

**DISTRICT OF NORTH VANCOUVER
COUNCIL WORKSHOP**

Minutes of the Council Workshop for the District of North Vancouver held at 5:01 p.m. on Tuesday, February 27, 2018 in the Committee Room of the District Hall, 355 West Queens Road, North Vancouver, British Columbia.

Present: Acting Mayor R. Hicks
Councillor R. Bassam
Councillor M. Bond (5:02 p.m.)
Councillor J. Hanson (5:07 p.m.)
Councillor D. MacKay-Dunn
Councillor L. Muri

Absent: Mayor R. Walton

Staff: Mr. D. Stuart, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. G. Joyce, General Manager – Engineering, Parks & Facilities
Ms. S. Rogers, Manager – Parks
Ms. M. Welman, Manager – Strategic Communications & Community Relations
Ms. L. Brick, Deputy Municipal Clerk
Ms. C. Walker, Chief Bylaw Officer
Ms. R. Bittel, Municipal Solicitor
Ms. A. Reiher, Confidential Council Clerk

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1.1. February 27, 2018 Council Workshop Agenda

MOVED by Councillor MURI

SECONDED by Councillor DOUG MACKAY-DUNN

THAT the agenda for the February 27, 2018 Council Workshop is adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

Absent for Vote: Councillors BOND and HANSON

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Nil

3. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL OR STAFF

3.1. Proposed Parks Demand Management & Communications Program for Summer 2018

File No.

Ms. Susan Rogers, Manager – Parks, advised that the purpose of the meeting is to provide Council with an update to the bylaw, noting that the current bylaw was created in 1961 and is now outdated. She advised that the proposed bylaw addresses the modern complexity of parks including requests for events,

increased fines and a formalized parks permit system. She commented that new sections of the proposed bylaw include:

- The protection of natural areas;
- Unauthorized construction, trails, structures and cabins;
- Nuisance issues and public conduct;
- Alcohol in parks;
- Encroachment and storage of materials in parks;
- Firearms, hunting and explosive materials;
- Swimming and boating to promote safety;
- Games and sports in parks;
- Homeless and overnight camping;
- Removal and impounding of unauthorized items;
- It was noted that park closures are from 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m., unless otherwise posted and that gated park closures are from dusk to dawn;

Councillor BOND arrived at this point in the proceedings.

- Bicycling, skateboarding;
- Vehicle and motorized traffic which addresses the growing vehicle use;
- The use of a Park Use Permit system to regulate park activities, including commercial use and special events in parks;
- Park Manager authority; and,
- Enforcement, ticketing and fines.

Councillor HANSON arrived at this point in the proceedings.

Ms. Rogers reported that through the District of North Vancouver Homeless Protocol Process, staff attempt to find alternate accommodations or shelters for homeless individuals camping overnight in District parks. She advised that recent court cases in Victoria and Abbotsford make it unconstitutional for municipalities to ban the homeless from overnight camping in parks; however, municipalities may limit the hours of overnight camping. She further commented that the proposed park bylaw allows for overnight camping in certain park areas from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m. only if alternate accommodations cannot be located in a local shelter.

Ms. Rogers reported that staff are working collaboratively with Metro Vancouver, BC Parks and the Lower Seymour Conservation Reserve on a policy to regulate the use of e-bikes and drones in parks. She commented that input is also being gathered from the North Shore Mountain Bike Association and that the compiled information will be reported to Council at a future meeting. She further commented that the municipality is waiting on a draft policy on e-bike usage from the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development for further direction.

Ms. Rogers advised that the use of drones is regulated by Transport Canada and that the proposed bylaw restricts flying an apparatus unless a valid park permit is issued for a designated area.

Ms. Rogers reported that the following steps were taken in developing the Park Regulation Bylaw:

- Research of other municipal park bylaws;
- Municipal legal review for best management practises;
- Consultation with District of North Vancouver Bylaws staff;
- Park staff and ranger input;
- Royal Canadian Mounted Police and Fire Services review;
- Parks and Natural Environment Committee input; and,
- Previous Council Workshop discussions.

Ms. Rogers provided an overview of the benefits of the proposed bylaw, stating that the overall goal is to protect community park assets, to regulate park activity through the Park Permit system and to provide flexibility to the Park Manager. She advised that the bylaw may be amended as needed on a yearly basis.

In response to a question from Council, staff advised that a policy addressing regulatory requirements and costs for commercial activities and special events will be reported to Council at a future meeting.

In response to a question from Council, staff advised that barbeques are not currently banned in parks. Staff noted that many different users visit parks and that the challenge of the Park Manager is to limit and oversee the type of activities that occur.

In response to a question from Council regarding e-bikes, staff advised that e-bikes are currently unidentified in the bylaw and are permitted in parks unless otherwise posted.

In response to a question from Council, staff advised that marine space is leased from the Port of Metro Vancouver in Deep Cove and Cates Park and that the wharves are monitored by the District Park Rangers.

Council discussion ensued and the following comments and concerns were noted:

- Commented favourably to the role of Parks Manager;
- Suggested that smoking in forests should be prohibited and that the parks bylaws could reflect the smoking ban;
- Commented that further information is needed to justify park closures at night;
- Expressed concern regarding large barbeque gatherings in parks and the need to regulate these events, but not to restrict small gatherings;
- Commented that parks should not be closed at dusk and opined that limiting park activities restricts the enjoyment to residents;

Councillor MURI left the meeting at 5:36 p.m. and returned at 5:36 p.m.

- Commented on the importance of parkland, particularly to residents in dense neighbourhoods where access to green space is limited;
- Commented on the diverse types of parkland within the District and the visitors it attracts;
- Spoke to the density and tourism of Cates Park;
- Suggested that a map outlining the different types of park use would be beneficial;

- Suggested that regulations for unleashed dogs in parks could be included within the parks bylaw and that any bylaw that affects parks should be included within the proposed park bylaw; and,
- Spoke to regulating pedestrian and vehicular traffic in parks.

Councillor MURI left the meeting at 5:49 p.m. and returned at 5:49 p.m.

MOVED by Councillor MURI

SECONDED by Councillor MACKAY-DUNN

THAT staff are directed to proceed with a pilot demand management and communications program to reduce traffic load at Lynn Canyon Park and Deep Cove/Quarry Rock in the summer of 2018.

CARRIED

3.2. Proposed Park Regulation Bylaw 8310, Bylaw Notice Enforcement Bylaw 8311 and Fees and Charges Bylaw 8321

File No.

Ms. Rogers provided an overview of the Municipal Alcohol Policy, noting that it was created in 2013 and is now outdated. She reported that in 2017 a new Liquor Control and Licensing Regulation Act was introduced by the Province. She further advised that municipalities no longer issue liquor licenses, rather they direct residents to the Provincial Liquor Control and Licensing Branch. However, the District continues to oversee requests for alcohol in parks and the proposed Municipal Alcohol Policy (MAP) reflects the modification in policy and regulatory process for such requests.

Ms. Rogers noted that the objective of MAP is to manage requests for alcohol at non-profit community events or District directed events to align with the Provincial Liquor Control regulations and Community Events in the Parks policy. She further commented on the Harm Reduction Plan for the health, safety and protection of park property and that the profits of MAP supports various District facilities, charities and volunteer programs.

Ms. Rogers provided an overview of the permit process which includes submitting a permit application which is then reviewed by Parks staff. If the application is approved, the applicant may then apply to the BC Liquor Control & Licensing for a Special Event Permit.

Ms. Rogers reported on the criteria to determine the suitability of a park to host an event with alcohol. This includes the park size and amenities, proximity to homes, event size and duration, safe transportation options and public safety. She further noted that the beverage service area would need to be separate from casual park users.

Ms. Rogers reported on the criteria for the Harm Reduction Plan. This includes no under age drinking, the impact to local neighbors, options for non-alcoholic beverages, alternative transportation for event attendees, security for the event and the Responsible Beverage Service training for those serving alcohol.

In response to a question from Council regarding marihuana use in parks, staff advised that smoking is prohibited in all District parks.

Council discussion ensued, and the following comments and concerns were noted:

- Suggested that a detailed map would be beneficial to outline park use; and,
- Commented on the Deep Cove Days event and suggested that future events should not be fenced off.

MOVED by Councillor MURI

SECONDED by Councillor MACKAY-DUNN

THAT "Park Regulation Bylaw 8310, 2018" and "Bylaw Notice Enforcement Bylaw 7458, 2004, Amendment Bylaw 8311, 2018 (Amendment 36)", is referred to a Regular Meeting of Council.

CARRIED

3.3. Proposed District Municipal Alcohol Policy for Community Events in Parks and Open Spaces

File No.13.6660.01/000.000

Mr. Gavin Joyce, General Manager – Engineering, Parks & Facilities, provided an overview of the changes that have been implemented to District parks over the years. He commented on the density of tourists to parks and the demand management recommendations by staff for Council consideration.

Ms. Mairi Welman, Manager – Strategic Communications & Community Relations, provided information on the challenges faced by the District in managing the steadily increasing numbers of private vehicles and commercial tour buses visiting Deep Cove Village and Lynn Canyon Park. She advised that the current management tools have now reached the limit of their effectiveness and provided possible alternative demand management options.

In response to a question from Council, staff advised that a fee of \$25 is charged to allow tour buses to enter Deep Cove Park.

In response to a question from Council, staff advised that it takes approximately forty-five minutes from the SeaBus terminal to Deep Cove Park by public transit and that a shuttle service would take approximately fifteen minutes.

Council discussion ensued and the following comments and concerns were noted:

- That pay parking should be enforced for non-resident visitors to parks;
- Expressed support for paid parking that allows revenue to return to District parks;
- Commented that enforcement options for the park demand management needs to be clarified to residents;
- Expressed concern regarding restricting tour buses to Deep Cove and the negative effect it could have on merchants;
- Suggested that traffic management for Deep Cove would be beneficial;

- Commented on a survey from Deep Cove residents expressing support for paid parking, traffic control flaggers, limiting tour buses, support of shuttle buses and limiting barbeques in parks;
- Commented that Lynn Canyon Headwaters Park faces similar issues to Deep Cove Park;
- Expressed concern regarding the size of tour buses entering Deep Cove;
- Suggested that pay parking restrictions at parks could provide financial demand management and improve visitor experience at the parks;
- Commented that bylaw enforcement officers are needed to ensure demand management is met for parking restrictions;
- Suggested that bylaw enforcement could be more effective than a third party company for pay parking management;
- Expressed concern regarding the tax payer funded cost of the proposed shuttle service to Deep Cove;
- Expressed support of the proposed shuttle service to Deep Cove and that a fee should be attached;
- Commented on the parking model of Granville Island;
- Suggested that the District website or radio could provide advisory information on park capacity;
- Suggested that if a park is full, a ranger or staff member may suggest an alternate park that may be visited;
- Suggested that tour buses should schedule their visits to the parks and that the fee should be increased from \$25;
- Suggested that the extensive waterways within the North Shore could be utilized and that a water taxi could be implemented to lessen vehicular traffic;
- Expressed support for paid parking, timed parking and for resident parking passes;
- Queried if a permit tally could be implemented to monitor visitors to Quarry Rock and Panorama Park;
- Suggested that a fee be charged to visit Quarry Rock; and,
- Commented that supportive data on visitors to the District parks would be beneficial.

Public Input:

Ms. Sari McCall, A District Resident:

- Spoke as a merchant of Deep Cove;
- Commented on a survey to Deep Cove residents and that the results will be presented to Council at an upcoming meeting; and,
- Expressed concern regarding the accessibility for emergency vehicles to reach residents.

Ms. Megan Curren, 2100 Block Badger Road

- Spoke as a merchant of Deep Cove;
- Expressed concern that local residents no longer visit merchants in Deep Cove; and,
- Expressed support to resident parking restrictions in Deep Cove.

Mr. Corrie Kost, 2800 Block Colwood Drive:

- Commented on Granville Island and Stanley Park which enforce pay parking;
- Expressed concern regarding pay parking in District parks; and,
- Suggested that further information is required.

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Nil

5. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Councillor MURI

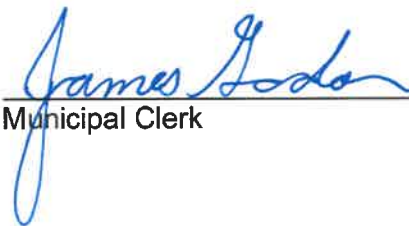
SECONDED by Councillor MACKAY-DUNN

THAT the February 27, 2018 Council Workshop is adjourned.

CARRIED
(6:56 p.m.)



Mayor



Municipal Clerk

