

TOWN OF COMOX
Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting,
held in Council Chambers on Wednesday January 23, 2019

Present: Mayor R. Arnott
Councillors A. Bissinger, K. Grant, S. McGowan,
N. Minions

Absent: P. McKenna, M. Swift

Before the meeting, Mayor Arnott made a statement regarding community funding to help displaced tenants of the Mariner Apartments.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:16 p.m.

The Agenda was Adopted.

1. Delegations:

a. Blythe Reimer (Friends of Mack Laing Nature Park) Support Preservation of the Nature Park

Ms. Reimer introduced the Friends of Mack Laing Nature Park group and advised that they wish to provide the Committee with information that assisted the previous council in deciding to appeal for a variance on the terms of the Mack Laing Trust. She advised that the renovation of Shakesides could have dramatic and unintended consequences. She proposed that the Town continue with changing the terms of the Trust, and salvage some of the recovered materials to use in constructing a viewing site or pavilion platform with signage and displays.

b. Barbara Price (Comox Archives & Museum Society) Annual update on activities

Ms. Price provided a history of the services offered by the Comox Archives and Museum Society. She advised that they currently serve 7-8,000 visitors per year, which is a 10-fold increase since moving their location to the upper floor of the building. Ms. Price advised that they want to take the Museum to the next level, undertaking an increased number of projects and possibly adding walking tours. She advised that their annual funding from the Town has not increased since 2006, and that they look forward to Council's consideration of their request for an increase in annual funding.

c. Tom Beshr (Habitat for Humanity Vancouver Island North Society) Introduction of Habitat for Humanity's mission & mandate to new Council

Mr. Beshr provided some background to the Committee on what Habitat for Humanity does, and on their home ownership model. He advised that previously they did not have the ability to deal with a lease situation; however, they do have that ability now. Mr. Beshr advised that they define success as the number of families served, and summarized their previous projects in the Comox Valley and Campbell River. He asked the Committee to request a staff report containing an inventory of all surplus lands. He also advised that Habitat for Humanity is asking for a donated or price reduced purchase of any surplus lands.

d. Gordon Olsen (Mack Laing Heritage Society) Applying for Heritage status with the Heritage Registry in Victoria

Mr. Olsen advised that he is asking the Committee for two important, no-cost actions: to suspend the court action to amend the Trust, and to apply to the Heritage Registry for heritage status on Shakesides.

2. Minutes of Meetings: NIL

3. Department Reports:

a. Fire Department - Report (September - December 2018)

The Fire Department Report for September - December 2018 was received for information.

b. Recreation Department Management Report (September - December 2018)

The Recreation Department Management Report for September - December 2018 was received for information.

c. Planning and Building Department (September - December 2018)

The Planning and Building Department Report for September - December 2018 was received for information.

d. Parks and Property Management Report (September - December, 2018)

The Parks and Property Management Department Report for September - December 2018 was received for information.

e. Public Works - Capital and Operational Status (September - December, 2018)

The Public Works Capital and Operational Status Report for September - December 2018 was received for information.

f. Administration Department Report (September - December, 2018)

The Administration Department Report for September - December 2018 was received for information.

4. Staff Reports: NIL

5. Correspondence:

**a. Heather Crandall - Support the proposal of the Friends of Mack Laing Nature Park
Tom and Diane Blackburn - Support the current plan to modify the Mack Laing Trust**

The January 15, 2019 letter from Heather Crandall and the January 19, 2019 letter from Tom and Diane Blackburn, regarding Mack Laing Park, was received for information.

b. Rob Fleming (Ministry of Education) Announcing the launch of the 2019 Premier's Awards for Excellence in Education

The January 7, 2019 letter from Rob Fleming, Minister of Education, calling for nominations for the Premier's Awards for Excellence in Education, was received for information.

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c. Island Health (Office of the Chief Medical Health Officer) BC Vision Zero Summit

The January 15, 2019 letter from Island Health's Office of the Chief Medical Officer, regarding the first BC Vision Zero Summit focusing on safe roads, vehicles, speeds and drivers, was received for information.

d. Pam Moughton (Comox Archives and Museum Society) Request for an annual increase in support to the Museum

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

That the January 15, 2019 letter from Pam Moughton, Chairperson of the Comox Archives and Museum Society, requesting that their annual grant be increased by \$7,500 per year, be received and referred to the budget process.

CARRIED

e. Bob Wells (CVRD) Invitation to K'omoks First Nation Community to Community Forum

The January 16, 2019 letter from Bob Wells, Chair of the Comox Valley Regional District, inviting Council to attend a Community to Community workshop co-hosted by the K'omoks First Nation and the Comox Valley Regional District, was received for information.

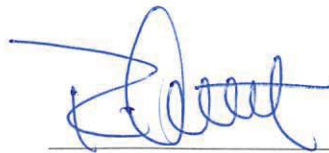
6. Exclude the Public: NIL

Adjournment:

Regularly moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn at 5:16 p.m.

CARRIED

Certified correct pursuant to Section 97(1)(b) of the Community Charter.



CHAIR