



DISTRICT OF METCHOSIN

AGENDA

PARKS & TRAILS ADVISORY SELECT COMMITTEE MEETING

April 15, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.
Council Chambers
Metchosin Municipal Hall

1. **Agenda, Additions, Approval**
2. **Presentations**
3. **Public Participation**
4. **Adoption of Minutes**
 - a) Parks & Trails Advisory Select Committee, March 18, 2025..... 1
5. **Receipt of Minutes**
 - a) Environmental Advisory Select Committee, March 25, 2025.....5
6. **Business Arising from the Minutes**
 - a) Beckingham Subdivision
 - b) Blinkhorn Nature Park
 - c) Duke Road East Trail Update
 - d) Parks & Trails Master Plan Updates
 - i. Open House Update
 - e) Discussion: [Draft Active Transportation Network Plan \(ATNP\)](#)
7. **Reports**
 - a) Parks & Trails Coordinator Verbal Report
 - b) Council Liaison Verbal Report
 - c) Chair Verbal Report
8. **Correspondence**
9. **Other Business**
 - a) Parking on William Head Trail in the Village Core
 - b) Invasives in Parks
 - c) Blaney Trail Bat Box
10. **Adjournment and Next Meeting Date**



DISTRICT OF METCHOSIN

MINUTES

PARKS & TRAILS ADVISORY SELECT COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Council Chambers

Metchosin Municipal Hall

Present: David Shanks (Chair), Jay Shukin (Council Liaison), Kathy Atherton, Caroline Donohue (recorder), Karen Hoffman, Jim Nan.

Regrets: Ron Aubrey

1. Agenda, Additions, Approval

Approved, no additions

2. Presentations

None

3. Public Participation

Jeanette McMillian

- Commented that she is disappointed in the active transportation plan survey, particularly the fact that other peoples' comments could be deleted and multiple responses submitted for the same individual using different IP addresses.

4. Adoption of Minutes

a) Parks & Trails Advisory Select Committee, February 18, 2025

Carried.

5. Receipt of Minutes

a) Environmental Advisory Select Committee, February 25, 2025

- Jay: noted that Steve Gray is working on a biodiversity plan

b) Committee of the Whole, February 10, 2025

- Jay: A number of resolutions were brought forward regarding invasives, which raised questions regarding concerns over herbicide use. Jay volunteered to develop a policy on invasives on District land and roadways, which will include the use of herbicides. Will aim to bring this to the Committee of the Whole meeting in June.

Moved by David to extend an invitation to Neil West from MISC to present on invasive management and to add an item to future PTASC meeting.

Carried.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

a) Beckingham Subdivision

- Kathy: Walkabout has not happened yet

b) Blinkhorn Nature Park

- Naming has been corrected on the website by staff – issue resolved

7. Reports

a) Parks & Trails Coordinator Verbal Report

- Bob is still considered the question of insurance re: Trail Stewards
- Jim cleared the two fallen trees in Metchosin Wilderness park and cleaned up graffiti
- Eleanor Mann and Montreul Heights identified as needing Broom pull.
- Kathy is working on a comprehensive list of all our parks, trails, and orphan land to be shared shortly.

b) Council Liaison Verbal Report

- Caroline Donohue has been appointed as Trails Coordinator. Announced at Council on March 17.
- No other committee appointments at this time – anyone interested in joining is welcome to express interest at any time.
- 2024 4th quarter financial report was issued yesterday. Discussion around surplus and where the additional funds came from. Jay noted the following:
 - Trails maintenance: \$4,308 spent / \$5,000 budgeted.
 - Trails development: \$1,423 spent / \$10,000 budgeted
- Budget discussions ongoing – aim is to finalize by mid-April

c) Chair Verbal Report

- None

8. Correspondence

- None

9. Other Business

a) Duke Road East Trail Update

- Meeting held with the DRE sub-committee and Engineer and CAO on Feb 18th
 - Survey reviewed and ideas discussed. Engineer identified similar challenges we were aware of and mentioned some potential solutions.
 - Engineer to provide a Phase 1 trail detailed design to the CAO
- Site visit on Feb 21st with Bob, Bruce (Westbrook Engineering) Ron, David and Harold Perepalkin.
 - Discussion centered on road narrowing to slow/calm traffic, bus stops, delineators, and potential crosswalk
 - Engineer indicated Phase 3 could be a lot easier/cheaper than initially anticipated by utilizing extra width of the existing paved surface. This would align and expand on the previously approved line painting approved by Council via Councilor Epp.

Moved by David that Jay be added to the Duke Road East sub-committee to replace departing member Ryan.

Carried.

b) Parks & Trails Master Plan Updates

- Finalizing ideas for the open house
- Will have information boards as well as large map for discussion

c) Discussion of Draft ATNP

- Concern regarding differing definitions of trail types – PTASC to provide Urban Systems with input on definitions
- PTASC continues to see DRE as a valid active transportation and public safety project. Also saw merit in projects within the village core (Metchosin Rd & Happy Valley, in particular, as well as Rocky Point trail (Arden to Hans Helgesen), and

Metchosin Road trail (Colwood to DRE). Discussion occurred on the potential of developing a trail to the Galloping Goose from Hans Helgesen.

- Discussion on survey results – some concern over the survey methods and as a result how representative they are of community views.
- Jay will forward PTASC's detailed comments on to Council

10. Adjournment and Next Meeting Date

- Meeting adjourned at 9:12 pm and next meeting is scheduled for April 15, 2025.

District of Metchosin
Minutes

Environmental Advisory Select Committee

March 25, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Council Chambers
Metchosin Municipal Hall

Present: Bill Cave, Garry Fletcher, Councillor Steve Gray (Council Liaison), Anna Hall, Merrilee Hoen, Andy MacKinnon (Recorder), Ric Perron, Erin Van de Water

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

1. Agenda, Additions, Approval

Addition: presentation by Jennifer Tynan and Jochen Moehr on Spongy Moth.

Moved and Seconded by Ric & Bill that the Committee approve the agenda as amended.

Carried

2. Presentations

A presentation about Spongy Moth spraying, by Jennifer Tynan (Communities United for Clean Air) and Jochen Moehr. Jennifer described the history of Spongy Moth spraying, beginning in the 1970s. Spraying Foray 48B, a mixture of the bacterium *Bacillus thuringiensis* variety *kurstaki* (Btk) and undisclosed chemicals (some of which are likely carcinogens). This year, there's no spraying in BC for Spongy Moth. Jennifer described her concerns about effects of spraying on human health. Jochen spoke more more about the effects on insects: Spongy Moth is rare in BC and not established; Foray 48B is not specific to Spongy Moth, but affects other lepidopterans; and the spraying should be stopped. Anna pointed out that this spraying is close to habitat for Southern Resident Killer Whales, and so there's concern about carcinogens in the mix. She also expressed concerns about cascading effects in ecosystems: for example, birds eating poisoned insects could be immune-compromised and so more susceptible to diseases such as avian flu. MEASC members expressed their concern about this issue and encourage Council to take action.

3. Public Participation

Metchosin resident Karine Bordua is concerned about the effects of spraying for Spongy Moth on other species, water supply, human health.

4. Adoption of Minutes

Moved and Seconded by Steve and Ric that the Committee adopt the minutes of the Environmental Advisory Select Committee meeting held February 25, 2025.

Carried

5. Receipt of Minutes

- a) Parks & Trails Advisory Select Committee, February 18, 2025
- b) Committee of the Whole, March 10, 2025

Moved and Seconded by Merilee and Erin that the Committee receive these minutes.

Carried

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

a) Spongy Moth Spraying Program

Moved and Seconded by Andy and Bill that MEASC recommends that Council invite Jennifer and Jochen to make this presentation to Council. We further recommend that Council consider bringing this issue to AVICC and UBCM.

Carried

b) Local Biodiversity and Natural Assets Plan

Steve recounted the history of the development of this plan. CRD is also working on a Biodiversity Plan. Steve will incorporate edits from Merilee and Andy, and others. Andy has spoken with Staff at the Conservation Data Centre, and they're keen to provide us with data, but we'll need GIS capabilities.

Moved and Seconded by Erin and Garry that Steve revise the document, and circulate the revised document. He'll also speak with the CAO about developing municipal GIS capabilities (or finding funding to contract the work).

Carried

c) Race Rock Ecological Reserve

Garry's still trying to find out whether Race Rocks is in Metchosin. He'll report back at our April meeting.

d) Environmental Groups in Metchosin, Project Criteria and Student Support

Merilee is waiting to hear back from Nancy Shackelford (UVic, Restoration of Natural Systems) about Project Criteria. Discussion also about other Departments at UVic (e.g., Geography) or other institutions (Camosun College, Environmental Tech, or Royal Roads University).

7. Reports

a) Chair's Verbal Report

None.

b) Council Liaison Verbal Report

CRD has put out a strategy for the water system: comments welcomed. Scia'new were paying retail rate for water, while Metchosin was paying wholesale, but Scia'new are now paying wholesale rate also. Metchosin Biodiversity Project, Metchosin Foundation, and Bilston Watershed have partnered with UVic Environmental Law Centre to review Metchosin Bylaws. Climate Action Plan, Steve will bring materials to our next MEASC meeting.

8. Correspondence

None.

9. Other Business

None.

10. Adjournment and Next Meeting

Moved and Seconded by Erin and Anna that the Committee adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.
Carried

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 22, 2025 (Earth Day) at 7:00 p.m.