

# VANCOUVER ISLAND PARKS AND GROUNDS SUPERVISORS' ASSOCIATION

**Tuesday, September 21, 2010  
CRD Regional Parks HQ  
490 Atkins Avenue  
Langford  
9:15 a.m.**

## **MINUTES**

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### **In Attendance:**

Al Hood (School District # 61)  
Ken Hilchey (City of Victoria Parks)  
Richard Waterfield (CRD Parks)  
George Gollmer (CRD Parks)  
Roger Charles (Horticulture Centre of the Pacific)  
Andrew Giles (Saanich Parks)  
Don Dojack (Saanich Parks)  
Dave Rutherford (Royal Roads University)  
Willie MacGillvarey (Esquimalt Parks and Rec Commission)  
Jacob Colyn (City of Port Alberni)  
Andy Katschor (Esquimalt Parks and Recreation)  
Carlos Moniz (Butchart Gardens)  
Murray McCaig (City of Victoria Parks)

Meeting was called to order at 9:25 a.m.

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

Agenda approved with additions under New Business

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

Minutes approved

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

- The current bank balance is \$2325.48.

## New Business

- **Confirm Meeting Locations for the Remainder of 2010**
  - October 19: Butchart Gardens
  - November 16: University of Victoria (Ron Carter is working on this)
  - December 21: Royal Roads University
- **VIPGSA Questionnaire Results**
  - Ken advised the group that he had received several completed questionnaires.
  - Comments will be reviewed with the goal of improving future meetings and increasing interest.
  - Results will be sent to all
  - Some discussion ensued regarding the results
  - Roger and Ken agreed to investigate the logistics and costs for a field trip to Seattle to tour sports fields (February/March 2011)
- **Pesticide Free Weed Control**
  - The use of "Fiesta", a broadleaf herbicide was discussed.
  - The active ingredient is iron
- **"IVES" Training**
  - The IVES Training Group provides equipment operator training
  - More information on this resource can be found at:
  - <http://www.ivestraining.com/>

## Updates:

- **Richard Waterfield (CRD Parks)**
  - This summer was the best ever at Elk Beaver Lake Regional Park for Canada Goose control
  - Used the services of trained dogs to harass the geese overnight to keep them away from Beaver and Hamsterly Beaches
  - A successful first year operating the campground at Island View Beach Regional Park
  - Next on the demolition list are two very old toilet buildings at the north end of Elk Lake and the old caretakers residence at the former pistol range at Thetis Lake
  - Approximately one km of trail at the north end of Elk Lake will be repaired and resurfaced in October/November
- **George Gollmer (CRD Parks)**
  - Talked about recent land acquisitions in Regional Parks including the

- Jordon River parcels
  - Updated the group on the progress on the construction of the E&N Rail Trail
- **Dave Rutherford (RRU)**
  - The new building will be ready for opening in a few months
  - Landscaping for the new building will be completed by a contractor(s) due to grant requirements
  - **Dave is retiring at the end of October!**
- **Roger Charles (HCP)**
  - Student enrolment is up and part time programs are good
  - In January, two streams of part time programs will be starting up
  - On line courses have been launched and are available
  - In cooperation with Saanich Parks, HCP is managing Outerbridge Park for four months as a learning opportunity for students
  - Contact the college for more information
- **Al Hood (School District #61)**
  - Challenging to keep up with grass cutting at this time of year
  - Seismic upgrades to Central
  - Vic High will be undergoing seismic upgrades soon (four year project)
- **Jacob Colyn (City of Port Alberni)**
  - All RINC grant projects are completed or substantially completed
  - One full year of pesticide reduction has been completed
- **Andrew Giles/ Don Dojack (Saanich Parks)**
  - Challenging to keep up with grass cutting at this time of year
  - Problem solving around backfilling positions vacated due to retirement with budget cuts
  - Seven of ten playground replacements have been completed as well as two playfields (RINC grants)
- **Andy Katschor (Esquimalt Parks and Recreation)**
  - Phase 3 of the Japanese Garden construction is underway
  - The city is looking at options for use of the Saxe Point rental house
- **Carlos Moniz (Butchart Gardens)**
  - Fall planting including bulbs is underway
  - 300,000 plus bulbs!
  - Seasonal staff finished
- **Murray McCaig (City of Victoria)**
  - Rehabilitating a section of Beacon Hill Park back to a native meadow
  - Attended the INPRA meeting in Portland
  - Amongst the topics discussed were incorporating natural elements into playgrounds
- **Willy McGillvarey (Esquimalt Parks and Rec)**
  - Talked about the importance of succession planning within organizations and ensuring that local knowledge and history is documented

**A BIG CONGRATULATIONS FROM ALL OF  
US ON YOUR PENDING RETIREMENT  
DAVE!!  
ALL THE BEST!!**

**NEXT MEETING**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2010  
BUTCHART GARDENS  
800 BENVENUTO AVENUE  
CENTRAL SAANICH  
9:15 a.m.**