

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD IN THE PARK BOARD OFFICE
ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 07, 1998**

PRESENT:	Chair	- Alan Fetherstonhaugh
	Vice-Chair	- Gabriel Yong
	Commissioners	- David Chesman
		- Allan DeGenova
		- Laura McDiarmid
		- Patrick Warren
		- Duncan Wilson
		- Susan Mundick
	General Manager	
	Director of Administrative & Revenue Services	- Philip Josephs
	Director of Corporate Services	- Anita Ho
	Director of Planning	- Jim Lowden
	A/ Director of Operations	- Bill Manning
	Manager of Central Recreation Services	- Jule Hopkins
	Manager of Public Affairs	- Terri Clark
	Recording Secretary	- Julie Casanova

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner McDiarmid referred to page 4 of the minutes of the meeting of the Board held on Monday, November 30, 1998 and stated that former Commissioner Donna Morgan has a daughter and not a son.

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on Monday, November 30, 1998 were adopted as amended.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Commissioner Wilson stated that it was a tremendous privilege and honour to be Chair of the Park Board for two years. Over the last two years he had the privilege to assist the Board in supporting a number of important initiatives such as the preservation and protection of Stanley Park in regard to the encroachment of the Park by the causeway and Lion's Gate Bridge. The Board has maintained its steadfast position concerning the issue of Hastings Park which began under the leadership of Commissioner Chesman and will continue under the next leadership. Commissioner Wilson reported that the Board also initiated the dogs off-leash in Parks pilot project under the leadership of

Commissioner McDiarmid. Most recently the Board is advocating for a Mount Pleasant Waterfront Park in South East False Creek.

Commissioner Wilson also reported that the Board initiated a major organizational review. In June of this year, we hired a new General Manager, Susan Mundick and since then the Senior Management Team has been working on the organizational review resulting in New Directions which will see the Park Board being much more customer focused and efficient in the future. Commissioner Wilson stated that organizational change is not a simple process and he would like to take the opportunity to commend the senior management team for their leadership and vision in implementing the New Directions program. He believes the Park Board will be stronger as a result of this change. Commissioner Wilson thanked the staff for their efforts and wished them good luck as they continue down that road.

ELECTION OF CHAIR

In accordance to the Board's Procedure By-law, the General Manager acting as Chair pro tem called for nominations for Chair of the Board for 1999.

Commissioner Yong nominated Commissioner Fetherstonhaugh as Chair, Commissioner DeGenova seconded the nomination.

There were no other nominations. The General Manager counted the ballots and Commissioner Fetherstonhaugh was declared Chair of the Board for 1999.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

The Chair requested nomination for the position of Vice-Chair. Commissioner Warren nominated Commissioner Yong. Commissioner DeGenova seconded the nomination.

There were no other nominations. The Chair counted the ballots and Commissioner Yong was declared as Vice-Chair of the Board for 1999.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Commissioner Fetherstonhaugh thanked the Commissioners for electing him to the Chair. Commissioner Fetherstonhaugh stated that it is his hope in 1999 that Hastings Park will be returned to the care and custody of the Park Board so that the long awaited restoration of Hastings Park will proceed as planned without further obstruction. Hastings Park will be the second largest park in the city after Stanley Park. The Park

Board is once again presented with another challenge to live up to its mandate: South East False Creek. This is a good opportunity to provide parkland to one of the most park deficient areas of the city. The other component of the Parks and Recreation system are the community centres. In order to meet the growing needs of the communities there is an urgent need to repair the community centre buildings. There will be a special question on the ballot of the 1999 civic election to enable the Board to continue in a major way, the upgrading of the centres. Next year, two major community centre renewal projects will be completed, with Killarney (\$5 million) and Kitsilano (\$2.75 million). January 1st will mark a new era in how the Park Board serves the citizens of Vancouver with a new organizational structure which will improve the service that is provided for the benefit of the taxpayers. Although traditional in many ways, the Park Board are aware of the challenges facing us as we enter the new millennium.

CITY COUNCIL REPORT

Commissioner Warren reported that he along with the Director of Planning and Director of Stanley District attended a workshop presentation at Council with regard to South East False Creek. The vision of the charette recommending more housing is far from that of the Park Board's of a waterfront park.

TRIBUTE TO COMMISSIONER DUNCAN WILSON

Commissioner Chesman thanked Commissioner Wilson for being the Chair from 1996. Commissioner Chesman stated that Commissioner Wilson moved the Park Board through a very constructive and productive phase with issues such as the Stanley Park Causeway, South East False Creek and New Directions - the organizational review. The Park Board is well recognized in the city for its excellence on taking a stand on behalf of the people, being open to new and creative ideas and always accessible to the public.

DELEGATIONS

Kitsilano Beach Pay Parking Lot - Hours of Operations and Security Service

Board members received copies of a staff report dated November 27, 1998 recommending that the closing time of the Kitsilano Beach pay parking lot at Cornwall and Arbutus be extended from 1:00 a.m. until 2:00 a.m. on a permanent basis and that ongoing arrangements with area restaurateurs regarding the bonded security service in the lot be made to the satisfaction of the General Manager.

Dave Stewart, a consultant for the merchants in the Kitsilano Beach area appeared before the Board and stated that there have been no complaints from the residents with regard to the pay parking lot. This arrangement works well and it also brings in revenue to the Park Board.

Moved by Commissioner McDiarmid,

- A. THAT the closing time of the Kitsilano Beach Pay parking lot at Cornwall and Arbutus be extended from 1:00 a.m. until 2:00 a.m. on a permanent basis.**
- B. THAT ongoing arrangements with area restaurateurs regarding the bonded security service in the lot be made to the satisfaction of the General Manager.**

- Carried Unanimously.

Dogs Off-Leash in Parks

Board members received copies of a staff report dated November 27, 1998 recommending that the Board approve the dogs off-leash locations identified in this report.

Moved by Commissioner McDiarmid,

THAT the Board approve the dogs off-leash locations identified in the report.

Siedo Tzogoeff, Meraloma Club, appeared before the Board and stated that Connaught Park is highly used by the high school and other sports. There have been injuries to players caused by the dogs digging holes in the cricket pitches. There should be restrictions on how much of the park can be used as off-leash areas. Mr. Tzogoeff enquired if another park such as Trafalgar or Carnarvon Park could be used for the off-leash project.

Glen Swain, Vancouver Dog Owners Association, appeared before the Board and stated that the population around Connaught Park area has grown. Most dog owners are responsible and the sports users must respect other users in the park. Ms. Swain congratulated staff on a well written report.

Board members discussed the matter and Commissioner Wilson stated that he is concerned about the active use parks and believes that staff will work with the community to resolve this problem. Commissioner Warren stated that he would like to be kept informed on how these areas would work and would put forward an amendment that staff monitor the use of off-leash areas and report back to the Board.

Moved by Commissioner Warren,

THAT staff monitor the use of off-leash areas and report to the Board on any issues or problems that arise in these location by May 1st, 1999.

-Carried Unanimously.

Commissioner Chesman stated that the problems we face is City Council, they under-fund the Pound making enforcement impossible, massive new development around Connaught Park is approved without creating the parkland that goes with such a development, they bailed out of the problem by striking an informal committee. The Park Board is the only agency willing to tackle this problem. We do not have enough sport fields to give it over to the dog issue and do not want these sports fields to be places where people could be injured. Commissioner Chesman stated that he would like to amend the motion to eliminate three parks from the list of recommended parks for off-leash dogs. He would like to send a message to the dog owners that there is a level of government in this town that we want to help them solve their problem, however, we must also send a message to the sport users that we are not abandoning them in the process.

Moved by Commissioner Chesman,

THAT Hillcrest, Balaclava and Connaught Parks be deleted from the list of recommended parks for off-leash dogs.

Board members discussed the amendment and Commissioner Yong suggested a friendly amendment to defer rather than to delete the three parks. Commissioner Chesman stated that he cannot accept the friendly amendment as there are not enough fields for the sport users and the onus should be on those who are trying to impact on the sport users. Commissioner McDiarmid stated that she would like to put forward an amendment which is to allow the off-leash areas on the perimeter of the mentioned parks.

Moved by Commissioner McDiarmid,

THAT the perimeter of Hillcrest, Balaclava and Connaught Park be

considered as off-leash areas.

-DEFEATED.

(Commissioners Chesman, DeGenova, Fetherstonhaugh, Warren and Wilson contrary)

A vote was taken on the amendment motion as follows:

Moved by Commissioner Chesman,

THAT Hillcrest, Balaclava and Connaught Parks be deleted from the list of recommended parks for off-leash dogs.

-Carried.

(Commissioner Fetherstonhaugh, McDiarmid and Warren contrary)

The main motion as amended was put as follows:

- A. THAT the Board approve the dogs off-leash locations identified in the report.**
- B. THAT staff monitor the use of off-leash areas and report to the Board on any issues or problems that arise in these location by May 1st, 1999.**
- C. THAT Hillcrest, Balaclava and Connaught Parks be deleted from the list of recommended parks for off-leash dogs.**

- Carried.

(Commissioner Fetherstonhaugh contrary)

Redevelopment of the Playing Fields at Hillcrest Park

Board members received copies of a staff report dated November 18, 1998 recommending that the Board approve the re-development of the playing fields at Hillcrest Park from funds provided by the 1997-99 Capital Plan.

Andrew Grant, Vancouver Community Baseball, appeared before the Board and stated that he was in favour of the initiative. They provide baseball for 13 to 18 year old and they are in need of good diamonds. Mr. Grant thanked the Park Board for

considering an upgrade to Hillcrest Park.

Commissioner Wilson left at this point of the meeting.

Chris Haylett, Little Mountain Baseball, appeared before the Board and stated that he was in favour of the redevelopment. The Little League registration is growing by about 15% annually and three diamonds are not enough. They also hope to host the 2001 Little League Championships for which they would need a first class facility. Mr. Haylett stated that the dogs would dig holes in the fields and this was not safe for the players. He is happy to hear that Hillcrest Park has been removed from the list of off-leash parks.

Moved by Commissioner DeGenova,

THAT the Board approve the redevelopment of the playing fields at Hillcrest Park from funds provided by the 1997-99 Capital Plan.

-Carried Unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS

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

Non-Motorized Water Sports Concession at English Bay

Board members received copies of a staff report dated November 24, 1998 recommending that Ocean West Expeditions Ltd. be granted approval to operate a non-motorized water sports concession at English Bay Beach for the years 1999-2000, subject to conditions satisfactory to the General Manager.

Moved by Commissioner Warren,

- A. THAT Ocean West Expeditions Ltd. be granted approval to operate a non-motorised water sports concession at English Bay Beach for the years 1999 - 2001, subject to conditions satisfactory to the General Manager.**

- B. THAT no legal rights shall be created by the passage of these resolutions and none shall arise hereafter except by the signing of the contemplated documents.**

-Carried Unanimously.

New Radio Tower in Queen Elizabeth Park

Board members received copies of a staff report dated November 25, 1998 recommending that the Board approve the City's Director of Planning be advised of the Park Board's desire to set the conditions listed in the report applied to the development permit for the proposed E-Comm radio in Queen Elizabeth Park.

Moved by Commissioner Warren,

THAT the City's Director of Planning be advised of the Park Board's desire to see the following conditions applied to the development permit for the proposed E-Comm radio tower in Queen Elizabeth Park:

- (i) That E-Comm restore all landscaped areas that are damaged due to construction activity to their prior condition to the satisfaction of the General Manager of the Park Board.**
- (ii) That E-Comm reimburse the Vancouver Park Board for the loss of three mature Japanese Maples to be removed (replacement value is \$15,000).**
- (iii) That the two existing radio towers and equipment shelters be removed and the area returned to green space at the expense of E-Comm, within nine months of the tower becoming operational.**
- (iv) That E-Comm pay the Vancouver Park Board for the planting of twenty trees as visual impact mitigation (\$10,000).**

-Carried Unanimously.

Commissioner Chesman returned to the meeting at this time.

Parkland Rights of Way

Board members received copies of a staff report dated November 27, 1998

recommending that the Board grant a right of way for operation and maintenance of collector sewers along English Bay, in accordance with the attached documentation, to the Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District.

Moved by Commissioner Chesman,

THAT the Board grant a right of way for operation and maintenance of collector sewers along English Bay, in accordance with the attached documentation, to the Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District.

-Carried Unanimously.

Park Board Signing Authority

Board members received copies of a staff report dated December 4, 1998 recommending that the Board approve the signing authority for the Park Board as designated 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>
Susan Mundick	General Manager
Anita Ho	Director of Corporate Services
Jim Lowden	Director of Stanley District
Piet Rutgers	Director of Planning and Operations

-Carried Unanimously.

EXPENDITURE WARRANTS - 1999

Recommendation: THAT the Board authorize the General Manager to draw

warrants pursuant to Section 493 of the City Charter for the twelve month period of 1999.

It is normal practice for the Board at the first meeting in each year to authorize the General Manager to draw warrants pursuant to Section 493 of the City Charter for expenditures by the Board for the twelve month period of 1999. The following are the pertinent sections of the City Charter.

- Section 493 - 1. Save by resolution of the Council, the Board shall not authorize or make any expenditures except those provided for in the estimate as adopted by the Council.
1. The Board may, for a period of not more than twelve months at a time, give authorization in advance to the General Manager to draw warrants for payment prior to approval of the Board, but every warrant for a payment so authorized in advance shall be reported in writing by the General Manager to the Board within fifteen days after the end of the month in which the warrant is drawn.”

Moved by Commissioner DeGenova,

THAT the Board authorize the General Manager to draw warrants pursuant to Section 493 of the City Charter for the twelve month period of 1999.

-Carried Unanimously.

Liaison Appointments

This matter was deferred to the next meeting of the Board. The Chair asked the Commissioners to review their liaison and provide the list to the Chair at the next meeting. Board members discussed the appointment to the Library Board and the Chair was advised that Commissioner Wilson was interested to be the liaison to the Library Board. Since Commissioner Wilson was not present, a formal appointment will be made at the next meeting of the Board.

1999 Regular Board Meeting Dates

Board members received copies of a calendar for the 1999 Regular Board meeting dates.

Moved by Commissioner Chesman,

THAT the 1999 Regular Board Meeting Dates be approved.

-Carried Unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. **Approval of Warrants**
Warrant #53 in the amount of #377,325.85, Warrant #54 in the amount of \$334,095.03: US\$1282.00, Cdn.\$332,813.03.

Susan Mundick
General Manager

Commissioner Alan Fetherstonhaugh
Chair