



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT

Minutes - Final

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

Environment, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

Wednesday, June 25, 2025

6:30 PM

Esquimalt Council Chambers

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

Member Baltutis attended the meeting via conference call.

Council Councillor Duncan Cavens
Liaisons: Councillor Tim Morrison

Staff: Steve Knoke, Director of Parks and Recreation
 Jeff Byron, Manager of Recreation
 Robbie Young, Manager of Parks
 Dan Henderson, Facilities Manager
 Victoria McKean, Committee Coordinator

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Redman called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM and acknowledged with respect the Songhees and X^wsepsəm Nations on whose traditional territory we live, we learn, and we do our work.

2. **LATE ITEMS**

There were no late items.

3. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

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

4. **MINUTES**

- 1) [25-234](#) Minutes of the Environment, Parks, and Recreation
 Advisory Committee meeting held on April 23, 2025

Moved by Member Nurmsoo, seconded by Member Norgaard-Kituri: That the Minutes of the Environment, Parks, and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting held on April 23, 2025 be adopted as circulated. Carried Unanimously.

5. STAFF REPORTS

1) [25-235](#) Membership Update, Staff Report No. EPRAC-25-004

The Committee Coordinator provided an update on Committee membership and recognized the departure of Member Badowski.

2) [25-233](#) Parks and Recreation Service Levels, Staff Report No. EPRAC-25-005

The Director of Parks and Recreation Services presented a PowerPoint on Parks and Recreation Service Levels and responded to questions from the Committee.

Member Proctor joined the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Committee comments included the following:

- More information about regional approaches to recreation would be of interest.

Moved by Chair Redman, seconded by Member Jones: That the Environment, Parks, and Recreation Advisory Committee recommends that Council maintain the levels of service of Parks and Recreation Services. Carried Unanimously.

3) [25-237](#) Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan Discussion

The Manager of Parks presented a PowerPoint on the Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan and responded to questions from the Committee.

Committee comments included the following:

- This is important work. As a region, there is a need to invest in upgrading existing or constructing new recreation facilities. Population increases and current capacity should be examined and taking advantage of grants by having projects ready to implement when funding is available is important. Looking at broad, regional needs across different types of recreation is essential and the Committee would be interested in additional opportunities to participate in the consultation process in the future.
- With respect to recreation needs and capacity, it is a balance between serving the regional community as well as our own residents. Care should be taken to ensure that Esquimalt residents can access the recreation facilities in their municipality.

- When soliciting feedback from the public, it may be useful to present options or polls like was done with the Community Dock Project consultation.
- Committee members encouraged a bold approach to the Recreation Strategic Plan, and acknowledged the importance that Council plays in this; Being bold can mean many things, including new ideas on how to use existing infrastructure and re-imagine its intent and use, such as the Saunders Street project.
- Having clarity on intent, what we want to accomplish and how it can be accomplished, is important before the Request for Proposal is finalized.
- It is important to leverage unique regional opportunities to place Esquimalt ahead of the curve on recreation services.
- We are aware of the impacts of climate change and that we are faced with an uncertain future, we must be aware of the risks while remaining optimistic and hopeful when we envision the world we want for our children. This is part of being bold; we should not be afraid to be leaders in this sector.

4) [25-236](#) Director's Update

The Director of Parks and Recreation Services and the Manager of Parks provided an update on Parks and Recreation Services activities, touching on the future replacement of the floor at Archie Browning Sports Centre, the completion of a road mural at Anderson Park, the Pavilion public art project, the Greenshores project including the installation of a Mobi-Mat at Esquimalt Gorge Park, fundraising efforts to support improvements to the Nature House, Council decision on the Public Dock Project, a successful volunteer effort on World Oceans Day, the success of Buccaneer Days, neighbourhood party, and Pride Ride, the current setup of Jazz Fest, and the successful reporting of a tagging incident to VicPD that resulted in multiple graffiti tags being removed.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Member Nurmsoo, seconded by Member Proctor: That the meeting be adjourned at 7:49 PM. Carried Unanimously.

SHONA REDMAN, CHAIR
ENVIRONMENT, PARKS AND
RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
THIS 24TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2025

VICTORIA MCKEAN
COMMITTEE COORDINATOR
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