

**Minutes of Meeting
Planning and Environment Committee**

DATE OF MEETING: May 6, 2003

ATTENDEES: **Park Board Commissioners**
Commissioner Eva Riccius, Chair
Commissioner Loretta Woodcock
Commissioner Suzanne Anton

Park Board Staff

Jim Lowden	Director of Stanley District
Rudy Roelofsen	Manager of Facility Development
John Grant	Manager of Major Maintenance
Joyce Courtney	Manager of Communications
Sam Bachra	Engineering Assistant
Vera Sukopova	Planning and Operations (Recording Secretary)

Delegations

Yvonne Howe	President, Mt. Pleasant C.C. Association
Sarah Slack	Mt. Pleasant C.C. Association
Naomi Tabata	Institute of Urban Ecology

SUBJECT: **Planning and Environment Committee Meeting**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner E. Riccius welcomed all to the meeting of the Planning and Environment Committee.

As discussed by all present, the order of Agenda items would be revised as follows:

- 1. Impervious Areas and Implications for Vancouver Parks**
(Naomi Tabata Institute of Urban Ecology)
- 2. Storm Water Management and Road Surfaces**
(John Grant and Sam Bachra, Park Board)
- 3. 1 Kingsway/Mount Pleasant Community Centre Communication and Consultation Process**
(Rudy Roelofsen, Park Board)
- 4. Park Naming Process**
(Joyce Courtney, Park Board)

1. Impervious Areas and Implications for Vancouver Parks

Naomi Tabata gave an introduction and overview of the item:

- What are impervious areas
- Impacts of imperviousness - hydrological, geomorphological and urban effects
- Impacts of imperviousness on water and habitat
- Impervious areas in Vancouver
- Parks contribution to pervious areas in Vancouver and examples of % TIA
- Solutions to imperviousness and Vancouver initiatives

After the presentation Commissioner Suzanne Anton asked how runoff water is treated in parks around parking areas. Sam Bachra explained the process and Jim Lowden gave examples.

2. Storm Water Management and Road Surfaces

John Grant introduced **Sam Bachra** who gave an introduction and overview of the item:

- Defining the objective
- Current situation
- Asphalt paving conditions
- Traffic volumes
- Current drainage and road construction
- Pervious systems
- Permeable asphalt, concrete, pavers and their costs
- Grass and gravel pave, cost and introduced various samples which are used in parks, sustainable streets and lanes
- Country lane and sustainable street and their costs
- Exfiltration and its cost and why he considers it as the most feasible
- Cost comparison of all options
- Recommended strategy and 2003 program

After his presentation Commissioner Loretta Woodcock asked if it would be possible to get information on the feasibility of a sustainable street or “country lane” (Hawkes street adjacent to Strathcona Park). Sam Bachra agreed to provide requested information.

3. 1 Kingsway/Count Pleasant Community Centre Communication and Consultation Process

Rudy Roelofsen gave an introduction and overview of the item:

- Project organization.
 - S Project has 4 client departments and the Project Manager is Melanie Marchand.
- Schedule
 - S Council appointed architect
 - S Approved program - May 9, 2003
 - S Design - end August 2003
 - S Design development - end Nov. 2003
 - S Project completion - end 2005.
- Communication
 - S Committee representing Project Manager, Vancouver Park Board and Vancouver Public Library
 - S On May 15, 2003 established a public website
 - S Newsletter for May 31, 2003
 - S Information stations to be maintained at Mount Pleasant library and community centre
 - S Project will have a kiosk at the Mt. Pleasant festival on June 7, 2003. Staff and architect will attend to update public.
- Consultation Process
 - S Started several years ago with Community Centre survey
 - S Mt. Pleasant Board kept updated and Building Committee working from Fall 2002.
 - S Two public forums were held in January, 2003
 - S Traffic study will be done
 - S Open House planned for June 7, 2003.

After the presentation, Yvonne Howe and Sarah Slack, made a presentation on need for community involvement in the design process and wanted to know how we could make this happen. They also expressed their appreciation with the whole process so far and had a few suggestions what kind of information they would like to find on the new web site. They wanted to know how a development permit process works and that was briefly explained by Jim Lowden. They stressed that for this project it is important that public be continuously involved and interested and at this moment residents' main concern is with the height of the proposed building.

4. Park Naming Process

Joyce Courtney gave an introduction and overview of the item:

- Submitted a list of parks and park sites available for naming
- Park Board guidelines for naming parks
- Practice for naming parks
- Precedents for involving the public and some examples
- Ideas for involving the public in naming Downtown South (3 options and costs)
 - S Ask the Public to submit their ideas for names
 - S Ask the Public to help us decide based on a short list we give them
 - S Develop a contest through the community centre, local businesses and schools to have the Public “vote” on a short list we give them (new concept, not tried).

After presentation Jim Lowden explained that in the past staff prepared recommendation on naming a park and Board decided to approve or not. Eva Riccius suggested that the present commissioners like the idea “Ask the Public to submit their ideas for names.” With specific reference to Downtown South park site, staff will seek public input on naming ideas by:

1. signing the site
2. putting the request on the Park Board website
3. having Roundhouse CC publicize the request for ideas.

CONCLUSION

Eva Riccius thanked all and suggested that minutes from the previous meeting, April 1, 2003 be approved at the next meeting. The agenda for the next meeting will be discussed with Piet Rutgers next week.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.