

Subject: RE: Policy for assent to un-dedicate dedicated parkland - Agenda item #7 Oct 18th

Date: Sat, 16 Oct 2004 22:50:00 -0700

From: "Ernie Crist" <ernie_crist@dnv.org>

To: "Corrie Kost" <kost@triumf.ca>, "Mayor and Council - DNV" <Council@dnv.org>, "Senior Management Committee" <managecomm@dnv.org>, "FONVCA \ (E-mail)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>, <Cagebc@yahoo.com>

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Dear Dr. Kost;

You may recall that following the third parks dedication Bylaw (the result of an original motion by Councillor Crist to dedicate ALL District parks but despite promises by staff never done) I submitted a motion that all parks be put into the "natural parks category" since in my opinion this is the only way to maintain their effective and intended use. I did this since in my opinion it makes little difference whether a park is dedicated or not if it may be changed from its natural and green state to "Park related purposes" including ice rinks and swimming pools which includes paved parking lots and do so without much ado.

However, of the 90.000 or so residents in the District only one residents namely Mrs. Pat Neufeld saw fit to support this motion albeit not to support Crist's motion (God forbid) but to secure (her) Bridgeman Park. This Council did. In effect this means that Bridgeman Park may not be used for purposes other than green space (no structures) as mentioned above. In all other cases structures may be built rather than acquire land for such purposes by way of utilizing the Heritage Fund.

After all, when people speak of "Parks" they usually mean green space. However, since nobody supported my motion including Councillor Muri and the "environmentalist" Harris, (I suppose they followed Don Bell's and staff's advice) I find it somewhat unconvincing to make a case for this motion since in effect it is ineffective in protecting parks. While I agree with the principle of the motion as I have done in the past, this bylaw is like locking the front door while leaving the back door open.

Yours truly,

Ernie Crist

-----Original Message-----

From: Corrie Kost [<mailto:kost@triumf.ca>]

Sent: October 16, 2004 8:49 PM

To: Alan Nixon; Agnes Hilsen; Ernie Crist; Lisa Muri; Maureen McKeon

Holmes; Mayor and Council - DNV

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Your Worship & Members of Council,

Although the report by James Ridge mentions, as expected, that a policy that council use only assent (referendum) to undedicate dedicated park is neither binding on current nor future councils it is nevertheless still well worth adopting such a policy. Once in place it requires additional steps (and reflective consideration) council should take on the important issue of ever undedicating dedicated parkland.

I still find it highly unethical that the province has unilaterally undone all the important dedication DNV bylaws of the past. It is not like past generations had robbed future ones of their choices. Undedication should justifiably be done by referendum for any future generations.

Please support past "covenants" by at least adopting such a policy.

Your truly,

Corrie Kost