

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD AT THE PARK BOARD OFFICE
ON MONDAY, APRIL 05, 2004**

PRESENT :	Chair	- Anita Romaniuk
	Vice-Chair	- Loretta Woodcock
	Commissioners	- Suzanne Anton
		- Heather Deal
		- Allan De Genova
		- Eva Riccius
		- Lyndsay Poaps
	General Manager	- Susan Mundick
	Director of Planning and Operations	- Piet Rutgers
	Director of Corporate Services	- Anita Ho
	Director of Queen Elizabeth District	- Liane McKenna
	Director of Vancouver East District	- Lori MacKay
	Manager of Planning and Research	- Mark Vulliamy
	Supervisor of Queen Elizabeth District Parks	- Mike Mackintosh
	Manager of Communications	- Joyce Courtney
	Recorder	- Julie Casanova

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on Monday, March 22, 2004 were reviewed and an amendment was requested to change West Point Grey to Jericho in the comments made by one of the speakers during open question period. A request was also made to add the word "members" after "Board" under Chair's Report. The minutes of the meeting of the meeting of the Board held on Monday, March 22, 2004 were adopted as amended.

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair reported that members of the Board participated in the following:

- #1 Kingsway Open House
- session with the Torino Delegation regarding the 2010 Olympics;
- inauguration of the Upfront Gardens Competition, an event partnered with the Garden Club of Vancouver;
- Special Meeting of the Board on Tuesday, March 30 and a senior staff attended an all day session on coastal shorelines

Finance Committee : the Board is receiving the report on the Operating Budget tonight. The next meeting will be in May when the Capital and Operating budget will be discussed.

Planning and Environment Committee: met on Thursday, April 1, heard delegations with regard to curb cuts in Stanley Park and discussed the report on signage in Stanley Park

The committee will be recommending to the Board to endorse the City's curb cut policy which is endorsed by Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

Culture and Recreation Committee: next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 7, items on the agenda are Dragon Boat Festival, Outdoor Film Series in Stanley Park and the Joint Operating Agreement.

City Council Report : The General Manager advised the Board that Council will be receiving reports on the allocation of Community Amenity Contribution - Rezoning 500 Taylor Street and the Canada BC Infrastructure Program. Council approved the funding for the Pesticide Education Program.

PRESENTATION

Bright Nights - Presentation of Cheque to Burn Fund

The Chair welcomed Tony Burke and Dave Veuger from the BC Professional Fire Fighters Burn Fund. The Fire Fighters Burn Fund have played a significant role in helping to make this event a success. A cheque in the amount of \$142,146 was presented to the Burn Fund, this amount represents the portion of revenues from Bright Nights and donations collected at the event.

Tony Burke thanked the Board for the ongoing partnership and stated that the funds go to fund burn camps, a family picnic and they are planning to launch a research project to eliminate scarring.

Heronry at Stanley Park

Mike Mackintosh, Wildlife Co-ordinator and Rob Boelens, Stanley Park Ecology Society gave a presentation on the research work done on the Great Blue Herons. The presenters described the habitat and mating patterns of the birds and their defense against natural predators. By late March there were 27 active nests. There are a lot of volunteers including the residents in the high rise beside the Park Board Office who watch and record the patterns of the birds during the nesting season. Staff work with the Ministry of Water Land and Air Protection to protect the areas adopted by the herons to nest, an example of which is the fence around the grove of trees with herons nests beside the office parking lot.

The Board expressed appreciation for the detailed presentation which gave them a better understanding of the work done by staff and the volunteers with regard to the preservation of the Great Blue Herons.

Synthetic Turf Field Development: Shortlist of Candidate Sites

Board members received copies of a staff report dated March 26, 2004 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to C in the report.

Staff reviewed the process and criteria to determine the list of possible locations for the development of synthetic turf fields.

The following delegation requested to speak to the Board:

- Jeff Malmgren
- Karen Cooke

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

- there is a growing need for more sports fields;
- have worked to have synthetic turf fields included in the capital plan;
- need to move forward with the process;
- important to start construction this year;
- it was always understood that there would be a playing field at Trillium;
- disappointed that Trillium is not being considered as a possible site;
- most of the sites being considered are ovals;
- track and field is the most under-serviced sport;
- consider building rubber tracks in Vancouver.

Board members commended staff on the process used to determine the locations for the fields and suggested that a similar process should be adopted for future projects which involve different user groups. It would be good to see the fields constructed as soon as possible as costs for construction is escalating.

Moved by Commissioner Anton,

- A. THAT the Board approve, subject to concurrence by the Vancouver School Board, the shortlist of Prince of Wales Secondary School, Point Grey Secondary School/Kerrisdale Park, Vancouver Technical Secondary School, Killarney Park, and Churchill Secondary School as candidate sites for possible synthetic turf field development.**

- B. THAT the Board authorize staff, in cooperation with the School Board, to conduct public open houses at these five locations along with detailed technical evaluation with respect to project feasibility.**

- C. THAT staff be directed to negotiate terms of an agreement with the Vancouver School Board for construction and operation of any field on School Board property, in whole or in part, prior to reporting back with final sites recommendation.**

- Carried Unanimously.

Millennium Sports Facility Society - MOU update

Board members received copies of a staff report dated March 30, 2004, recommending that the Board enter into a lease with the Millennium Sport Facility Society for up to three years for a portion of land at Nat Bailey Stadium Park to permit the construction of the new Millennium Sport Facility, at a lease rate of \$1 per year.

Staff advised the Board that the Millennium Sport Facility Project is ready for construction and the facility will be constructed to standards acceptable to the Park Board. The draft lease for the land upon which the building will be built has been prepared on the basis of the terms approved in the Memorandum of Understanding, but requires the Board's approval now that the funding for the project has been confirmed.

Alan Webster thanked the Board and staff for their support. Phase 1 and 2 of the building permit is ready. They are estimating a 10 month to a year construction time frame.

Board members thanked staff and the Millennium Sport Facility Society for their hard work and looks forward to the construction of the facility.

Moved by Commissioner Poaps,

- A. THAT the Board enter into a lease with the Millennium Sport Facility Society (the Society) for up to three years for a portion of land at Nat Bailey Stadium Park to permit the construction of the new Millennium Sport Facility, at a lease rate of \$1 per year.**
- B. THAT no legal rights shall arise and no consents, permissions or licenses 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.**
- C. THAT once the form of the lease has been approved by the General Manager and the Director of Legal Services for the City of Vancouver, that the General Manager be authorized to execute and deliver such documentation on behalf of the Board.**

- Carried Unanimously.

Staff reviewed the history with regard to the unification of McBride Park . The plan to close Waterloo Street was considered in previous years, but this proposal was rejected by the residents.

John Greiner and Ken Webber, residents for the unification of McBride Park, stated that the neighbourhood is growing and for the safety of children using the playground, they would like to see the closure of Waterloo Street so that McBride Park could be united. The delegations indicated that the proposal was previously rejected because there were no traffic calming in the area. They have spoken with Councillor Louis who is supportive of the closure of Waterloo Street between McBride Park.

Board members discussed the financial impact for such a project and there was a suggestion that the matter be referred to the Planning and Environment Committee for discussion.

Moved by Commissioner Deal,

THAT the motion be referred to the Planning and Environment Committee for staff to work with the Engineering to provide more information with regard to traffic counts.

Board members discussed the referral motion and did not see any benefit to refer the matter to the Planning and Environment Committee.

A vote was taken on the motion and it was DEFEATED.
(Commissioners Anton, Deal, Riccius, Romaniuk, Poaps and Woodcock contrary)

Board members discussed the main motion and stated that they support the proposal in principal, and would recommend to Council to support the plan. The Board would need to look at funding sources before the work could be done, if approved by Council. As funding is not in place it is important that the community does not have a false expectation for an immediate resolve.

The main motion was put forward and it was Carried Unanimously.

Commissioner De Genova returned to the room at this time.

The following motion was put forward by Commissioner Riccius at the Special Meeting of the Board held on Tuesday, March 30, 2004:

WHEREAS the current process of shaping the future of Hastings Park and of the PNE is premised on 'building on and complementing' the Hastings Park Restoration Plan, which was supported by the community and unanimously approved by both Park Board and City Council in 1997:

WHEREAS the Park Board supports an Annual Fair in Hastings Park;

WHEREAS an Annual Fair, if properly designed and managed, can occur without sacrificing the principles contained in the Hastings Park Restoration Plan; and

WHEREAS alternatives for the park are being presently developed and evaluated by a consultant team within an extremely restricted timeframe.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Park Board encourage the development of variations, which create a sustainable, accessible, and vibrant public park that:

1. Clearly connect the restored park areas (Italian Gardens, Sanctuary and Empire Fields) in a holistic way that encourages visitors to explore and discover the park
2. Restore Windermere Hill and create the stream/pedestrian corridor to New Brighton Park
3. Create an inviting edge and welcoming entrances to the park that reach out into the community in all directions
4. Accommodate an exciting annual fair through:
 - (a) the use of existing buildings and facilities on site including the racetrack grandstand and barns
 - (b) the development of a temporary Midway on a north/south axis with the existing Roller Coaster as its southern anchor
 - (c) the development of a wide promenade along the Miller Drive alignment suitable to accommodate a range of Fair activities.

Jim Hamm, SPEC, appeared before the Board and stated that the Board should consider deleting clause 4 from the motion. He would like the track footprints reduced by reducing the number of barns. Racing at Hastings Park is seasonal, there is no need for permanent barns. Remove the barns and install temporary ones in the oval to create more green space.

Board members discussed the motion and felt that it was important to send a message to the City, Park Board staff and the technical consultants to create a park first and then put the fair in the park. There was also a discussion on whether the racetrack grandstand and barns should be included in the visioning process for the existing buildings. Amendments to the motion were proposed.

Moved by Commissioner Anton,

THAT the words ‘in a holistic way that’ be deleted from clause 1 of the motion and replace it with ‘so as to’ , delete the ‘s’ from ‘encourages’ and replace ‘discover’ with ‘use’.

- Carried.

(Commissioner De Genova contrary)

Moved by Commissioner Poaps,

THAT the phrase ‘including the racetrack grandstand and barns’ be deleted from clause 4 (a) of the motion.

- DEFEATED.

(Commissioners Deal, De Genova, Riccius, Romaniuk, Poaps and Woodcock contrary)

A request to vote on each clause separately was accepted by the Chair.

Clause 1 as amended:

Clearly connect the restored park areas (Italian Gardens, Sanctuary and Empire Fields) so as to encourage visitors to explore and use the park

- Carried.

(Commissioner De Genova contrary)

Clause 2:

Restore Windermere Hill and create the stream / pedestrian corridor to New Brighton Park

- Carried Unanimously.

Clause 3:

Create an inviting edge and welcoming entrances to the park that reach out into the community in all directions.

- Carried Unanimously.

Clause 4 :

- (a) the use of existing buildings and facilities on site including the racetrack grandstand and barns

Moved by Commissioner Deal,

THAT the word “existing” be deleted.

- DEFEATED.

(Commissioners Anton, De Genova, Riccius, Romaniuk, Poaps and Woodcock contrary)

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

THAT the word ‘potential’ be inserted before ‘use’.

- Carried Unanimously.

Clause 4 (a) as amended:

The potential use of existing buildings and facilities on site including the racetrack grandstand and barns

- Carried Unanimously.

Clause 4 (b):

The development of a temporary Midway on a north/south axis with the existing Roller Coaster as its southern anchor

Moved by Commissioner Anton,

THAT the phrase ‘development of a temporary’ be deleted and replace with ‘possible inclusion of a’ .

- DEFEATED.

(Commissioners De Genova, Deal, Riccius, Romaniuk, Poaps and Woodcock contrary)

Clause 4 (b) was put forward:

The development of a temporary Midway on a north/south axis with the existing Roller Coaster as its southern anchor

- Carried Unanimously.

Clause 4 (c):

The development of a wide promenade along the Miller Drive alignment suitable to accommodate a range of Fair activities.

- Carried Unanimously.

2004 Operating Budget

Board members received copies of a staff report dated March 17, 2004 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to C in the report.

Staff reviewed the 2004 Operating Budget initiatives that have been reviewed by the Finance Committee and discussed with representatives of CUPE 15 and CUPE 1004.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

THAT the Board approve:

- (a) the Park Board Global Budget of \$48,853,900, including \$493,800 for added basic costs and one-time adjustments and the New and Non-Recurring (NNR) budget of \$462,500**
- (b) budget initiatives (as outlined on Appendix 3) of \$659,100, for public consultation**
- (c) that staff report back to the Board on April 19, 2004 with the results of public consultation on the initiatives**

- Carried Unanimously.

Allocation of Community Amenity Contribution: Improvements at Pigeon Park and Development of the Downtown Skateboard Plaza

Board members received copies of a staff report dated March 27, 2004 recommending that the Board expresses its support for the proposal to allocate \$120,000 from the Community Amenity Contribution collected from the rezoning of 550 Taylor Street to improvements at Pigeon Park and \$20,000 toward the development of the Downtown Skateboard Plaza.

Moved by Commissioner Poaps,

THAT the Board expresses its support for the proposal to allocate \$120,000 from the Community Amenity Contribution collected from the rezoning of 550 Taylor Street to improvements at Pigeon Park, and \$20,000 toward the development of the Downtown Skateboard Plaza.

- Carried Unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 p.m.

Susan Mundick
General Manager

Commissioner Anita Romaniuk
Chair