



**CORPORATION OF THE  
TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT**  
**Minutes - Final**

Municipal Hall  
1229 Esquimalt Road  
Esquimalt, B.C. V9A 3P1

**Environment, Parks and Recreation  
Advisory Committee**

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Wednesday, January 22, 2025

6:30 PM

Esquimalt Council Chambers

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**Present** 7 - Member Jesse Baltutis  
Vice Chair Nathanael Jones  
Member Elyse Norgaard Kituri  
Member Kyler Nurmsoo  
Member Jamie Proctor  
Chair Shona Redman  
Member Ryan Badowski

**Regrets** 1 - Member Lee Mauro

**Council Liaisons:** Councillor Duncan Cavens  
Councillor Tim Morrison

**Staff Present:** Steve Knoke, Director of Parks and Recreation  
Robbie Young, Manager of Parks  
Dan Henderson, Manager of Facilities  
Jonah Ross, Staff Liaison/Recording Secretary

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Staff Liaison called the Environment, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting to order at 6:31 PM.

The Staff Liaison recognized and acknowledged the Songhees and Kosapsum Nations, on whose traditional territories we live, we learn, and we do our work.

**2. LATE ITEMS**

There were no late agenda items.

**3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Moved by Member Norgaard Kituri, seconded by Member Jones: That the agenda be approved as circulated. Carried Unanimously.

**4. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

The Staff Liaison opened the floor for nominations for Chair. Member Redman was the only nomination received for the role of Chair.

Moved by Member Jones, seconded by Member Norgaard Kituri: That Member Redman be declared as Chair. Carried Unanimously.

Chair Redman opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair. Member Jones was the only nomination received for the role of Vice Chair.

Moved by Chair Redman, seconded by Member Baltutis: That Member Jones be declared as Vice Chair. Carried Unanimously.

## 5. MINUTES

- 1) [25-039](#) Minutes of the Environment, Parks, and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting held on May 22, 2024.

Moved by Member Jones, seconded by Member Nurmsoo: That the minutes of the Environment, Parks, and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting held on May 22, 2024 be adopted as circulated. Carried Unanimously.

- 2) [25-036](#) Minutes of the Environment, Parks, and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting held on September 25, 2024.

Moved by Member Jones, seconded by Member Baltutis: That the minutes of the Environment, Parks, and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting held on September 25, 2024 be adopted as circulated. Carried Unanimously.

## 6. STAFF REPORTS

- 1) [25-042](#) 2025 Meeting Schedule

Moved by Member Jones, seconded by Member Norgaard Kituri: That the 2025 Meeting Schedule be received. Carried Unanimously.

- 2) [25-041](#) Informational Documents for Committee Members

Moved by Member Baltutis, seconded by Member Jones. That the Informational Documents for Committee Members be received. Carried Unanimously.

- 3) [25-033](#) Initiative Impact Assessment - Parkland Placement Acquisition and Management

The Manager of Parks presented a PowerPoint, and responded to Committee questions regarding the initiative.

Committee comments included:

- Exploring opportunities to improve connection of parklands through the

Active Transportation Network is of interest.

- Climate adaptation and mitigation considerations could be highlighted in this initiative.
- Engaging school districts as potential stakeholders would be beneficial given their large land base and provision of publicly-accessible green spaces.
- Policy frameworks could provide guidance on prioritizing native plant species which can survive the dry summer climate.
- Interest in exploring the full range of policy tools which could assist in park land acquisition.

**4) [25-035](#) Community Engagement - Dock Consultation**

The Manager of Parks gave a presentation regarding the Township's ongoing Dock Consultation, and upcoming engagement opportunities. The Manager responded to questions regarding the feedback process, and scoring criteria for potential dock locations.

Committee comments included:

- Prioritize locations within more established parks, as they are already well-used and equipped with appropriate facilities.
- Providing access to services at a new dock, such as paddle board rentals, may provide opportunities to boost tourism in the Township.

**7. OTHER BUSINESS**

**1) [25-037](#) Recreation Facilities Staff Presentation**

The Manager of Recreation Facilities presented a PowerPoint, and responded to questions regarding financial planning, fees and charges, and facility repairs.

**2) [25-038](#) Gorge Park Entrance Concept Discussion Staff Presentation**

The Manager of Parks presented a PowerPoint and responded to questions regarding design options, potential costs, and active transportation infrastructure.

Committee comments included:

- Interest in including the pump track through the trees in future designs.
- Prioritizing the single-lane design option for vehicles entering the park will improve alignment with the Active Transportation Network by reducing conflicts with the bike lanes.
- Considering options to incorporate a drop-off area at the entrance for vehicle passengers would be beneficial.

3) [25-040](#) Director's Report

The Director of Parks and Recreation provided a verbal update to the Committee regarding potential future uses for the temporary Fire Hall facility, progress made on the development of a turf field, and Recreation program attendance levels.

Staff provided the following responses to Committee questions:

- The Green Shores Project at Gorge Park is nearing completion, with work planned for cedar fencing and installation of an accessible Mobi-Mat; inspection and certification of the site by the Stewardship Centre of BC is anticipated for early spring.

Committee comments included:

- Considering long-term environmental risks of turf field breakdown is recommended, given the related challenges which are ongoing in the region.
- Interest in receiving photos of the temporary Fire Hall facility at a future meeting to assist in discussion of potential future uses.
- Pursuing opportunities to grow programs for women in sport would be beneficial given the high demand.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Member Nurmsoo, seconded by Member Baltutis: That the Environment Parks and Recreation meeting be adjourned at 8:04 PM. Carried Unanimously.

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SHONA REDMAN, CHAIR  
ENVIRONMENT, PARKS AND  
RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
THIS 23RD DAY OF APRIL, 2025

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JONAH ROSS  
RECORDING SECRETARY  
CERTIFIED CORRECT