

# VANCOUVER ISLAND PARKS AND GROUNDS SUPERVISORS' ASSOCIATION

Tuesday, October 19, 2010  
Butchart Gardens  
Central Saanich

9:15 a.m.

## MINUTES

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### **In Attendance:**

Ken Hilchey (City of Victoria Parks)  
Richard Waterfield (CRD Parks)  
Ray Laursen (ROBP)  
Al Hood (School District # 61)  
Peter Crawshaw (City of Parksville)  
Toni Botelho (Town of Qualicum Beach)  
Bernhard Hopcraft (City of Victoria Parks)  
Paul LeComte (City of Victoria Parks)  
Bruce McCowan (Retired City of Victoria Parks)  
Dan Marzocco (City of Victoria Parks)  
George Gollmer (CRD Parks)  
Roger Charles (Horticulture Centre of the Pacific)  
Barrie Agar (Royal Roads University)  
Carlos Moniz (Butchart Gardens)  
Murray McCaig (City of Victoria Parks)

Meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

### **Approval of and additions to the agenda:**

Agenda approved with additions under New Business

### **Approval of minutes of the September 2010 meeting:**

Minutes approved

### **Treasurer's Report:**

- A contribution of \$150.00 was given to the Friends of Government House.

- The current bank balance as of September 30 is \$2174.63

## **New Business**

- **VIPGSA Questionnaire Results**
  - Ken advised the group that he had received several completed questionnaires.
  - In general, the comments were supportive of the VIPGSA and provided several ideas to improve future meetings.
- **Letter of Thanks from the Horticulture Centre of the Pacific**
  - Ken shared with the group a letter that was received from the HCP thanking the VIPGSA for a donation of \$500 towards the college's bursary and scholarship program

## **Updates:**

- **Richard Waterfield (CRD Parks)**
  - Paladin Security Group has been awarded a three year contract to provide gate and facility security services for regional parks
  - Preparations are underway for the closing and winterizing of toilet buildings at Elk Beaver and Thetis
  - Trail restoration work has started at the north end of Elk Lake
- **George Gollmer (CRD Parks)**
  - Updated the group regarding rezoning issues in the Sea to Sea lands with the District of Sooke
- **Ken Hilchey (City of Victoria)**
  - Continuing to cut grass...fall leaf pick up looming
- **Ray Laursen (ROBP)**
  - Additional summer staff were hired this past summer which allowed for some extra projects to be completed
- **Bruce McCowan (Retired City of Victoria)**
  - Bruce provided the quote of the meeting: "retirement is stressful!"
- **Paul Lecomte (City of Victoria)**
  - The aviary in Beacon Hill Park has been refurbished and the herons returned this year

- **Toni Botelho (Town of Qualicum Beach)**
  - Hired 5 or 6 laid off IWA forest workers to build a new trail
  - Used “Geogrid” as an effective material retaining wall
  - Winterizing of facilities soon
  - Toni offered to host a meeting in 2011
  
- **Peter Crawshaw (City of Parksville)**
  - Median construction and landscape planting underway (in house project)
  - Water from a city spray park is being captured and used for irrigation purposes
  - Had a very successful Canada Goose Management program this year using trained dogs and a trained eagle!
  
- **Dan Marzocco (City of Victoria)**
  - Dan reviewed the successes of a recently implemented tree pruning partnership between the City of Victoria and BC Hydro
  - BC Hydro provides the funding, city staff do the work
  - Additional certified utility arbourists have been employed
  
- **Barrie Agar (RRU)**
  - The new building is almost finished
  - Deer grazing of new landscaping plants is a problem
  
- **Roger Charles (HCP)**
  - Student enrolment is up especially for part time students
  
- **Al Hood (School District #61)**
  - School Board is a “happenin’ place” (runner up quote of the meeting)
  - Seismic upgrades to a number of schools
  - Construction of adventure playgrounds continues
  
- **Carlos Moniz (Butchart Gardens)**
  - Fall planting including bulbs is underway
  - Entertainment Tonight Canada will be on site for filming on October 21
  - Skating rink installation starts November 1 followed closely by Christmas season preparation
  
- **Murray McCaig (City of Victoria)**
  - Completing construction of two adventure playgrounds
  - Starting a drainage project at Fishermen’s Wharf

**Thank you Carlos for a wonderful tour of  
Butchart Gardens!!**

**NEXT MEETING  
LOCATION TO BE CONFIRMED**

**9:15 a.m.**