

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD IN THE PARK BOARD OFFICE
ON MONDAY, MARCH 26, 2001**

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

Commissioner Wilson did not attend the meeting due to illness.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Board held on Monday, March 12, 2001 were adopted as circulated.

City Council Report.

Staff advised the Board that Mike Mackintosh and Kristine Lampa, Stanley Park Ecology Society, will provide a report reference on coyotes at Council on Tuesday.

STAFF PRESENTATION

Community Web Page

Connie Zelter from Corporate IT presented the Community Web Pages project to the Board. The focus of the project was to provide the recreation services guide and various other information on-line. This project was developed in co-operation with community centre staff and won the "Spirit of Innovation" award presented by the Municipal Information Systems Association of BC (MISA BC) at the 2000 Fall Conference held in Victoria. The Community Web Pages have been a great success.

DELEGATIONS

Annelise Sorg made a presentation to the Board with regard to section 9 (e) (i to iv) of the Parks Control By-law. Ms. Sorg assisted with visual aids requested the Board to delete section 9 (e)(i) of the Parks Control Bylaw because it would be not be enforceable on the Vancouver Aquarium should they decide to acquire dolphins for their exhibits. In addition, Park Board staff have no experience to regular commercial trade in live dolphins and the process for import permit application. There would be a domino effect creating more dolphins to be captured.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board with regard to Annelise Sorg's presentation on section 9 (e)(i to iv) of the Parks Control Bylaw:

- Libby Davies, MP Vancouver East
- Brian McHattie, Zoocheck Canada
- Leanne Arnison
- Michelle McGhie and James Craig
- Marge Adams
- Patrick Cotter
- Eleanor Hadley
- Judith Seedhouse
- Robert Light
- David Cadman, SPEC
- Melanie Raoul
- Anneke Rotmeyer
- Georgina Pereira - did not attend
- Loretta Woodcock
- Megan Barneski
- Anita Romaniuk
- Lynn Johnson
- Lea Johnson
- Bob Chorush, Seattle
- Ben White
- Doug Imbeau
- Susan Calvert
- Korky Day
- Tony Sadownichk

The following is a summary of comments provided by the foregoing delegations:

- exploitation and abuse of animals for entertainment;
- introducing a private members bill, calling for immediate moratorium on live capture of marine mammals;
- requested Board to endorse motion being put forward in the House of Commons on Friday;
- need amendment to bylaw to close loophole;
- put this matter to a referendum;
- there are no new aquariums in Canada;
- Mexico has banned capture of dolphins;
- Canadian Government does not have an inventory system for marine mammals;
- animals in captivity is for entertainment and not education;
- have a facility to help sick animals, stop exploitation of animals;
- not acceptable to teach children about captivity;
- Vancouver should be leader to set standard and tell the Aquarium that the city does not want captured cetaceans;
- people travel much more now and they can see the whales in the wild, Vancouver is no place for a barbaric display;
- cannot replicate dolphins environment with concrete;
- freedom is the right of all animals, need to close loophole;
- have a referendum, remove section 9 (e)(i) , no more cetaceans in the city;
- animals in captivity are subject to infection;
- instead of a tourist attraction turn the Aquarium into a rehabilitation or conservation institute;
- in today's world of digital technology have a virtual theatre without having to keep animals in captivity;
- have a public review and comment period;
- there will be an increase in dolphin trade if the Aquarium brings in dolphins;
- Aquarium always wants more space and it is cruel to keep dolphins away from other dolphins;
- dolphins need freedom and family;
- ask Aquarium what they are going to do and let taxpayers decide what they are doing is right;
- regardless where they are born, they remain wild animals,
- Board should take leadership in discontinuing the capture of orcas and dolphins;

Board members discussed the matter and a member of the Board suggested that the Board should endorse Ms. Libby Davies, M.P. Vancouver East, motion to be debated in the House of Commons.

Moved by Commissioner McDiarmid,

THAT the Board support Ms. Davies' motion that in the opinion of this House, the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans should decree an immediate moratorium on the live-capture of cetaceans (whales, dolphins and porpoises).

- DEFEATED.

(Commissioners De Genova, Hansen and Ledingham contrary)

Moved by Commissioner Cassells,

THAT section 9 (e)(i) of the Parks Control ByLaw be removed.

-DEFEATED.

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

Communication Plan

Board members received copies of a staff report dated March 12, 2001 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A and B.

Staff reviewed the process and implementation plan for the Communication Plan with the Board.

Korky Day appeared before the Board and stated that the content in the communication plan was inadequate.

Moved by Commissioner Ledingham,

- A. **THAT the Board receive the attached Communication Plan (Appendix A) as prepared by Optimum Public Relations and**
- B. **THAT staff report back to the Board with an implementation plan following a consultation process.**

- Carried.

(Commissioner Cassells contrary)

Accomplishment Report

Board members received copies of a staff information report dated March 15, 2001.

Staff reviewed the accomplishment report highlighting the major accomplishments of the Board such as the opening of Coal Harbour Community Centre and the opening of Il Giardino Italiano at Hastings Park.

Korky Day appeared before the Board and questioned the cost for projects listed in the report.

Moved by Commissioner Hansen,

THAT the Accomplishment Report dated March 15, 2001 be received for information.

- Carried.

(Commissioner Cassells contrary)

Hastings Park Phase 3B Empire Bowl Contract Award

Board members received copies of a staff report dated March 22, 2001 recommending that the Board approve the award of Tender T-2001 to Matcon Excavating Ltd. for \$1,350,000.00 to implement construction of Hastings Park Phase 3B Empire Bowl.

Korky Day appeared before the Board and stated that the contract should be given to the low bidder even though the project would take longer to complete.

Moved by Commissioner De Genova,

- A. **THAT the Board approve the award of Tender T-2001-4, to Matcon Excavating Ltd. for \$1,350,000.00 to implement construction of Hastings Park Phase 3 B Empire Bowl.**
- 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)

Enquiries, Other Matters And New Business

Co-existing with Coyotes program was developed by the Stanley Park Ecology Society, however, it appeared in a journal that Commissioner Cassells was instrumental in developing this project. Board members asked Commissioner Cassells to have this information corrected.

Board members were notified that there would be a staff briefing on Tuesday, March 27 at 5:00 P.M.

Staff is working with the GVRD with regard to the multiple dogs off-leash issue in Pacific Spirit Park.

The Engineering Department will return the area at Sunset Beach to its original state. Staff are discussing options to expand the rink area.

Notice Of Motion

The following notice of motion was put forward by Commissioner McDiarmid:

THAT the Board request the Vancouver Aquarium to provide all documentation and complete history of any proposed marine mammal being brought in to the Aquarium.

IN-CAMERA MEETING:

Moved by Commissioner Ledingham,

THAT the Board later this evening go into a meeting which is closed to the public, pursuant to Section 165.2 of the *Vancouver Charter*, to discuss matters related to paragraph:

(e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the Council considers that disclosure might reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the city;

(i) the receiving of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;

- Carried Unanimously.

Susan Mundick
General Manager

Commissioner Laura McDiarmid
Chair