

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD IN THE PARK BOARD OFFICE
ON MONDAY, MARCH 06, 2000**

PRESENT:	Chair	- Duncan Wilson
	Vice-Chair	- Laura McDiarmid
	Commissioners	- Roslyn Cassells
		- Allan De Genova
		- Clarence Hansen
		- Dianne Ledingham
		- Christopher Richardson
	General Manager	- Susan Mundick
	Director of Planning & Operations	- Pieter Rutgers
	Director of Queen Elizabeth District	- Liane McKenna
	Director of Vancouver East District	- Allan Argent
	Director of Corporate Services	- Anita Ho
	Director of Stanley District	- Jim Lowden
	Manager of Public Affairs	- Terri Clark
	Recorder	- Julie Casanova

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Cassells referred to page 1 of the minutes and changed the minutes to read that she voted against the two minutes time limit as it was insufficient time for delegates to make their case. She also stated that the minutes indicated that all Commissioners had a copy of the letter from the Sierra Legal Fund which she was reading from, however she was not in receipt of a copy.

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Board held on Monday, February 21, 2000 were adopted as amended.

Stanley Park Shuttle - Contract Extension

Board members received copies of a staff report dated February 11, 2000 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to E.

Commissioner Cassells asked the Chair to add an additional delegation to speak to this matter. Commissioner Wilson put this request to the Board for consideration. Commissioners De Genova, Hansen, Ledingham, McDiarmid and Richardson did not support this request as the report has been available for a week and the public had sufficient opportunity to call in before noon on Friday to sign up as delegations.

Moved by Commissioner Hansen,

- A. THAT the Stanley Park Shuttle contract with Vancouver Trolley Company be extended for three additional years, 2000 - 2002, with all details to be approved by the General Manager.
- B. THAT a fare of \$2 per adult and \$1 per child be charged in 2000 for a daily pass on the Shuttle, with future fares to be determined in the annual review of fees and charges.
- C. THAT the projected net cost of the shuttle operation of \$134,000 in 2000 and \$119,000 in 2001 and 2002 be funded by the additional parking revenue in Stanley Park generated by the previously approved seasonal increase in parking rates.
- D. THAT no legal rights shall arise and no consents, permissions or licenses are granted hereby and none shall arise or be granted hereafter unless and until all contemplated legal documentation has been executed and delivered by all parties.
- E. THAT once the form of all legal documentation has been approved by the General Manager and Director of Legal Services for the City of Vancouver, that the General Manager be authorized to execute and deliver such documentation on behalf of the Board.

Gerry O'Neil appeared before the Board and stated that the bid process for the Stanley Park Shuttle has not been fair. He suggested that the cost of running the trolley would be better spent on other Park Board projects. He appreciates the fact that the purpose of the shuttle is to minimize the car traffic in Stanley Park, however, there is no accountability and is a competition to his business.

Board members commented as follows:

user fees is the way of the future

Park Board take leadership role in transportation

accessibility and properly trained staff to provide special assistance is important

At this point of the meeting there was a member from the public coming forward with messages for Commissioner Cassells and Commissioner Ledingham called point of order for clarification to the procedure of the meeting on whether uninvited members should be coming to the Board table. The Chair advised the Board that only invited members should approach the Board table.

Commissioner Cassells stated that she would like to move an amendment to ask staff to bring a report back to the Board with regard to the possibility of providing free shuttle service year round to minimize the impact of cars on the park and also to provide a means for those people to visit the park who might otherwise not be able to do so.

Moved by Commissioner Cassells,

THAT the Board direct staff to report on the possibility of providing year round free shuttle service to remote areas of the park.

Board members against the amendment commented as follows:
staff look at working with TransLink to accept transfers on the shuttle
use leisure access card

Board members supporting the amendment commented as follows:
asking staff to bring a report back to the Board
“remote” does not mean going into trails but staying on the roadway

The amendment motion was put and it was Carried.
(Commissioners Hansen and Ledingham contrary)

Commissioner Richardson stated that he understood TransLink might be considering an around the park route and would like to amend recommendation A to reduce the extension to one year only i.e. for the year 2000.

Moved by Commissioner Richardson,

THAT recommendation A be amended to read as follows:

- A. THAT the Stanley Park Shuttle contract with Vancouver Trolley Company be extended for one additional year to 2000.

Jim Lowden, Director of Stanley District advised the Board that he had spoken to representatives from TransLink who indicated that their priority was to focus on moving people to and from work and school. Bringing transit into the park was a low priority for them. Other concerns with regard to a one year extension were the capital costs to run the shuttle.

Commissioner Richardson withdrew his motion.

Moved by Commissioner Cassells,

THAT recommendation B be amended to no fare will be charged for the duration of this contract.

- DEFEATED.

(Commissioners De Genova, Hansen, Ledingham, McDiarmid, Richardson and Wilson contrary)

Commissioner Wilson stated that the previous Board made a commitment that there will be no charge for the shuttle by raising the parking fees. He would therefore put forward an amendment that would require the net proceeds to be set aside for transportation improvements in Stanley Park.

Moved by Commissioner Wilson,

THAT any net proceeds less the cost of the fare system implementation be set aside for transportation improvements in Stanley Park with the approval of the Board.

- Carried.

(Commissioner Hansen contrary)

The main motion as amended was put as follows:

- A. **THAT the Stanley Park Shuttle contract with Vancouver Trolley Company be extended for three additional years, 2000 - 2002, with all details to be approved by the General Manager.**
- B. **THAT a fare of \$2 per adult and \$1 per child be charged in 2000 for a daily pass on the Shuttle, with future fares to be determined in the annual review of fees and charges.**
- C. **THAT the projected net cost of the shuttle operation of \$134,000 in 2000 and \$119,000 in 2001 and 2002 be funded by the additional parking revenue in Stanley Park generated by the previously approved seasonal increase in parking rates.**
- D. **THAT no legal rights shall arise and no consents, permissions or licenses are granted hereby and none shall arise or be granted hereafter unless and until all contemplated legal documentation has been executed and delivered by all parties.**

- E. THAT once the form of all legal documentation has been approved by the General Manager and Director of Legal Services for the City of Vancouver, that the General Manager be authorized to execute and deliver such documentation on behalf of the Board.**
- F. THAT the Board direct staff to report on the possibility of providing year round free shuttle service to remote areas of the park.**
- G. THAT any net proceeds less the cost of the fare system implementation be set aside for transportation improvements in Stanley Park with the approval of the Board.**

- Carried.

(Commissioner Hansen contrary)

Bard on the Beach

Board members received copies of a staff report dated January 20, 2000 recommending that the Board approve the expansion of the foot print for the Bard on the Beach Shakespeare Festival to incorporate a second performance tent into its site and that the Festival be complete and structures dismantled no later than September 30.

Moved by Commissioner Ledingham,

THAT the Board approve the expansion of the foot print for the Bard on the Beach Shakespeare Festival to incorporate a second performance tent into its site and that the Festival be complete and structures dismantled no later than September 30.

Christopher Gaze from Bard on the Beach thanked the board for their support for over ten years. Their attendance has increased over the years and they would like to extend the number of matinee shows to 12. This increase is requested to accommodate school children who are just returning to school in September. Mr. Gaze asked that they be allowed to continue their performance until the last Friday in September. Mr. Gaze also acknowledged that there were drainage problems on the site and offered to assist the Park Board to rectify the situation.

Board members discussed the matter with regard to the drainage problems and impact on the turf on the site.

Move by Commissioner Cassells,

THAT the Board designate two sites for the festival as suggested in the staff report and alternate each year to allow the park to recover increase oxygen level in the soil and decrease impaction.

Commissioner Wilson stated that he does not see the necessity of a motion, but only to direct staff to explore the possibility of an alternate site for the next season. Jim Lowden, Director of Stanley District, advised the Board that if Bard on the Beach was willing to contribute financially to assist in the upgrading and maintenance of the lawn area then there is a possibility of the Bard on the Beach remaining on the present site.

Commissioner Cassells withdrew her motion.

Moved by Commissioner Richardson,

THAT Bard on the Beach be allowed to stay on the site until October 8.

- DEFEATED.

(Commissioner Cassells, De Genova, Hansen, Ledingham, McDiarmid and Wilson contrary)

The main motion was put as follows:

Moved by Commissioner Ledingham,

THAT the Board approve the expansion of the foot print for the Bard on the Beach Shakespeare Festival to incorporate a second performance tent into its site and that the Festival be complete and structures dismantled no later than September 30.

- Carried.

(Commissioner Richardson contrary)

Thunderbird Community Centre Design Concept

Board members received copies of a staff report dated March 2, 2000 recommending that the Board approve the preliminary design for the addition and renovations to the Thunderbird Community Centre.

Moved by Commissioner McDiarmid,

- A. THAT the Board approve the February 4, 2000 preliminary design (5100 square feet) for the addition and renovations to the Thunderbird Community Centre as illustrated in floor plans dated February 2, 2000
- B. THAT the Board gratefully acknowledge the contribution from Thunderbird Community Association and the guarantee from the Renfrew Community Association of \$115,000, with financial details to be to the satisfaction of the General Manager.

And for consideration

- C. THAT the Board transfer an additional \$115,000 in capital funding from the following sources:
 - 1. 1999 Disabled Access \$20,000
 - 2. 2000 General Facility Improvement 20,000 and
 - 3. 2000-2002 Capital Allocation for Mount Pleasant Community Centre 75,000
 - Or
 - 4. 2000-2002 Capital Allocation for Ice Rinks 75,000
 - Or
 - 5. 2000-2002 Capital Allocation for Swimming Pools 75,000

Pieter Rutgers, Director of Planning and Operations reviewed the Thunderbird Community Centre Addition and Renovation project with the Board with a brief history on the concept, design and need for funding. The renovation will provide Thunderbird Community Centre with much needed program space. The Board has been asked to assist in the shortfall and staff have identified several capital accounts from which the funds could be drawn.

Massimo Rossetti, President, Thunderbird Community Centre Association stated that they would like the Park Board to assist them with their shortfall so that they could proceed with their project. The community is looking forward to this renovation.

Gary Richmond, Vice President, Mount Pleasant Community Centre Association, stated that they did not have enough time to review the report. Mr. Richmond did not agree with staff's recommendation to consider withdrawing funds from the Mount Pleasant Community Centre capital account as they are also working towards capital improvements to their centre. Mr. Richmond stated that Mount Pleasant Community Centre Association supports Thunderbird's project but question why they had an over-run. They object to funds being taken from their account without consultation.

Board members discussed the matter with regard to the merits of the improvements to Thunderbird Community Centre and commended Renfrew Community Centre Association Board for recognizing the need and working together with Thunderbird. Commissioner Wilson amended the wording in recommendation B with "financial security" to replace "financial details" and to amend recommendation C with "sources of which will be in consultation with community stakeholders".

The main motion will now read as follows:

- A. THAT the Board approve the February 4, 2000 preliminary design (5100 square feet) for the addition and renovations to the Thunderbird Community Centre as illustrated in floor plans dated February 2, 2000.**
- B. THAT the Board gratefully acknowledge the contribution from Thunderbird Community Association and the guarantee from the Renfrew Community Association of \$115,000, with financial security to be to the satisfaction of the General Manager.**
- C. THAT the Board transfer an additional \$115,000 in capital funding from the sources of which will be in consultation with community stakeholders.**

- Carried Unanimously.

Hastings Park Phase 3A: Il Giardino Italiano

Board members received copies of a staff report dated March 1, 2000 recommending that the Board approve the award of the contract for the construction of Hastings Park Phase 3A, the Italian Rain Gardens to Willow Spring Construction (B.C.) Ltd.

Korky Day appeared before the Board and stated that it was not environmentally friendly to tear down buildings and add green space. He asked the Board to not sell the park. He also stated that the Board should give consideration to union shop contractors.

The General Manager advised the Board that the report before them was an administrative report to approve a contract for construction. The project has already been approved by the Board.

Moved by Commissioner De Genova,

- A. THAT the Board approve the award of the contract for the construction of Hastings Park Phase 3A, the Italian Rain Gardens (Tender T2000-1) to Willow Spring Construction (B.C.) Ltd.**
- B. THAT no rights shall arise hereby, and none shall arise until the execution of the contemplated contract. The Board may rescind this resolution at any time up to the execution of the contemplated contract.**

- Carried

(Commissioner Cassells contrary)

Stanley Park Salmon Stream : Contract Award

Board members received copies of a staff report dated March 6, 2000 recommending that the Board approve the award of Tender T2000-2 to Jake's Contracting to implement construction of Phase I of the Demonstration Salmon Stream in Stanley Park.

Moved by Commissioner Richardson,

- A. THAT the Board approve the award of Tender T2000-2 to Jake's Contracting to implement construction of Phase 1 of the Demonstration Salmon Stream in Stanley Park.
- B. THAT no legal rights shall arise hereby and none shall arise until execution of the contemplated contract. The Board may rescind this resolution at any time up to the execution of the contemplated contract.

Commissioner Cassells requested that Peter Hamilton, Eleanor Hadley and Munna Prasad be added as delegations.

The Chair referred this request to the Board and it was not supported. Board members stated that this was a contract award and the project has already been approved. However, Commissioner Cassells argued that the delegations should be heard. The Chair ruled that due to the lateness of the hour Board members may wish to hear the speakers rather than going into a long debate over the merits of why the delegations should not be heard.

Anita Romaniuk appeared before the Board and stated that the public process for the salmon stream has not been satisfactory. This issue should be brought forward to a referendum and urged the Board to not approve the contract.

John Nightingale stated that this project opens a door to new learning free of charge. The salmon stream albeit not natural will still teach us a vital part of our heritage. There will be more public awareness on the issues that affect the natural world.

Munna Prasad stated that the original lease does not allow the Board to build a stream in Stanley Park. Mr. Prasad referred to the lease and stated that the only people who can build a stream in Stanley Park is the militia.

Peter Hamilton stated that he has not been receiving information regularly. He stated that the contract cannot be allowed to go ahead until proper public process has taken place. He has not seen any final plans with regard to the Salmon Stream and he also asked how many trees will be cut to build the stream. Mr. Hamilton also stated that the permission from the Federal Government was required for this plan to go ahead.

Eleanor Hadley appeared before the Board and stated that she was opposed to the salmon stream. She does not understand how the Aquarium would be using the stream as a teaching tool. She stated that Stanley Park was being destroyed by building an artificial stream.

Moved by Commissioner Cassells,

WHEREAS the Park Board in August of 1996 passed a motion that there would be a referendum called on any expansion of the Aquarium, and on October 25, 1998, Aquarium Director John Nightingale detailed planned expansion including an information center, wet classrooms, a large viewing gallery, and the artificial salmon stream;

WHEREAS the lease that the City of Vancouver signed with the Federal Government states in section 9 "No stone shall be quarried on the said property (Stanley Park) nor any trees be cut therefrom (except for the purpose of opening out roads thereon) without the sanction of the Minister of Militia and Defence" the lease also states in section 6 that only the Minister of Defence "shall have power at any time to exercise the right of quarrying stones or cutting down trees or other obstructions in case of military necessity and also of cutting sods for the repair of earthworks"; WHEREAS expanding the animal exploitations industry does not fall under the "park uses" referred to in the second paragraph of the lease (which limits use of the park to "park uses");

WHEREAS the Park Board is spending half a million dollars to improve the Aquarium's profit margin, and that on July 22, 1999 City Council passed a motion with no opposition from Park Board that \$650,000 of lease prepayment funds designated for parks use by Park Board be redirected away from its original designation of parks use to be used instead for this Aquarium expansion project;

AND WHEREAS there never was historic salmon stream in Stanley Park according to First Nations historic accounts;

AND WHEREAS this project is providing an opportunity for BC Hydro and Alcan, two of the worst eco-destroyers in BC history, a chance to greenwash their companies and do corporate advertising in the park

Be it Resolved that the Stanley Park Salmon Stream project and all other Aquarium expansions be immediately halted until such time as a referendum can be completed and the citizens of Vancouver are in agreement with said expansions. To do otherwise is a violation of the mandate of Park Board, previous Park Board policy, the lease agreement and the trust of Vancouver voters.

THERE WAS NO SECONDER TO THE MOTION.

The main motion was put as follows:

Moved by Commissioner Richardson,

- A. **THAT the Board approve the award of Tender T2000-2 to Jake's Contracting to implement construction of Phase 1 of the Demonstration Salmon Stream in Stanley Park.**
- B. **THAT no legal rights shall arise hereby and none shall arise until execution of the contemplated contract. The Board may rescind this resolution at any time up to the execution of the contemplated contract.**

- Carried.

(Commissioner Cassells contrary)

Ferguson Point Teahouse and Seasons in the Park - Rent Reviews

Board members received copies of a staff report dated February 23, 2000 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to G.

Moved by Commissioner Richardson,

- A. **THAT the rent for the Ferguson Point Teahouse for the term January 1, 2000 - December 31, 2004 be set at 5¼% of total gross revenue (including liquor).**
- B. **THAT the rent for Seasons in the Park for the term March 1, 2000 - February 28, 2005 be set at 5¼% of total gross revenue (including liquor).**
- C. **THAT a payment in lieu of property taxes of \$5.00/sq ft be set at both restaurants from the start of the new terms and the rate be reviewed each year effective January 1, 2001 to reflect any change in property tax assessments for businesses in Vancouver.**
- D. **THAT an allowance of \$600.00 per month be credited to Seasons in the Park for maintaining the public washrooms in the basement of the building.**

- E. THAT an additional five year option be given to Sequoia Enterprises Inc. for both restaurants on the condition that these options are not assignable until the end of the terms identified in Recommendations “A” and “B”.**
- F. THAT no legal rights shall arise and no consents, permissions or licenses are granted hereby and none shall arise or be granted hereafter unless and until all contemplated legal documentation has been executed and delivered by all parties.**
- G. THAT once the form of all legal documentation has been approved by the General Manager and the Director of Legal Services for the City of Vancouver, that the General Manager be authorized to execute and deliver such documentation on behalf of the Board.**

- Carried Unanimously.

(Commissioner Cassells was not present when the vote was taken.)

Accomplishment Report 1999

Board members received copies of a staff information report dated February 10, 2000 was mailed to Board members.

Moved by Commissioner McDiarmid

THAT the Accomplishment Report 1999 be accepted as presented.

-Carried Unanimously.

(Commissioner Cassells was not present when the vote was taken.)

Fall 1999 Neighbourhood Matching Fund Allocations and 2000 Artists in Residence

Board members received copies of a staff information report dated January 12, 2000 was mailed to Board members.

Moved by Commissioner Hansen

THAT the Fall 1999 Neighbourhood Matching Fund allocations and 2000 Artists in Residence report be received for information.

-Carried Unanimously.

(Commissioner Cassells was not present when the vote was taken)

NOTICE OF MOTION

The following two notices of motions were put forward by Commissioner Cassells.

1. WHEREAS on September 1996 the Park Board passed a motion in agreement with the Aquarium that the Aquarium would not capture any more cetaceans from the wild or import them from other Aquariums which had captured them in the wild;
AND WHEREAS Aquarium Director John Nightingale has publicly stated that the Aquarium would like to obtain 2 or 3 young orcas;
WHEREAS presumably the Park Commissioners would object to a young creature being abducted from her mother and close knit family group to live in an area which in human terms is the size of a shower stall for the rest of her life;
WHEREAS the citizens of Vancouver, whenever given the opportunity, express, in their majority, their opposition to the imprisonment of nature's children;
AND WHEREAS the rationale behind keeping animals in captivity for educational purposes is faulty scientifically, educationally and ethically;
AND WHEREAS as Park Commissioners we should be looking towards the future, not the past in terms of our strategic planning for Vancouver parks.

Be It Resolved that Vancouver Park Board amend the Aquarium bylaw of 1996 to prohibit the importation of young whales abducted from their mothers and families, and that we pass this motion immediately, before another tragedy occurs.

2. WHEREAS the meeting of the Vancouver Park Board on February 21, 2000 was not run according to the Vancouver Charter, and bylaws pertaining to Council and the Park Board, disallowing debate and voting to one of the Commissioners, and therefore denying the 31, 694 Vancouver voters who voted for her their voice and their vote;
AND WHEREAS the 5 NPA Commissioners present violated their oath of office and their mandate as Park Board Commissioners

Be It Resolved that the NPA Vice Chair Laura McDiarmid resign from her position as Vice Chair, and,
THAT NPA Commissioners McDiarmid, De Genova, Ledingham, Hansen and Richardson resign from their positions as Park Board Commissioners effective immediately.