st week of December. 2011 meetings will be held in January, March, May, June, September and November.

Round Table

- Marty
 - Community Garden initiatives continue to move forward
 - Goal to have one community garden per town centre
 - New artificial turf field well underway at Newton Athletic Park
- Todd
 - Port Coquitlam is currently involved with an initiative that will bring recycling and waste bins into a public spaces and parks. New containers are intended to be bear proof and vandal resistant
 - EcoMedia is supplying the containers In addition to the permanent cans, EcoMedia is supplying portable recycling containers for special events
- Len
 - A new agreement has been signed with EcoMedia to supplies cans in Langley. These cans will have a customized image
 - Dog waste bags are being supplied by K9 Community Clean. K9 Community Clean supplies the bags in exchange for the opportunity to provide advertising on the bags. This company also provide the bag dispensers
- Ron
 - Port Coquitlam has recently renovated an old artificial field. The new field used a Brock pad and French drain system and seems to be working well
 - Colony Farm will likely see new urban farming initiatives including community gardens and possibly commercial garden initiatives
- Glen
 - New artificial turf field has been built beside local high school
 - Four new dog off-leash parks have been developed during the past year. Dog parks continue to be popular
- Cindy

- Hydro operates 19 public use facilities in BC. These sites provide positive places for people to recreate and help to keep people in safer recreational environments.
- All hydro sites are free
- Bunzten Lake experiences approximately 80,000 visitors on an annual basis.
- The dog park is extremely well used by dog owners and their animals. A “dog shower” is being looked at as a possible additional amenity at this location
- Bill
 - Department currently going through strategic planning
 - Dog off-leash parks and Community Garden initiatives are being reviewed
 - Vancouver Parks no longer look after park refuse; this is now managed by City staff
 - A number of projects financed through Federal Grant Funding are well underway. These include:
 - New fields
 - Roadwork at Queen Elizabeth Park
 - Seawall work
 - New building at Vandusen Garden. This building will be home to a visitor centre and gift shop
- Scott
 - Many projects on the go including the development of a destination playground in one of the downtown parks
 - Many of the neighbourhood playgrounds have been renovated or replaced in the past year
 - Renovations are taking place at the old CN Pavilion
 - Trying Mosquito device to help deter negative activity in some park locations
 - Looking to start an Adopt-A-Park style of volunteer program. Looking for information from other municipalities.
- Dave
 - The Pier project will have its opening on December 4th
 - North Vancouver will host the Little League Championships in 2011
 - City Hall likely to have a community garden
 - New Special Event Policy is being developed
 - 10-year Master plan was recently completed
- Shirley
 - Artificial field project is still moving forward
 - Floral clock near Ambleside has recently been removed
 - A number of waterfront initiatives continue to be worked on

Oppenheimer Park Presentation

Debra Barnes provided an overview of the redevelopment of Oppenheimer Park. Highlights of the project include:

- Public consultation process started in 2007
- 30-35 public meetings were conducted in advance of the park redevelopment
- A number of trees have historical significance. Some trees needed to be relocated within the park to preserve historical importance
- Space to Place was involved with design of the park
- A number of unique design features were used including:

- Shape of the field house. The building is designed in an oval shape allowing for improved sightlines when compared to a conventionally shaped building
- The building is surrounded by a number of catch basins allowing for the easier cleaning of the surrounding hard surfaces
- Most of the exterior walls of the building have windows allowing for improved sightlines into the park
- Park is a hub of the surrounding community
- Programming in the park is provided by the community
- Park is home to the annual Powell Street Festival

A tour of Oppenheimer Park followed the presentation.