

**FORT WILLIAMS ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING NOTES – 1/18/08**

Location: Public Works Conference Room

Present: Chuck Wilson, Frank Butterworth, Maureen McCarthy, Tina Harnden, Greg Alzhauer.

Absent: Bill Nickerson, Dan Chase (both with prior notification).

Staff: Bob Malley

Guests attending: Boyscout Troop 1: John Hume, Clyde Blackwell, Josh Tingly; Fort Williams Charitable Foundation: Lois Carlson and Joe Edgar.

Called to Order 7:00 p.m. by Chuck Wilson.

Official welcome was extended to Frank Butterworth our new member.

Approval of the minutes of the December 13, 2007 meeting.

Motion to approve brought by Tina, seconded by Greg. All voted in favor.

2008 Use Request:

Bob gave a brief overview of Use Requests for Frank Butterworth's clarification/education.

Boy Scout Troop One Camporee – May 17-19, 2008.

Josh Tingly present the request on behalf of the Boy Scout Troop 1 to use the Fort for a weekend camporee with a WWII recreation theme. They would have several events/demonstrations that would

occurring through the day on Saturday with a closing campfire where there would be skits presented. They do not use open fires for cooking and work with propane, white gas or charcoal. It was noted that if a campfire would be requested that the fire department would need to be involved and that would be coordinated through and with Bob Malley's assistance. They agreed that they would bring in additional porta potties. Ratio of camper to adult supervision is generally 2 adults to 10 campers. Additionally, they would like to incorporate a service project during the weekend for the benefit of the Fort. They have already done a walk through and have noted several items they thought would be helpful. They would be willing to work with Bob on a final project.

Tina questioned that she thought we never allowed overnight stays in the park. Bob reviewed instances in the past when this has been allowed. Concerns were expressed about the time the Scouts would retire for the evening and they stated Taps would be at 10:00 p.m. We were concerned about the Scouts' movement after dark they would be limited to within their patrol areas and are not allowed to wander without a buddy at any time.

Portland Symphony

Concern was expressed on alcohol use being blatant last year. The symphony is more than willing to do what is necessary to assist and already prints that "no alcoholic beverages are allowed" on the tickets. It was agreed that approval for the symphony be granted with the caveat of enforcement of the "no alcohol policy." A suggestion was made to have a notice with the sale of the tickets. Also it was suggested that the request for strict enforcement of the "no alcohol" policy be highlighted to the Town Council when presenting the acceptance.

Bob did a quick run down of the other requests and there was little conversation/questions as they were traditionally done and have had no issues in previous years.

Greg made a motion to approve all use requests with a highlight about alcohol enforcement. Frank seconded and it was unanimously approved.

Park Update:

Lots of plowing has been occurring.
Civil Defense bunker was broken into with a crowbar.

Budget:

Expense to have additional copies of the master plan printed.

Old Business:

Flag poles – work will begin when the snow clears. A transformer will be put in and wiring will be run to Battery Knoll.

Collection Boxes – Two locations have been identified and will be installed in the spring. Bob requested wording for the signs.

Interpretive Installation – Suggested that we might want to wait until we see who would be selected as the consultant. There is experience with this type of work in each of the groups that are being interviewed.

Main entrance, stonewall & decorative fencing – no update.

Garden/Arboretum – Bill was not present but requested that Chuck notify the group that they will probably want to present at the February meeting.

RFP – Five proposals received. Two interviewed with three more next week. Hope to present selection during the February 7th workshop meeting. It was noted that several of the groups were partnering with other firms for the proposals.

Surf Road Workshop – Reminder to the Committee went out about the meeting. It is to get the abutters input. First half of the meeting will be fore Surf Road discussion; second half is to discuss security issues.

New Business

None.

Other Business

It was noted that we have moved the February 28th meeting due to school vacation.

Foundation received \$22,400 on recent fundraiser. Some of the new members of the FWCF are developing a plan to have a presence at Family Fun Day. Nat Thompson is doing some exploratory work with the firm that does the Newport, RI Jazz Festival for a possible Jazz Festival in the Park as a fund raiser.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen McCarthy, Secretary