

OPEN

MINUTE ITEM

ATTACHMENTS

Ordinary meeting of the
Sports and Recreation Committee

Thursday 17 September 2020
Commencing at 10.00a.m.
Council Chamber

Civic House

110 Trafalgar Street, Nelson

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Item 0: Chairperson's Report



Sports and Recreation Committee

17 September 2020

REPORT

Chairperson's Report

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 To provide an update from the Chairperson.

2. Recommendation

That the Sports and Recreation Committee

1. Receives the report *Chairperson's Report (A2468217)*.

2. Background

- 2.1 This week, 14th to 20th September is Te Wiki O Te Reo Maori (Maori Language Week).
- 2.2 Koanga Manuru. Spring, my favourite time of year has begun this week.
- 2.3 The Season for planting and digging.
- 2.4 Though, technically speaking I discovered there is several dates either side of this week, that you can choose in NZ for first day of spring, (either by meteorological, astronomical, solar, or mother nature). And according to NZ Ministry of Internal Affairs there is actually no official preferred date.
- 2.5 Thus, maybe Nelson could lead NZ, and choose an official day for the region to formally adopt as the first day of spring.
- 2.6 From Queens Gardens to Isel Park, with the new season our formal gardens are looking amazing as always, and with the added blossom, and associated spring flowering aromas, even more spectacular.
- 2.7 The Nelson Cherry Blossom Festival at our Miyazu Gardens, that was scheduled for this Saturday, has unfortunately been cancelled because of COVID-19, a difficult decision made by Nelson Japanese Society and

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Nelson Miyazu Sister City Assn. Though this hasn't stopped nature putting on the display for public to visit and enjoy at ones own leisure.

- 2.8 The entrance to the city from QEII Drive with the Daffodils on Haven Rd are eye popping once again, framing the Moller's Fountain, which last month marked exactly 80 years (7th August 1940), when Dorothy Moller gifted and switched on the fountain for Nelson.
- 2.9 With the physical distancing rules on aircraft being removed by government on Monday, I believe this will translate to more reasonable ticket prices, more regional visitors, and more economic injection to Nelson for the upcoming Nelson event and holiday season here.
- 2.10 And coincides last week, Nelson Airport being voted the "best regional airport" in New Zealand by the Newshub Travel Community.
- 2.11 It is also pleasing to announce with Nelson Mountain Bike Club the PayDirt Fund, founded by Santa Cruz Bicycles, will partly co-fund the new 3,000m Fringed Hill trail, due to start construction in November this year.
- 2.12 Securing this \$37k funding that was applied for by Nelson Mountain Bike Club, helped offset Nelson City Council's already over \$500k investment of new trails from the 2018 LTP. It's a win-win situation for Nelson's mountain biking community.
- 2.13 The sponsorship recognises that Nelson's mountain biking is world class and the investment results in a saving for Council's Long Term Plan that will enable improvements in other areas of the mountain biking network.
- 2.14 Of interesting note, Nelson is the only Southern Hemisphere recipient of the Santa Cruz grants.
- 2.15 Nelson Canines and their owners will early next month be able to hang out together at the dedicated dog park in Marsden Valley. An area where dogs can be dogs and run free without owners worrying about other park users.
- 2.16 This was a result of numerous submissions to previous annual and long term plans.
- 2.17 Natureland Wildlife Trust is celebrating spring with three, two week old baby damara lambs adding to their flock of six.
- 2.18 They also happy to announce the seven baby Tuatara hatchlings are doing well, these Taonga, these native miniature little dinosaurs are seven months old now, yet weigh just 6 grams and just 120mm long. And to think Tuatara breed only once every 2 to 5 years, taking 3 years to form an egg. Quite a miracle in captivity.
- 2.19 This adds to the further great work of breed and release of Kākāriki and Kaka taking place by the newly reformed Natureland Trust.

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- 2.20 Further news update in the Tahuna Reserve area, the successfully popular Tahunanui Skate Ramp has been brightly transformed over last weekend with eye-catching murals painted by the Nelson, and NZ renowned artist, whom goes by the name Smeagol.

Nga mihi nui

Author: Tim Skinner, Chairperson - Sports and Recreation
Committee

Attachments

Nil