

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD AT STRATHCONA COMMUNITY CENTRE
ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2003**

PRESENT:	Chair	- Heather Deal
	Vice-Chair	- Anita Romaniuk
	Commissioners	- Suzanne Anton
		- Allan De Genova
		- Lyndsay Poaps
		- Eva Riccius
		- Loretta Woodcock
	General Manager	- Susan Mundick
	Director of Vancouver East District	- Lori MacKay
	Director of Queen Elizabeth District	- Liane McKenna
	Director of Planning and Operations	- Piet Rutgers
	Manager of Facility Development	- Rudy Roelofsen
	Manager of Revenue Services	- Philip Josephs
	Manager of Communications	- Joyce Courtney
	Planning Analyst	- Dana Walker
	Recorder	- Julie Casanova

The Chair advised the Board that Commissioner Anton was present at the reception but had to leave to attend an important meeting. She will be joining the meeting as soon as she can.

The Chair thanked the Strathcona Community Centre Association for hosting the Board meeting. The Chair on behalf of the Board thanked staff at the community centre for an excellent reception.

The Chair introduced Cynthia who will be available for Chinese translation during the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Board held on Monday, November 03, 2003 were adopted as circulated.

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair advised that Sunset Community Centre received a \$4 million infrastructure grant toward the rebuilding of the community centre.

Board members participated in Remembrance Day Celebrations at Victory Square, Japanese Canadian Memorial and South Memorial Park.

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee : The next Finance Committee meeting will be on Friday, November 21, at 7:30 AM. There are 2 items on the agenda, Golf Clubhouse Staffing and the 2004 Budget.

Planning and Environment Committee: The committee discussed issues relating to the maintenance of Nelson Park and 911 phones in Stanley Park. The next meeting will be held on December 2, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. The Sunset Park planning group will be making a presentation to the committee and other items for the agenda are still being developed and will be available on the website.

Culture and Recreation Committee : Reviewed the ParkPartners Program, Special Event Policy, and Arts Policy at its last meeting. The next meeting will be on December 3, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. and the committee will be reviewing the good neighbour agreement and discussing a program for homeless people.

OPEN QUESTION PERIOD

Morgan Ashbridge - would like the Board to conduct a comprehensive planning process for the Trillium lands.

Richard Page - the planning process for Trillium should include the community.

Muggs Sigurgeirson - the selection criteria for artificial turf field is very technical, need community input before any decision is made.

Daryl Zimmerman - is there a plan to keep the parks open later than 10:00 p.m.?

Ian McRae - worked with the Victory Square committee, disappointed in the quality of the benches that have been installed at Victory Square park.

Angela Genoes - children are not able to use the playground at Oppenheimer Park due to security reasons. Could the Board look into putting up a fence. Donald Greenwell-Baker, Coordinator of Strathcona Community Centre stated that a committee has been started to review the request for a fence around the children's playground.

Cathy Klausen - thanked the Board for improvements to Strathcona Park, she is enjoying the park and has watched the children enjoy the skatepark.

Joe Smith - does the Board have plans to acquire land for park deficient areas? The Chair advised that it was the Board's policy to continue to acquire parkland in park deficient areas.

Rick Archambault - President of Strathcona Community Centre Association thanked the Board for going out to the community. Strathcona is a growing community and MacLean and Strathcona parks are very well used.

2004 Preliminary Operating Budget

Board members received copies of a staff report dated October 31, 2003 recommending that the Board approve the preliminary 2004 Basic Budget and Added Basic Budget.

Staff advised the Board that the 2004 Preliminary Operating Budget report was discussed at a public meeting at the October 18 Budget Open House and reviewed by the Finance Committee.

Moved by Commissioner Romaniuk,

THAT the Board approve the preliminary 2004 Basic Budget of \$48,456,505 as per Appendix I and the Added Basic Budget of \$709,232 as per Appendix II.

- Carried Unanimously.

Renfrew Park Community Centre and Pool Improvements

Board members received copies of a staff report dated November 7, 2003 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to D.

Brian Young, Carmen Rosen and Gail Uthoff, Renfrew Park Community Association requested to speak to the Board with regard to Renfrew Park Community Centre and Pool Improvements. The delegation reported that plans for the elevator cab will be put on hold until enough money is raised. They would like the Board to consider allocating any surplus funds for acoustic tiles in the pool area. The delegations thanked the Board, staff and Thunderbird Community Association for their support on this project.

Board members discussed the matter and stated that Renfrew has waited for a long time for a capital improvement, they understood the need for the acoustic tiling and requested staff to provide an update in the spring as to the status of the contingency funds. Board members commended the Thunderbird Community Association for providing funding assistance to Renfrew Community Association.

Moved by Commissioner De Genova,

- A. That the Board award the contract for the Renfrew Community Centre Pool and Code Upgrades to Westpro Construction Group Ltd., at a price not to exceed \$2,188,000, not including GST, with funding to be derived from the sources as described in this report.**
- B. That the contract not be awarded until the availability of all outside funding is documented to the satisfaction of the General Manager**
- C. That in the event of a surplus at the end of the project, the surplus funds be returned firstly to the Capital Painting Budget, and secondly to the Operating Budget.**
- D. 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 Unanimously.

Mill Marine Bistro - Approval of a change to the Rent and Term of the Lease

Commissioner Anton arrived at this point of the meeting.

Board members received copies of a staff report dated November 6, 2003 recommending that the Board approve a revised rent of 6.25% of gross revenue to the Mill Marine Bistro Ltd., for a period of 10 years from June 1, 2003 to May 31, 2013.

Daniel Frankl, Mill Marine Bistro, appeared before the Board and stated that the original plans for the Mill Marine Bistro was to be a concession and take-out facility. However, because of customer requests, he has converted the operation to a sit down restaurant. Mr. Frankl stated that this conversion resulted in higher overheads and a larger financial investment. He would like the percentage of his rental payment to the Board adjusted to the amount being charged to other restaurants in the park.

Board members thanked Mr. Frankl for his presentation and commended him on establishing a successful restaurant along the waterfront.

Moved by Commissioner Riccius,

- A. THAT the Board approve a revised rent of 6.25% of gross revenue to the Mill Marine Bistro Ltd. for a period of 10 years from June 1, 2003 to May 31, 2013**
- B. THAT no legal rights shall arise and no consents, permissions or licences 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.**

- Carried Unanimously.

Park Board Community Meeting

Board members received copies of a staff report dated November 6, 2003 recommending that the Board receive the report for information.

Staff provided an evaluation on the community Board meetings held to date in 2003. The Board was advised on the cost for advertising and rental of audio visual support for each of the community Board meetings.

Board members indicated that the community Board meetings were well received and would like to continue the program next year. There was a discussion on the possibility of purchasing the audio visual equipment in order to reduce costs. Staff advised that they were investigating the possibility of purchasing the audio visual equipment and staff support to run the equipment.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

THAT the Board receive the report for information.

- Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

THAT the Board request staff to evaluate the series of six community meeting and continue their efforts into 2004.

- Carried Unanimously.

ParkPartners Program

Staff report dated November 7, 2003 recommending that the Board receive the report for information.

Staff presented an update on the ParkPartners Program which has been adopted by a number of municipalities in the Lower Mainland. Staff work with various groups to develop new opportunities to address parks related concerns and to build a community mission of encouraging citizens in park stewardship programs.

Board members thanked staff for the presentation and stated that community involvement in parks was a good thing, however, these should be limited to event specific only, rather than an ongoing program where work is normally done by a member of staff.

Moved by Commissioner Poaps,

THAT the Board receive the report for information.

- Carried Unanimously.

Enquiries, Other Matters And New Business

Motions

Moved by Commissioner Poaps,

WHEREAS an undefined number of people, potentially in the thousands, will be affected by unprecedented new provincial law that limits the time people classified as employable can collect Income Assistance to two of every five years and reduces benefits for families with children by \$100 per month as of April 1, 2004, and

WHEREAS the Charter of Rights and Freedoms includes assurance to equality and life, liberty and security of the person, and

WHEREAS the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, to which Canada is a signatory, grants the right to an adequate standard of living, including food, clothing and shelter, and

WHEREAS these cuts could cause unknown numbers of people to be unable to pay rent, leading to homelessness, and

WHEREAS the City of Vancouver already has an estimated over 1,000 people living without shelter, and

WHEREAS homeless people often sleep and/or live in parks, and

WHEREAS living in parks places the lives and safety of the homeless and others in jeopardy, and

WHEREAS the existence of homeless people in parks places additional burden on Park Board staff and resources,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Vancouver Park Board urges the provincial government to rescind the laws imposing Income Assistance time limits and reducing benefits.

A member of the Board stated that she did not have the opportunity to review the motion and would like to call notice. The Chair stated that the motion was sent out with the revised agenda three days before the meeting and cannot entertain a call for notice. The Chair on advice from the Board agreed to hear delegations on this motion.

Teresa Gray, squatter at Woodward and Victory Square asked the Board for a legal tent city similar to the one in Seattle. She was concerned that there will be a lot of people on the streets.

Daryl Zimmerman stated that he would like to meet with the Mayor to discuss the issue of homelessness.

Board members discussed the motion and stated that they should take this opportunity to let the Provincial Government know that the new laws will be detrimental to a lot of people.

The motion was put and it was Carried.
(Commissioner Anton)

In-Camera Meeting :

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

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:

- (a) personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the city or another position appointed by the city.

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

Susan Mundick
General Manager

Commissioner Heather Deal
Chair