

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD IN THE PARK BOARD OFFICE
ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 08, 2003**

PRESENT:	Chair	- Heather Deal
	Vice-Chair	- Anita Romaniuk
	Commissioners	- Suzanne Anton
		- Allan De Genova
		- Eva Riccius
		- Lyndsay Poaps
		- Loretta Woodcock
	General Manager	- Susan Mundick
	Director of Planning & Operations	- Piet Rutgers
	Director of Stanley District	- Jim Lowden
	Director of Vancouver East District	- Lori MacKay
	Director of Corporate Services	- Anita Ho
	Manager of Communications	- Joyce Courtney
	Recorder	- Julie Casanova

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board held on Friday, July 18, 2003 were adopted as circulated.

A member of the Board referred to the minutes of the regular meeting of the Board held on Monday, July 21, 2003 and stated the sentence in the first paragraph on page 3 referring to the remarks by former Park Commissioner Donna Morgan needed to be grammatically amended. On page 5 the reference to the Olympic motion should specify the subject of the motions and on page 8 reference to 1986 should be 1996.

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Board held on Monday, July 21, 2003 were adopted as amended.

The minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board held on Tuesday, August 5, 2003 were adopted as circulated.

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair reported that the Board participated in several events during the month of August such as the Celebration of Light, Powell Street Festival, Kite Flying Festival, Pride Parade, One Book One Vancouver, Theatre Under the Stars, several concerts, the Millennium Sports Facility and Killarney Summer Days.

The General Manager advised the Board that attendance at the beaches and pools were high due to the hot summer. However, the hot weather was also responsible for a severe water shortage and staff have implemented a water conservation initiative by cutting use of potable water. Golf courses will use the water from the lake or wells, water features have been turned off. Very limited watering is being done in the gardens, only plants with a high cost of replacement are being watered.

There is also a serious threat of fire in Stanley Park and staff have been addressing this with a short and long range plan. There is a coordinated response in place with other agencies and the Stanley Park Forestry crew and Park Rangers are monitoring the situation in the park. The fire risk at Everett Crowley Park is also significant as there is less vehicle access and no hydrant. No smoking signs have been put up in this park.

The protest encampment moved from Portside Park to Creekside and Strathcona parks.

City Council Agenda

The General Manager advised the Board that Council at its special meeting on August 13, 2003 called for action on homelessness by the Federal and Provincial government. Jill Davidson was appointed as the City's homelessness co-ordinator. Council established a commission on electoral reform at its meeting on July 29, 2003.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee : At the September 5 meeting, the committee established the public process for the 2004 operating budget. The public are encouraged to attend the meeting on Saturday, October 18, 2003. The venue has yet to be confirmed. There will be interactive tables with information on the parks and recreation system and door prizes will be available.

Planning and Environment Committee : the next meeting will be on September 16 at Kerrisdale Community Centre. The agenda will be Quilchena Park Re-Design.

Culture and Recreation Committee : the next meeting will be on September 10 and the committee will be discussing beach volleyball and community garden policy of the Park Board.

Collingwood Village, Phase 4 East Park "Aberdeen Park"

Board members received copies of the staff report dated August 13, 2003, recommending that the Board approve the concept plan for the proposed park in the fourth and final phase of Collingwood Village.

Staff introduced Paul Whitehead, Sharp and Diamond Landscape Architects and Lisa Loche, Concert Properties, to present the concept plan for the Collingwood Village, Phase 4 East Park site. Mr. Whitehead stated that the plan for Collingwood Village was to have both passive and active park. Gaston and Melbourne Park are both active parks, the neighbourhood had indicated that they would like a passive park. The design for this park is based on the results of the public consultation process. There will be a playground, benches, drinking fountains and an accessible lookout will provide park users with an overview of the entire park.

Board members thanked the delegations and stated that they were glad to see a passive park where someone can have some quite time.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

THAT the Board approve the concept plan for the proposed park in the fourth and final phase of Collingwood Village.

- Carried Unanimously.

Synthetic Turf Playing Fields Development - Public Consultation Process

Board members received copies of a staff report dated August 26, 2003, recommending that the public consultation process outlined in the report for determining appropriate locations for the installation of synthetic turf sport fields be approved.

Staff advised the Board that budget to build artificial turf fields was approved in the 2003 - 05 capital plan. The need for artificial turf was addressed in the Playing Field Renewal Plan. The task now is to identify sites for these types of fields. Following the Park Board and School Board approval of this process there will be a project launch and the public will be invited to participate in two citywide forums.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Colin Metcalfe, Vancouver Field Sports Federation
- John McBryde, Vancouver Field Sports Federation
- Tom Caverley, Volley B.C.
- Susan Kurbis
- Maged Senbel
- Jerry Thighe, B.C. Athletics
- Anna Donnelly, Meraloma Club
- Bob Sarti, Strathcona Park Planning Committee
- Karen Cooke, Vancouver Track and Field Club

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

- thankful that the Board is considering improving the fields;
- Trillium was purchased with the intention for sports fields, ten years have passed and no fields;
- would like the Board to hire an independent consultant to do the consultation reporting directly to the Board ;
- have problem with the process, this is an assessment not a plan;
- need proper public consultation;
- this is a potential divisive issue;
- time and budget seem insufficient, increase both;
- must consult with community;
- need more fields for the kids, if they are full, cannot create more teams for kids;
- with Olympics coming here there will be more enthusiasm for sports;
- Vancouver is under represented in fields;
- lack of fields causes those with no permits to use fields permitted to groups;
- look at putting in the new fields where the clubs and teams have a positive relationship with the neighbourhood;
- urge Board to install as many artificial turf fields as possible;
- people voted for the fields in the plebiscite would like to see the city build them;
- kids in organized sports are less likely to get into trouble;
- Vancouver is behind other municipalities in sports fields, need to move forward.

Board members thanked the delegations and stated that their comments will be taken into consideration. The Board understands the need for more sports fields and would like to see at least one field started next year.

Moved by Commissioner Anton,

THAT the public consultation process outlined in the report dated August 26, 2003 for determining appropriate locations for the installation of synthetic turf sport fields be approved.

- Carried Unanimously.

Downtown South Park Naming

Board members received copies of a staff report dated August 8, 2003 recommending that the Board consider the names listed in the report for the Downtown South Park Site.

Staff reviewed the park naming guidelines with the Board and the reasons for considering the three names in the staff report.

Moved by Commissioner Romaniuk,

THAT the Board approve the name Emery Barnes Park for the Downtown South Park Site.

Margaret Mitchell and Connie Barnes thanked the Board and stated that this was an outstanding recognition for someone who made a tremendous contribution to the people of Vancouver.

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

The Chair announced that the official opening of Emery Barnes Park will be held on September 27, 2003.

Donation of Public Art in Coal Harbour Park

Board members received copies of a staff report dated August 20, 2003 recommending that the Board give final approval for the installation of the public art selected according to the established public art processes and donated by Grosvenor, on the bullnose in the northeast corner of Harbour Green Park, Coal Harbour.

Staff introduced Brian Newson, Vancouver Public Art Committee, who advised the Board on the public art process. Mr. Newson stated that the Grosvenor donation went through the civic process. Liz Magor, the artist for the sculpture explained the purpose of the piece she was creating, the material and finishing on the sculpture. Ms. Magor stated that she hoped the sculpture would bring back a piece of history that used to be found in Coal Harbour.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Eleanor Hadley
- Andrew Bibby, President, Grosvenor
- Anthony Tucker
- Frank Ogden
- Betty Rumpel
- Keith Wallace
- Jeanie McKay
- Neil Campbell
- Barbara Cole
- David MacWilliam
- Grant Arnold, Vancouver Art Gallery
- John Crowhurst
- Glen Paterson

- Robert Orth
- Peter Schuff
- Joan Selby
- Leah MacFarlane
- Carol Sawyer
- Michael O'Connell
- Karen Henry

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

- this is not a sculpture but a box;
- the seawall was not designed to have a sculpture;
- Park Board is allowing a private enterprise free advertising;
- it will cost tax payers to maintain the sculpture;
- Grosvenor's donation to the city is to commemorate their 50 years of business in Vancouver;
- there will be no logo or mention of Grosvenor;
- public consultation was not done, only heard about it two weeks ago;
- City has zoned the area to remove boat shed why are you replacing with an artificial shed;
- the location is great for art by not this one;
- no one from the Coal Harbour Marina was polled;
- the process is flawed and the plan should be scrapped;
- art does not need to blend in it needs to challenge;
- the historical vision is good;
- Liz Magor is a celebrated artist in Canada, should be honoured to have the sculpture;
- reminder of rustic history of Coal Harbour;
- this sculpture offers something which is currently not available;
- this is a blending of past and present ;
- there will be minimal impact on the site;
- there is no art that makes everyone happy;
- appreciate the historical aspect, however, the shed is ugly and crude;
- provide a subject that is more exciting;
- this is a high point of the seawall which is designed for rest;
- sculpture will dominate the site;
- the site was chosen so that the sculpture could be viewed from all angles;
- with the sculpture on piles it will not interfere with the use of the site;
- the sculpture is less than human scale and it is not a large shed.

Board members thanked the delegations for participating in the process and bringing forward a range of opinions on this issue. The Board thanked Grosvenor for their generous contribution. The sculpture will inspire conversation, provide a connection to history in a new development and leave a legacy for the people of Vancouver.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock ,

THAT the Board give final approval for the installation of the public art selected according to the established public art processes and donated by Grosvenor, on the bullnose in the northeast corner of Harbour Green Park, Coal Harbour.

- Carried Unanimously.

Bicycle Racks in Parks

Board members received copies of a staff report dated August 21, 2003, recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to C.

Ray Straatsma, Better Environment Sound Transportation, appeared before the Board and stated that they could assist the Board by providing advise on security for bike racks, creative design and placement of bike racks in parks and facilities. Mr. Straatsma noted that the use of a bicycle as a form transportation has increased and it was important to provide a good and secure place for people to leave their bicycles. He requested the Park Board to come up with a transportation policy.

Board members discussed the issue and welcomed the assistance offered by BEST to assist with locations where bike racks are needed or not enough. It was also suggested that when new facilities are built a provision should be made for bike racks.

Moved by Commissioner Riccius,

A. THAT the Board support the installation of additional bicycle racks in parks as a means of encouraging more park users to cycle to parks.

- B. THAT the Board approve the following bicycle rack implementation strategy:**
- 1. ensure that bike racks are available at all community centres, swimming pools and Park Board work sites;**
 - 2. increase the number of bike racks at beaches, waterfront parks, and neighbourhood parks that have fieldhouses, sport fields, sport courts and/or children's playgrounds;**
 - 3. encourage Park Board partners and tenants to install bike racks at their facilities.**
- C. THAT staff report back with a list of specific sites for bike rack replacement, relocation and installation.**

- Carried Unanimously.

In-Camera Meeting :

Moved by Commissioner Poaps,

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:

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

- Carried Unanimously.

Motion :

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

That the Board approve the travel of Commissioner Deal to Montreal, Quebec, to attend the 2003 Canadian Parks and Recreation Association Conference, October 1 to 5, 2003.

- Carried Unanimously.

Enquiries, Other Matters and New Business

Staff was requested to report back to the Board on options for comprehensive pro-active long-term water conservation measures including concepts like cisterns, and drought resistant plantings and landscapes.

Susan Mundick
General Manager

Commissioner Heather Deal
Chair