

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD IN THE PARK BOARD OFFICE
ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 08, 1997,**

PRESENT:	Chair	- Duncan Wilson
Vice Chair	- Alan Fetherstonhaugh	
	Commissioners	- David Chesman
		- Allan DeGenova
		- Laura McDiarmid
		- Patrick Warren
		- Gabriel Yong
	Acting General Manager	- Allan Argent
	Director of Administrative & Revenue Services	- Philip Josephs
	Director of Corporate Services	- Anita Ho
	Director of Operations	- Liane McKenna
	Director of Planning	- Jim Lowden
	Acting Director of Recreation	- John Grant
	Manager - Public Affairs	- Terri Clark
	Recording Secretary	- Julie Chiu

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on Monday, November 24, 1997, were adopted as circulated.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Commissioner Wilson reported on the 1997 operations at the Board. Commissioner Wilson stated that we have come a long way over the past twelve months. Committee meetings have been opened to the public and a forum has been established to more fully evaluate issues prior to consideration at the Board. The last year has also seen some senior level retirements of staff, Central Recreations Services, Joslin, Kobylka, Director of Finance, Doug Holden and General Manager, Vic Kondrosky.

Commissioner Wilson reported on the accomplishment of each of the member of the Board. Commissioner Patrick Warren was involved with the Frasersview Golf Course renovations, the Board's Organizational Review, environmental issues such as the Integrated Pest Management and urban wildlife programs, concession improvements and transportation issues. As we move into our second year we will be focusing on concession improvements, the Strathcona Park Redevelopment, the establishment of a skateboard park, a gazebo in Queen Elizabeth Park and working closely with field user groups and the establishment of a volunteer co-ordinator. Commissioner Warren also served

as a Vice-Chair of the Planning Committee.

Commissioner Laura McDiarmid spent much of her time working with community groups. She has also travelled to Seattle and Calgary to look at their off-leash program for dogs. Earlier this year the Park Board was asked by the Vancouver Dog Owners Association and 400 Vancouver residents to look at the implementation of an off-leash program in Vancouver. Commissioner McDiarmid has been the front runner in the Board's attempt to provide an outlet for dogs off-leash in Vancouver. There will be a trial program starting in the new year and are hopeful that we will have a full program by spring.

Commissioner Alan Fetherstonhaugh, Chair of the Planning Committee. There has been a tremendous amount of behind the scenes work done over the last year which will be coming to fruition in the coming months such as the English Bay Bike Route, the Stanley Park Bike Route, the re-landscaping of the former zoo and the old Stanley Park Works Yard, the opening of Coopers Park, the working drawing of Phase 3 of David Lam Park and in January bids will be called for the Killarney Community Centre renovation. The total value of these planning projects is \$11.3 million.

Commissioner David Chesman has been the Park Board liaison to the Library Board. As Chair of the Library Board Human Resources Committee, he led the recently concluded organizational review of the Library in the non-public service area. The purpose of which was to locate efficiencies and reallocate to suspended Library services to the public. The full benefit of the review ought to be evident to the public by mid 1998. He had continued in his efforts to green Hastings Park, creating a positive relationship with the Vancouver Aquarium. Commissioner Wilson stated that special recognition should be given to Commissioner Chesman on his work with Hastings Park. Commissioner Chesman led many unanimously carried motions to remind City Council the Park Board's independently elected status.

Commissioner Allan DeGenova focused much of his attention on the completion of Charles and McLean Park along with other park issues in the downtown eastside. Commissioner DeGenova in conjunction with the community and the Police Department has spearheaded a revitalization program for the downtown eastside parks including Andy Livingstone, Oppenheimer and Strathcona Parks. Commissioner DeGenova also worked closely with Orca Bay and the lead up to the NHL All Stars event at Hastings Park. In particular he is working to ensure continued community centre participation in the NHL street hockey program.

Commissioner Gabriel Yong has been active participant in community consultation programs particularly regarding the updated report on Recreation and Leisure Needs for Seniors which was approved by the Board in 1982 . Commissioner Yong participated in the Youth Advisory Committee regarding the evaluation of youth services in the city with the civic youth strategy. As a liaison Commissioner for the City's Special Advisory Committee for Cultural Communities, he has been actively involved in the process of obtaining the final approval of Burrard Park for the planting of the Cultural Harmony trees. He has also taken an interest in the implementation of the diversity committee for Central Recreation Services. Commissioner Yong has also written regular

columns about Park Board initiatives in Chinese, South Asian and Philippino newspapers. Commissioner Yong served as Chair of the Community Services and Budget Committee for the last year.

Commissioner Wilson stated that he spend a significant amount of his time on the Board' s operational review. It has become clear that the Board can no longer rely on stable tax-payer funding for maintaining its services and programs. The Board needed to re-examine its allocation of scarce resources, while at the same time continuing to identify more efficient and business like management practices. The Board retained Coopers and Lybrand to conduct an organizational review of the Board. This process is about to be completed and a report is expected in the New Year. The issue of the First Narrows Crossing has also occupied much of his attention. Commissioner Wilson met with the Deputy Prime Minister in Ottawa to solicit Federal Government support as the landlord of Stanley Park, and to solicit Federal Government support for the Park Board' s desire to see the park protected from any further incursion by the causeway. This has provided the opportunity for the Park Board to be included at the table with the Province as we work towards a solution for the First Narrows crossing. It has been extremely challenging in terms of diplomacy to work with all the different municipalities, the Provincial and Federal governments as each party at the table has a different interest and to accomplish what is in the best interest of the Park will be a significant feat.

Commissioner Wilson thanked staff for their support and assistance for the last year.

ELECTION OF CHAIR

As set forth in the Board' s Procedure Bylaw, the Acting General Manager acting as Chairman pro-tem, called for nominations for Chair of the Board for 1998.

Commissioner Yong nominated Commissioner Wilson as Chair.

Ballots were provided to the Commissioners for completion and the results were as follows:

Wilson

Wilson

Wilson

Wilson

Wilson

Wilson

Wilson

Commissioner Wilson was declared Chair of the Board for 1998.

Moved by Commissioner Fetherstonhaugh,

THAT the ballots be destroyed.

-Carried Unanimously.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

Commissioner McDiarmid nominated Commissioner Fetherstonhaugh as Vice-Chair.

Ballots were provided to the Commissioners for completion and the results were counted as follows:

Fetherstonhaugh

Fetherstonhaugh

Fetherstonhaugh

Fetherstonhaugh

Fetherstonhaugh

Fetherstonhaugh

Fetherstonhaugh

Commissioner Fetherstonhaugh was declared Vice-Chair of the Board for 1998.

Moved by Commissioner McDiarmid,

THAT the ballots be destroyed.

-Carried Unanimously.

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR OF COMMITTEES

Commissioner Fetherstonhaugh nominated Commissioner Warren as Chair of the Planning and Environment Committee. There were no other nominations.

Commissioner Warren was declared Chair of the Planning and Environment Committee.

Commissioner Fetherstonhaugh nominated Commissioner DeGenova as Vice-Chair of the Planning and Environment Committee. There were no other

nominations.

Commissioner DeGenova was declared Vice-Chair of the Planning and Environment Committee.

Commissioner Fetherstonhaugh nominated Commissioner Yong as Chair of the Community Services and Budget Committee. There were no other nominations.

Commissioner Yong was declared Chair of the Community Services and Budget Committee.

Commissioner Fetherstonhaugh nominated Commissioner McDiarmid as Vice-Chair of the Community Services and Budget Committee. There were no other nominations.

Commissioner McDiarmid was declared Vice-Chair of the Community Services and Budget Committee.

CHANGE OF LIAISON

Commissioner Warren will be the liaison for VanDusen Botanical Gardens and Commissioner DeGenova will be the liaison for Britannia Community Centre.

EXPENDITURE WARRANTS - 1998

Moved by Commissioner Fetherstonhaugh,

THAT the Board authorize the General Manager to draw warrants pursuant to Section 493 of the City Charter for the twelve month period of 1998.

-Carried Unanimously.

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND BUDGETS COMMITTEE

Vancouver Canadians - Lease Renewal

Board members received copies of a staff report dated November 27, 1997 recommending that the Board approve Recommendations 1 to 4 in the staff report.

Gary Arthur, General Manager, Vancouver Canadians appeared before the Board and stated that he was appreciative to Philip Josephs for working with him on the proposed lease renewal and would like to continue to look at avenues over the next three months which will be mutually beneficial and expand the revenue base which will in turn provide the opportunity to increase the rent.

Commissioner DeGenova stated that he needed clarification regarding the

early termination clause. Mr. Arthur reviewed the new Baseball Collective Agreement with the Board and stated that one of the term in that agreement was that the minor league stadium are required to have 10,000 seats. If this clause is exercised by the parent club, the Canadians would be forced to move as the present seating capacity at Nat Bailey is about 5,000.

Commissioner Chesman stated that he was unable to check on the potential for conflict and enquired whether JSS Sports Inc. had any business arrangement with Owen Bird, the firm with which Commissioner Chesman is a partner. Mr. Arthur advised the Board that JSS Sports Inc. did not do business with Owen Bird.

Moved by commissioner Yong,

THAT the Board approve a three year renewal (January 1, 1998 - December 31, 2000) with a two year option to JSS Sports Inc., operator of the Vancouver Canadians Baseball Club, for the lease of Nat Bailey Stadium.

THAT the existing rent structure remain at \$100,000 per year or 15% of gross admission sales, whichever is greater.

THAT other modifications to the lease be made, subject to the approval of the General Manager and the General Manager of the Vancouver Canadians.

THAT no legal rights shall arise hereby and none shall arise thereafter until the execution of the contemplated documents.

-Carried Unanimously.

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Upgrading the Seaside Bike Route English Bay

Board members received copies of a staff report dated November 27, 1997 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A and B (i) in the Administrative Report dated November 1997 regarding Upgrading the Seaside Bike Route along English Bay Beach.

Moved by Commissioner Warren,

THAT the Board approve recommendations A and B(i) in the Administrative Report dated November 24, 1997 regarding Upgrading the Seaside Bike Route along English Bay Beach to Standing Committee on Transportation and Traffic and the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation.

Pieter Rutgers, Manager of Park Acquisition and Research, presented the plans for the upgrading of the seaside bike route. Mr. Rutgers advised the Board that the seaside bike route along English Bay Beach is highly congested during peak summer months and conflicts between cyclists, in-line skaters, pedestrians and motorists often occur. With the increasing resident and tourist populations in the downtown peninsula and in Vancouver in general,

the congestion is expected to worsen. After reviewing many options with the public, a final design plan is now recommended for implementation. Mr. Rutgers reviewed the plan and source of funds in detail with the Board.

Joe Arnaud appeared before the Board to support the proposed plan. Mr. Arnaud showed a brief two minute news clip when this option was first thought about . This has been a long time coming and he hoped to see it in operation by next summer.

Nancy Tillson stated that she does not support the plan as there are too many restrictions for people in wheelchairs or with walkers. There are not enough benches planned along the pedestrian path. This is not a good plan. The cyclists and skaters should be on the road side and not the pedestrians. A number of people will be deprived from casual access to the seawall.

Eleanor Hadley appeared before the Board and stated that special pathways are being built for cyclists who do not pay for using these pathways. Ms. Hadley suggested that bicycles should have license plates just like cars and the cyclists must pay for registration. The cyclists should be using Beach Avenue, they do not see the view as their eyes need to be on the road. Ms. Hadley suggested that cyclists must have warning bells and a speed limit should be imposed. Lights and reflectors should be mandatory and cyclists should be penalized if they break the law. The money spent on the construction of this bike route could be used on beach improvement.

Ian Wasson, Bicycle Advisory Committee stated that it was a good plan. They are pleased that the cyclists are being brought up to the road level. This also resolves the problem at the narrowest section of the seawall. It also allows the pedestrian a safety zone as they step off the curb before they cross the cycling path to the seawall.

Lorne Milne, Assistant Co-ordinator of National Skate Patrol, applauded the proposal. The skate patrol will help to make it work. He agreed that a speed limit should be enforced for cyclists.

Board members discussed the matter and thanked staff for their efforts. Commissioner Chesman stated that he would like to amend the motion as he was concern that the needs of those in society requiring ambulatory aid is not overlooked.

Moved by Commissioner Chesman,

THAT the approval is subject to the addition of adequate accessible benches where necessary for the benefit of persons requiring ambulatory aids and the benches along the route carry signs giving priority to persons requiring ambulatory aid, and, the benches face the ocean to the maximum extend possible and that such benches to be funded through the bench program.

-Carried Unanimously.

Commissioner Fetherstonhaugh stated that citizens of Vancouver should be made aware that the City and Park Board are major contributors to this

project.

Moved by Commissioner Fetherstonhaugh,

THAT along with the City of Vancouver flag, proper signage be put up to inform the citizens of Vancouver that the majority of the cost is being borne by the City of Vancouver and the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation.

-Carried Unanimously.

The main motion as amended was put as follows:

THAT the Board approve recommendations A and B(i) in the Administrative Report dated November 24, 1997 regarding Upgrading the Seaside Bike Route along English Bay Beach to Standing Committee on Transportation and Traffic and the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation.

THAT the approval is subject to the addition of adequate accessible benches where necessary for the benefit of persons requiring ambulatory aids and the benches along the route carry signs giving priority to persons requiring ambulatory aid, and, the benches face the ocean to the maximum extent possible and that such benches to be funded through the bench program.

THAT along with the City of Vancouver flag, proper signage be put up to inform the citizens of Vancouver that the majority of the cost is being borne by the City of Vancouver and the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation.

-Carried Unanimously.

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND BUDGET COMMITTEE

Extension of Licence Agreement with AAA Horse & Carriage Ltd. for the Provision of a Horse Drawn Carriage Service in Stanley Park

This matter was referred from the Community Services and Budget Committee meeting on December 1, 1997.

Moved by Commissioner Yong,

THAT the Board grant a five year extension to the licence agreement with AAA Horse & Carriage Ltd., effective May 1, 1998, and that such agreement to include terms of remuneration and terms to allow both parties to make changes in the nature of the operation as required during the term of the licence agreement, subject to the satisfaction of the General Manager and the Director of Legal Services.

Commissioner Chesman stated that he had a motion which will replace the motion recommended by the Community Services and Budget Committee. Commissioner Yong withdrew his motion.

Moved by Commissioner Chesman,

- A. THAT the Board enter into negotiations with AAA Horse and Carriage Ltd. ("AAA") to extend AAA' s licence agreement for five years.
- B. THAT terms of the extended licence include the following:
- i. remuneration to the Board be consistent with commercial market rates in the Park and elsewhere;
 - ii. terms permitting change in the nature of AAA' s operations must be with Board approval ;
 - iii. express, fundamental terms as follows:
 - a. AAA' s acknowledgment that the public interest in the park, as understood by the Board, prevails at all times in preference to AAA' s commercial interest in the park, and
 - b. AAA' s acknowledgment that it must confirm and adapt at all times to the Board' s decision concerning transportation in the park including, but not limited to, the Board' s current transportation plan;
 - c. AAA' s acknowledgment that its route within the Park is subject to change, without compensation, on ten days written notice from the Board;
- C. THAT any negotiated extension to AAA' s licence be subject to Board approval.
- D. THAT nothing in this motion intends or incorporates Board approval for the construction of any structure by AAA in the Park or of the alienation of any public parkland to AAA.
- E. THAT unless and until the Board approves a licence extension with AA A as negotiated, the current agreement shall upon expiration continue on a month to month basis.
- F. THAT should negotiations fail to conclude on an agreement , AAA is free to return to the Board for further direction.

Commissioner Wilson asked Gerry O' Neil who was in the audience if this motion was acceptable to him. Mr. O' Neil stated that he did not have much time to read through the motion and would prefer the Board to defer it till he had an opportunity to understand its implications. Commissioner Chesman explained that the motion was similar to the recommendation from the Community Services and Budget Committee, which allows him a five year extension, although with much more detail of the Board' s expectations. Mr. O' Neil stated that on this understanding he would not ask the Board to defer the motion.

A vote was take on the motion and it was Carried Unanimously.

Park Board Signing Authority

Board members received copies of a staff report dated November 26, 1997 recommending that the signing authority for the Park Board be designated as listed in the report.

Moved by Commissioner Yong,

THAT the signing authority for the Park Board be designated as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
Allan Argent	Acting General Manager
Anita Ho	Director of Corporate Services
Philip Josephs	Director of Administrative & Revenue Services

-Carried Unanimously.

Implication to the Community Association of the Changes in the Province's Gaming Policy

Commissioner Wilson left the room on a potential conflict of interest.

Board members received copies of a staff report dated November 27, 1998 recommending that the Board receive the report for information. Commissioner Yong stated that since this will affect the Community Association maybe the Board should take the matter further with the Provincial government. Commissioner McDiarmid encouraged the Commissioners to attend the meeting of the Community Association Presidents.

Commissioner Chesman thanked staff for producing the report in a timely manner.

Moved by Commissioner Yong,

THAT the Board receive the report dated November 27, 1998 regarding Implication to the Community Association of the Changes in the Province' s Gaming Policy for information.

-Carried Unanimously.

Commissioner Wilson returned to the meeting at this time.

Park Board - Re-engineering of Litter/Waste Control Process

Commissioner DeGenova left the room at this time.

This matter was referred from the Community Services and Budget Committee

meeting held on Monday, December 1, 1997.

Moved by Commissioner Yong,

- A. THAT the Park Board approve recommendations 1 - 5 for the new process for controlling litter and waste in parks.
- B. THAT funds to cover the capital costs be borrowed from the 1997-1999 Capital Plan accounts and be repaid by annual cost savings in the operating programs over the next three years.
- C. THAT implementation of this new process begin in November 1997 and be completed before the end of May 1998.
- D. THAT monies realized as cost savings from this program be reallocated to public service immediately upon the repayment of the loan from the Capital Plan as per paragraph B.

Commissioner Wilson enquired what "public service" meant.

Commissioner Chesman stated that where a public body provides public service, jobs are created in the process. Commissioner Chesman stated that the intent as he understood it is that we find efficiencies, free up money and return that money to other areas to better serve the public. If that creates employment, that is acceptable, but the focus is public services. Commissioner Chesman stated that he discussed this matter with the union and expressed his view that is where a public body in the business of creating profit or making profit, finds efficiencies these monies should be reallocated which will in turn create jobs and without loss of FTEs. We are not in the business to guarantee jobs into the future however, we should express the intention that money saved in this term be used in the future toward public service.

A vote was taken on the motion and it was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Park Board 1998 Capital Budget

Board members received copies of a staff report dated November 27, 1997 recommending that the Board approve Recommendations A to C listed in the report.

Moved by Commissioner Yong,

- A. THAT the 1998 Park Board Capital budget in the amount of \$7,263,150 and as outlined in Schedule A be approved subject to final approval by Council.
- B. THAT the 1998 Community Centre Referendum Improvement budget in the amount of \$1,000,000 be approved and that Council be requested to contribute this amount, to be funded from revenue capital.

C. THAT it be noted in the 1998 Capital budget that the item for Moberly Hall improvements in the 1997-99 Capital Plan is actually allocated to Sunset Community Centre.

-Carried Unanimously.

Commissioner DeGenova returned to the meeting at this time.

Commissioner Warren left the room at this time.

Meraloma Club Lease Renewal

Commissioner McDiarmid left the room on a potential conflict of interest.

Board members received copies of a staff report dated December 5, 1997 recommending that the lease between the Park Board and the Meraloma Club be reviewed for a further six year term commencing June 1, 1996 and that the clause as detailed in the report be added to the lease.

Moved by Commissioner Yong,

THAT the lease between the Park Board and the Meraloma Club be renewed for a further six-year term commencing June 1, 1996 and that the following clause be added to the lease:

The Lessee shall maintain the Premises in a sanitary, neat, tidy and safe condition and free from nuisance at all times and in good order, repair and condition to the satisfaction of the Landlord. The Lessee, at its own expense, shall contract with an accredited Building Inspection Service every two (2) years for a maintenance inspection to determine the condition of the Premises including the structure, mechanical and electrical elements and finishes inside and outside and prepare and submit a full report of such inspection to the Landlord. The first maintenance inspection and report shall be completed by January 31, 1999.

-Carried Unanimously.

Commissioners Warren and McDiarmid returned to the room at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Fetherstonhaugh advised the Board that he attended the Lighting of the Tree at Kitsilano. The Kitsilano Chamber of Commerce did an excellent job.

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

Warrant #49 in the amount of \$191,976.62, Warrant #50 in the amount of \$376,642.31: Cdn.\$374,473.24, US:\$2,169.07.
