

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD IN THE PARK BOARD OFFICE
ON MONDAY, JANUARY 27, 2003**

PRESENT:	Chair	- Heather Deal
	Vice-Chair	- Anita Romaniuk
	Commissioners	- Suzanne Anton
		- Allan De Genova
		- Lyndsay Poaps
		- Loretta Woodcock
	General Manager	- Susan Mundick
	Director of Planning & Operations	- Piet Rutgers
	Director of Vancouver East District	- Lori Mackay
	Director of Stanley District	- Jim Lowden
	Manager of Facility Development	- Rudy Roelofsen
	Emergency Social Services Coordinator	- Bryan Larrabee
	Communications Coordinator	- Carol De Fina
	Recorder	- Julie Casanova

Commissioner Riccius sent her regrets as she was unable to attend the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Board held on Monday, January 13, 2003 were circulated and adopted

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair stated that she was getting to know more about both the staff and board members. She thanked staff for bringing the Board up to date on all issues.

DELEGATIONS

Presentation of Cheque to the Burn Fund

The Chair welcomed Tony Burke, Executive Director of the BC Professional Fire Fighters Burn Fund. The Chair advised the Board that the Stanley Park Bright Nights had another successful year with more than 135,000 visitors and it was a pleasure to present a cheque in the amount of \$136,354 to the Burn Fund. Mr. Burke thanked the Board for their contribution to help the burn survivors and their families from all over the Province. The funds will be used to buy new equipment for hospitals, for a summer camp for burn survivors and burn prevention and awareness programs.

False Creek Community Centre - Capital Improvements

Board members received copies of a staff report dated January 14, 2003 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to C.

Moved by Commissioner Romaniuk,

- A. THAT the Board endorse the recommendations of a report, dated January 14, 2002, to City Council to:
 - 1. Allocate \$475,000 in Community Amenity Contribution funding to the False Creek Community Centre capital expansion project.
 - 2. Carry out a public process to review potential community amenity opportunities in the Fairview Slopes area to receive an additional \$375,000 in CAC funds.
- B. THAT the Board, subject to Council approving the CAC funding referred to in A. 1. above, approve the False Creek Community Centre capital project budget increase from \$731,750, to an interim total of \$1,388,750, with a report to come back to the Board once the final scope of the project can be established.
- C. THAT the Board accept an increase in the contribution from the False Creek Community Centre Association from \$258,000 to \$440,000.

Staff reviewed the project scope with the Board. The improvements to False Creek Community Centre will include a new gymnasium and an expanded fitness centre. Staff indicated that air handling and childcare were two issues which have recently been identified for this project.

Jim Woodfield, President, False Creek Community Centre appeared before the Board and stated that improvements to False Creek Community Centre is overdue and would like the project to move ahead as soon as Council approve the allocation of \$475,000 in Community Amenity Contribution funds. Mr. Woodfield felt that the City Manager's recommendation to spend \$375,000 on community amenities was unfair. The False Creek Community Centre Association will be contributing up to \$440,000 towards the cost of this project. Mr. Woodfield also stated that the current heating and ventilation system at the community centre was inefficient and should be upgraded. He stated that the only way the centre could have a daycare facility was to consider it off-site as there is no space in the centre to accommodate the special requirements for a daycare.

Board members discussed the matter and stated that the air handling and childcare issues were both important and should be included within the scope of this project. It was felt that this message should be relayed to Council and recommendation A 2 of the staff report be amended.

Moved by Commissioner Anton,

THAT part 2 of recommendation A be deleted and replaced with the following:

THAT \$230,000 be allocated to heating and ventilation upgrades at the False Creek Community Centre and that this be added to the scope of the project, and, the budget for the project be increased accordingly. The balance of the funds be directed to public amenity opportunities with special attention to childcare.

- Carried Unanimously.

The amended main motion is as follows:

- A. THAT the Board endorse recommendation A of the report, dated January 14, 2002, to City Council, to allocate \$475,000 in Community Amenity Contribution funding to the False Creek Community Centre capital expansion project.**
- B. THAT the Board request that Council consider the following as an alternate recommendation to “B” in the Council report:**
 - a) THAT \$230,000 be allocated to heating and ventilation upgrades at the False Creek Community Centre and that this be added to the scope of the project, and, the budget for the project be increased accordingly. The balance of the funds be directed to public amenity opportunities with special attention to childcare.**
- C. THAT the Board, subject to Council approving the CAC funding referred to in A above, approve the False Creek Community Centre capital project budget increase from \$731,750, to an interim total of \$1,388,750, with a report to come back to the Board once the final scope of the project can be established.**
- D. THAT the Board accept an increase in the contribution from the False Creek Community Centre Association from \$258,000 to \$440,000.**

- Carried Unanimously.

Emergency Social Services Program

Board members received copies of a staff report dated January 9, 2003 recommending that the Board receive the report for information

Bryan Larrabee, ESS Coordinator made a presentation with regard to the Park Board Emergency Response Plan. Bryan reviewed the Park Board's role in a disaster which include assisting in damage assessment, supporting the work of the urban search and rescue team, debris removal and storage. Emergency Social Services will provide essential services to evacuees, ensure first aid and stay in contact by amateur radio. The Park Board is involved with providing Emergency Social Services because we have the facilities, we have strong community ties, and the community centre staff have the skills and expertise to handle the public in an emergency. There are community based ESS teams made up mostly of volunteers and the disaster assistance team. These teams are on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Robert Bryan from Risk and Emergency Services, City Hall, was also present at the meeting. He advised the Board on the city Neighbourhood Emergency Preparedness Program, which offers neighbourhood workshops to help people to understand how to deal with an emergency. Operation in the field is supported by ECOMM, a regional emergency coordination centre

Board members thanked staff for their presentation and suggested that the community centres be involved with offering emergency preparedness workshops as part of their activity. Commissioners also indicated that they would like to tour the ECOMM centre and receive a list of the people on the teams mentioned by staff.

Children's Playgrounds and Exposure to Arsenic

Board members received copies of a staff report dated January 23, 2003 recommending that the Board receive the report for information.

Staff advised the Board that the Park Board has been aware of the possible harmful effects of pressure-treated wood on human health since 1990 and has significantly reduced the use of such wood in children's playgrounds. The Vancouver Coastal Health Authority has initiated a detailed study of pressure-treated wood in children's playgrounds. The report on the study will be provided to the Board when it becomes available. Staff will also be reporting back to the Board with regard to the remedial steps such as the use of sealants to stop or reduce the leaching of arsenic, what the cost would be to remove and replace the sand and the replacement of the equipment itself and whether or not to place a moratorium on the use of CCA pressure-treated wood in playgrounds.

Kyla Tienhaara, Society Promoting Environmental Conservation, appeared before the Board to speak to the recent report released by Environmental Defence Canada, "Arsenic Lurks in Canadian Playgrounds: Is Your Child Safe?" and to the staff report dated January 23, 2003 regarding Children's Playgrounds and Exposure to Arsenic. Ms. Tienhaara indicated that she was a researcher and has been working on the re-evaluation of Chromated Copper Arsenate. She asked the Board to not delay its action with regard to this issue, and to adopt a preventive measure by stopping the use of pressure treated wood containing Chromated Copper Arsenate and to regularly apply sealant to the existing playground structures until they are replaced.

Board members thanked the delegation and indicated that they were concerned with children being exposed to any harmful substance. They look forward to receiving an update from staff and any other reports that may be available on this issue.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Susan Mundick
General Manager

Commissioner Heather Deal
Chair