

MINUTES of a meeting of ESTIMATES COMMITTEE of the Municipal Council of The Corporation of the District of Oak Bay, held in the Council Chambers, Oak Bay Municipal Hall, 2167 Oak Bay Avenue, Oak Bay, B.C., on Wednesday March 28, 2012.

PRESENT: Chairman, Councillor J. Herbert
Councillor P. Copley
Councillor C. Green
Councillor M. Kirby
Councillor K. Murdoch
Councillor T. Ney

PARKS & RECREATION
COMMISSION: Monty Holding
Drew Henderson
Victor Lotto
Rick Marshall
Sandy Piercy
Brian Sharp
Brian Yellin

STAFF: Municipal Administrator, M. Brennan
Municipal Treasurer, P. Walker
Director, Parks and Recreation, R. Herman
Manager, Recreation Program Services, J. Barclay
Manager, Administrative Services, G. Brown
Manager, Parks Services, C. Hyde-Lay

Chairman Herbert called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2011 Year End

The Director of Parks and Recreation highlighted the points from his report dated March 7, 2012, noting that net operating expenditures were 1.54% over budget. Overall, admission revenue was down, which is in keeping with the trend in the region. The Parks net operating expenditures were under budget. The 2011 capital program was also under budget.

2012 Parks and Recreation Budget

The Director of Parks and Recreation then briefed the Committee on the proposed 2012 budget. The net operating budget for the department represents a 2.45% increase over 2011. He highlighted certain aspect of the budget, including wage increases, utility costs and adjustments to fees and charges.

There was a general discussion on the level of fees and charges followed by a more specific discussion on the youth pass initiative. The Director of Parks and Recreation presented an analysis of the 2012 youth pass initiative. His conclusion was that \$99 was too low and the current \$250 is probably too high.

MOVED by Councillor Ney

Seconded by Councillor Copley, That it be recommended to Council that the fee for the annual youth passes be set at \$175.

CARRIED

The discussion then turned to the Parks portion of the budget. In response to a question posed, the Manager of Parks Services commented the amount of the security deposit for replacement trees is probably insufficient. Staff will look into the matter.

There were general discussions on the following matters: viability of the lounge at the Recreation Centre, allotment gardens, boulevard planting policy and funding for tree replacement.

The Committee thanked the Parks and Recreation Commission and the department's staff for all their time and effort.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED by Councillor Murdoch

Seconded by Councillor Green, That the Estimates Committee meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Certified Correct

Deputy Municipal Clerk

Chairman