

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD AT KENSINGTON COMMUNITY CENTRE
ON MONDAY, APRIL 19, 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 Stanley District	- Jim Lowden
	Director of Vancouver East District	- Lori MacKay
	Manager of Facility Development	- Rudy Roelofsen
	Project Manager	- Jim Meschino
	Manager of Communications	- Joyce Courtney
	Recorder	- Julie Casanova

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Board held on Monday, April 5, 2004 were adopted as circulated.

The minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board held on Tuesday, March 30, 2004 were adopted as circulated.

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair advised that some of the Board members participated in the following :

- fundraising event organized by the Stanley Park Ecology Society;
- tour of the Eburne area;
- Heritage Awards where the English Bay Bathhouse received an award.

The Chair conveyed with sadness the passing of Ivy Granstrom on April 14, 2004. Ivy, a faithful participant of the Polar Bear Swim, had never missed an event. She will be missed.

Finance Committee - next meeting will be on Monday, May 31, agenda for the meeting will be Ethical Procurement, Capital Plan, Operating Budget and Lease Renewals.

Planning and Environment Committee - next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 4 at 7:00 p.m., on the agenda will be Strathcona Garden Pond Proposal, a delegation from Tatlow Park regarding a stream, and a proposal for a Zip Track.

Culture and Recreation Committee - next meeting is on Wednesday, May 5, 2004

City Council Report - At its meeting on Tuesday, Council will be receiving reports on Land Leases for BCBC Portables, 2003 - 2005 Capital Plan Funding Adjustments, Mount Pleasant Civic Centre - #1 Kingsway, Authorization to Tender, additional funding for Carnegie Centre for year round programming at Oppenheimer Park and West Nile Virus. Council will be hearing a delegation on Homelessness and receive a report with regard to Collingwood Neighbourhood House operating funding at the City Services and Budget Committee on Thursday. Work on Hastings Park/PNE visioning is proceeding, an insert will be included in the Courier newspaper outlining the four scenarios/approaches for the future of the PNE/Hastings Park, resulting from the recent public consultation. A residents poll will be also be conducted the week of April 26. There is a motion to designate May 10, 2004 as Move for Health Day.

OPEN QUESTION PERIOD

There were no participants.

PRESENTATION

Awards - Ron Suzuki: Lori MacKay, Director of Vancouver East District advised the Board that Ron Suzuki, Recreation Programmer received two awards in recognition of his outstanding leadership for providing sports and physical activity for young women in the Strathcona area from proMOTION plus and for making a difference to students in the Strathcona school district from the Vancouver School Board.

Mike Yeung has worked with Ron Suzuki for the past five years and he stated that he was honoured to know and work with Ron. The children are grateful for his time and dedication.

The Chair thanked Ron Suzuki for his leadership. He sets an excellent example to fellow employees.

Operating Budget - Consultation on Initiatives

Board members received copies of a staff report dated April 14, 2004 recommending that the Board approve the 2004 Budget Initiatives detailed in the 2004 Operating Budget to increase summer season hourly parking rates in Stanley Park and at Jericho Beach and increase low cost swim and skate rates for Adult patrons from \$1 to \$2 effective May 1, 2004.

Staff reported that following the Board's approval of the 2004 Operating Budget a public consultation was conducted on the increase to summer season hourly parking rate in Stanley Park and at Jericho Beach and the increase in adult rates for low cost swim and skate. Two comments were received relating to parking rates increase and none for the swim and skate.

Haedy Mason, Strathcona Community Association, asked the Board to consider a request for funding for summer programming at Strathcona Park for the 9 to 14 year olds.

Staff advised the Board that funding has been allocated for programming at Strathcona Park as a pilot for 2004.

Board members discussed the issue and asked staff to monitor the number of swim/skate participants to gauge the impact of the increases. There was a suggestion to review the availability of Leisure Access Cards at a future Finance Committee meeting.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

THAT the Board approve 2004 Budget Initiatives detailed in the 2004 Operating Budget to increase summer season hourly parking rates in Stanley Park and at Jericho Beach and increase low cost swim and skate rates for Adult patron from \$1 to \$2 effective May 1, 2004.

- Carried Unanimously.

Mt. Pleasant Community Centre Design Approval

Staff report dated April 8, 2004 recommending that the Board approve the schematic design for the new Mount Pleasant Community Centre as prepared by Busby and Associates Architects and support the recommendation to Council to tender the construction project.

Staff provided a review of the history on the choice of the location for the new community centre building. The plans have gone through extensive public consultation and Council is being asked to approve the recommendation to tender the construction project. David Dove, Architect, Busby and Associates, reviewed the design in detail. The project is seeking a LEED silver building certification.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Rod Hashimoto, Mount Pleasant Community Association
- Gloria Laird, Mount Pleasant Community Association

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

- the proposed design appears to be good considering the limited square-footage;
- the net area for the new community centre is not enough;
- residents are not pleased with this development, they will be losing a pool and a childcare centre;
- need to address the after school program for Simon Fraser School;
- concerned that there will be a specific segment of the community that will not be served;
- there will be loss of revenue for the community association due to lack of programmable space;
- Park Board should take over the childcare centre if an operator is not found;
- proposed space of the new community centre is not enough to accommodate the growing population;
- should keep the present community centre as a satellite to compensate for the lack of space in the new centre;
- the design of the building is not attractive for this location.

Board members thanked the community association, volunteers, staff, architects and city staff for bringing the project up to this point and was pleased to see that this would be a LEED silver building. The Board agreed with the building committee that the centre should not be smaller, there is a potential for growth in the future. The community is working with Park Board with regard to the after school care program with Simon Fraser School.

Moved by Commissioner Riccius,

- A. THAT the Board approve the schematic design for the new Mount Pleasant Community Centre to be located at 1 Kingsway as prepared by Busby and Associates Architects, illustrated in Appendix 1.**
- B. THAT the Board be asked to support the recommendation to Council as per the attached Council report dated April 6, 2004**

- Carried Unanimously.

Stanley Park Signage Program

Board members received copies of a staff report dated April 1, 2004 recommending that the Board approve the completion of the Phase 1 signage program for Stanley Park.

Staff provided the Board with the background on the issue of signage in Stanley Park and the objective of providing appropriate wayfinding for park visitors. Staff reviewed the development of the sign design and locations of the signs in relation to traffic flow.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board :

Ed Cooke, Stanley Park Pavilion
Don Bellanmy, AAA Horse and Carriage
Clea Parfitt, AAA Horse and Carriage
Gerry O'Neil, AAA Horse and Carriage

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

- support the style, design and format of the signs;
- Pavilion needs more than one sign, need a sign at the Georgia St entrance;
- given full input to the consultants and at the committee meeting but have been ignored;
- was not aware there were different phases for the signage program;
- consultant was asked to audit road signage;
- concerned that there has been no discussion to negotiate according to the license agreement;
- direct staff to re-instate the six pedestrian signs in their original location;
- there is a contractual obligation for reasonable signage;
- voluntarily reduced the number of sandwich board signs;
- business is losing money without the sandwich board signs;
- ads on the shuttle is also sign pollution;
- find a reasonable solution to this problem.

Board members discussed the issue and stated that it was important for the Board to look at balancing uses in the park. The park belongs to the citizens of Vancouver and there is a need to limit commercialization. There are excellent tenants in Stanley Park, however it is up to the tenant to find ways to advertise their business outside the park. Board members asked staff to re-examine the signage at Pipeline Road to prevent people having to drive around the park and to have further meetings with the two stakeholders that still have concerns.

Moved by Commissioner Deal,

THAT the Board approve the completion of the Phase I signage program for Stanley Park as outlined in attachment 1 of the staff report dated April 1, 2004.

- Carried Unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS

Treated Wood In Playgrounds

Board members received copies of a staff report dated April 8, 2004 recommending that the Board receive the report for information.

Staff advised the Board that following the release of a study by Environmental Defense Canada suggesting the presence of high levels of arsenic in some park playgrounds, samples from several playgrounds were tested. The results were different from the original study. Staff is following Vancouver Coastal Health Authority's recommendation to not use CCA treated wood and to replace CCA treated wood equipment. Non wood products are the acceptable material for new equipment.

Ivan Bulic, SPEC, stated that they support the recommendations from the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority, except for no. 2 that a provision be made for equipment replacement schedule.

Board members discussed the replacement schedule for playground equipment and would like to see it accelerated.

Moved by Commissioner Deal,

THAT the Board receive the report for information.

- Carried Unanimously.

West Nile Virus

Board members received copies of a staff report dated April 8, 2004 recommending that the Board endorse recommendations A to E of the attached City Council report "West Nile Virus surveillance and Mosquito Control Procedures for 2004" dated April 22, 2004.

Staff advised the Board that the action plan to deal with the West Nile Virus issue will be consistent with the regional policy framework adopted by the Greater Vancouver Regional District. Surveillance and monitoring will be done in both catch basin and parks. A larval control program by treating catch basins with methoprene and water bodies in parks and city land with Bti has been prepared and is ready if required.

Ivan Bulic, SPEC, urged the Board to adopt the recommendations in the report and stated that emphasis should be placed on public education and the encouragement of natural predators.

Moved by Commissioner Deal,

THAT the Board endorse recommendations A, B, C, D and E of the attached City Council report "West Nile Virus Surveillance and Mosquito Control Procedures for 2004" dated April 22, 2004.

- Carried Unanimously.

Capital Cost Escalation

Board members received copies of a staff report dated April 2, 2004 recommending that the Board endorse Recommendations A and B in the City Council report "2003-2005 Capital Plan Funding Adjustments".

Staff advised the Board that estimated costs for projects have escalated since 2002. In order to undertake these projects, staff identified DCL funds and the reallocation of current capital funds. This funding adjustment will allow all projects to proceed.

Moved by Commissioner Riccius,

- A. THAT the Board endorse Recommendations A and B in the City Council report "2003 - 2005 Capital Plan Funding Adjustments".**
- B. THAT the Board approve Capital Plan transfers in the amount of \$1,375,000 in the Park Board Capital Plans 2003 - 2005 and 2000 - 2002 as detailed in Appendix 2.**

- Carried Unanimously.

In-Camera Meeting :

Moved by Commissioner Deal,

**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:
(d) the security of property of the city.**

- Carried Unanimously.

Susan Mundick
General Manager

Commissioner Anita Romaniuk
Chair