

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD AT RILEY PARK COMMUNITY CENTRE
ON MONDAY, JUNE 21, 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 Queen Elizabeth District	- Liane McKenna
	Director of Vancouver East District	- Lori MacKay
	Child and Youth Services Coordinator	- Booth Palmer
	Manager of Communications	- Joyce Courtney
	Recorder	- Julie Casanova

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Board meeting and thanked the Riley Park Community Association Board members for their hospitality to Board members and staff.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board held on Monday, June 07, 2004 were adopted as circulated.

Minutes of the special meeting of the Board held on Monday, May 31, 2004 were adopted as circulated

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair reported that there were several events in June and some members of the Board attended or plan to attend these events.

- VanDusen Garden Show Preview
- Stanley Park Bikefest
- Ivy Buster Program in Stanley Park
- CityFest at Hastings Park
- Upfront Garden Award
- Lighting of the Train at Roundhouse Community Centre
- Organ Donor Walk
- Opening of the new addition at Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Garden
- Shania Twain Concert at the PNE
- Quebec Day
- Alcan Dragon Boat Races

- West End Farmers' Market
- Central Valley Greenway Ride
- Council meeting on Tuesday, decision on Hastings Park

Finance Committee - the next meeting will be held on July 12, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. on the agenda will be Ethical Purchasing, Participatory Budgeting and a report on the financials for the first half of the year.

Planning and Environment Committee - the next meeting is on July 6, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. The committee will be discussing a track facility in the city, community garden leases, cell tower at Fraserview and receive an update on Nelson Park

Culture and Recreation Committee - the next meeting on July 7, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. will be at held at Killarney Community Centre. The committee will receive a presentation on horizontal climbing wall, sculpture donation by the Chilean Consulate and public art by Buschlen Mowatt.

City Council Report

The General Manager advised that Council received a report on Electoral Reform which recommended wards for Council, and Park Board remaining with the at-large system. Council will be deciding the next steps for the visioning of Hastings Park/PNE at its meeting on Tuesday. Other reports being dealt with by Council are, Ethical Procurement, Advertising Policy, Community Amenity Proposal at Broadway and Commercial and FCM Quality of Life Indicators.

The General Manager provided an update on the positive testing of rabies in three skunks from Stanley Park and the aggressive behaviour of racoons. Staff are working on site to educate visitors to not feed wildlife.

OPEN QUESTION PERIOD

Robert Bazluk - the Khalsa Diwan Society sport group use Memorial South Park for their annual sporting event. There is open consumption of alcohol, traffic is difficult and the neighbourhood is trashed. Women and children are unable to enjoy the park. The Park Board has never canvassed the neighbours for their opinion before issuing a permit to this group, and the Board should consider the impacts on the neighbourhood.

Art Bomke - why is Nat Bailey Stadium included in the plans for Hillcrest/Riley. This stadium will require millions of dollars to bring it up to standards. Should look at scenarios without Nat Bailey Stadium.

A resident from around China Creek Park advised that the Board should have some programming in the park to deter the criminal activities such as drugs and prostitution. Staff are working with NIST and the police to resolve the problems at China Creek Park.

Hilda Nanning - member of China Creek Coalition, daycare development should be considered in conjunction with the social aspect of the park. An overall community plan should be developed first before deciding on the uses for the park.

PRESENTATION

Award Presentation : Rick Hansen Wheels in Motion Accessibility Award - Advisory Committee on Disability Issues

Commissioner Deal advised the Board that as Liaison to the Advisory Committee on Disability Issues, it was her pleasure to announce that the Vancouver Park Board are one of the first recipients of the Rick Hansen Accessibility Award.

Staff gave a presentation on the various accessible programs available through our system to assist people with disabilities.

STAFF REPORTS

Gingerbread House Daycare/YMCA (Nanook)

Board members received copies of a staff report dated June 10, 2004 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to F.

Staff reviewed the background on the two daycare facilities and their need to relocate and upgrade so that they can continue to meet the needs of the community.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Audrey Gilmore
- Nuralli Adaya
- Jeff Devins
- Walter Francl
- Susan Low
- Jean Parker
- Crystal Tobanagan
- Dominique Thomas

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

- there is a sewer vent not far from the daycare which surrounds the area with a bad stench;
- South China Creek Park is contaminated;
- suggest environmental assessment before putting in a childcare facility;
- want a certificate that the site is not contaminated;
- hire a community design plan consultant;
- would like all future planning meetings be held on site at China Creek;
- Gingerbread House Board would like to thank staff and the Board for coming up with a solution;
- looking forward to the move to the new facility at Captain Cook;
- would like to move the project forward;
- neighbours would like to have a strong voice in the planning process;
- the YMCA has a tight time line to raise funds;
- have a design of the daycare in relation to the park and the neighbourhood;
- the YMCA would like to have a one storey building;
- try to keep the park clean and be the eyes in the park;
- have children who attended daycare and their health is fine;
- the park is not used because it is not safe;
- the daycare provides a good service to the community;
- need advocates for children;
- Nanook has helped immigrants to find their way in the community;
- think of what is best for the kids.

Board members thanked the delegations for their presentation and agreed that there are a lot of issues in South China Creek Park. The Board welcomed the community to participate in the planning process for South China Creek Park and suggested that they might want to consider the Park Partners Program.

Moved by Commissioner Riccius,

- A. THAT the Board approve the use of the required portion of Captain Cook Park for a fenced play area, and that the Board enter into a 5 year agreement with the operators of the Gingerbread House Daycare for the purposes of operating licensed childcare programs on a portion of Captain Cook Park, at no cost to the Park Board.**
- B. THAT the Board grant YMCA Childcare Services permission to construct at South China Creek Park:**
 - a 2-storey, 550 sq metre permanent facility for the purposes of licensed childcare and for a shared community room, and 520 square metres of fenced outdoor licensed childcare play yard;

- **that detailed design drawings be presented to the community involved in the park redevelopment process for consideration and comment and be subject to design approval by the Park Board;**
 - **that the building become the property of the Board upon substantial completion;**
 - **at no cost to the Park Board.**
- C. THAT the Board enter into a 10 year agreement with a 10 year renewable option clause with YMCA Childcare Services to operate the aforementioned facility at South China Creek Park, at no cost to the Board.**
- D. THAT the Board correspond with the Director of Childcare Services of the British Columbia Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services, with a request to relax the funding deadline in order to better coordinate the Nanook Childcare facility development process with the current GVRD sewer upgrade and the park redevelopment process.**
- E. THAT in the event that the operator of a childcare facility cease the operation of the licensed childcare services specified in this report, the facility or parkland in question shall revert to the Park Board for public park use.**
- F. THAT all arrangements be made subject to the satisfaction of the General Manager, Director of Legal Services and Director of Risk Management.**

- Carried Unanimously.

Commissioner Poaps left at this point of the meeting

Connaught Park - Meraloma Club Lease Renewal

Board members received copies of a staff report dated June 9, 2004 recommending that the Board approve the Finance Committee recommendation to renew the lease with Meraloma Club at the Connaught Park Fieldhouse.

Moved by Commissioner Deal,

The Finance Committee recommends:

- 4. THAT the Board approve the renewal of the lease with the Meraloma Club at the Connaught Park fieldhouse for a ten (10) year term commencing June 1, 2002.**
- 5. THAT once the form of the agreement has been approved by the General Manager and Director of Legal Services, that the General Manager be authorized to execute the document on behalf of the Board.**

- Carried Unanimously.

Park Naming Process - 8th and Fraser Parksite

Board members received copies of a staff report dated June 16, 2004 recommending that the Board approve a community consultation process to consider naming opportunities for the 8th and Fraser parksite.

Staff reviewed the guidelines for naming parks and advised the Board that a park naming process similar to the one adopted for Emery Barnes Park be used for naming the parksite at 8th and Fraser. The process is suggested to be completed by September for the park opening to be held in October.

Board members expressed concern with time line. The General Manager advised the Board that focus will be on the naming process and a date for the opening will be confirmed once the Board has decided on the park name.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock ,

THAT the Board approve a community consultation process to consider naming opportunities for the 8th & Fraser parksite.

- Carried Unanimously.

Motions

Moved by Commissioner Riccius,

WHEREAS, the federal government allocated \$50 million to B.C. over the past two years to support child care and early childhood development;

WHEREAS, the B.C. government has reduced funding for childcare across the province by \$50 million since 2000;

WHEREAS, the City of Vancouver is experiencing a crisis in child care caused by provincial cutbacks to subsidies for low and moderate income families, cuts to operating grants and cuts to child-care advocacy organizations;

WHEREAS, the City of Vancouver has for the past two years provided subsidies to protect 600 child care spaces for those families who are most in need even though child care funding is a provincial and federal responsibility;

WHEREAS, the City of Vancouver, The Vancouver Park Board and the Vancouver School Board established a Joint Council on Child Care to work together to ensure the protection of existing childcare services, the more efficient provision of childcare services, and the equitable expansion of childcare across the city;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Vancouver Park Board endorse the recommendation of the Joint Council on Child Care calling on the Government of Canada to require provinces to:

- 1. Maintain their 2001-2002 baseline spending on child care and related early childhood development programs, and,**
- 2. Use federal funds to supplement, rather than replace, provincial spending.**

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Vancouver Park Board forward this motion to the leaders of the major federal political parties running candidates in the federal election and the Government of British Columbia.

Board members discussed the motion and a member of the Board questioned the figures in the motion and requested further background information to make an informed decision.

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

Moved by Commissioner Riccius,

- WHEREAS** the municipal parks of Vancouver are a public trust treasured by residents and visitors;
- AND WHEREAS** Vancouver's parks contribute significantly to the livability of the city;
- AND WHEREAS** Vancouver's parks provide a wide range of recreation opportunities for residents and visitors to enjoy;
- AND WHEREAS** an active public is a healthy public;
- AND WHEREAS** the Canadian Parks Council, along with non governmental organizations, federal, provincial and regional governments, promotes the observance of Canada's Parks Day across Canada;
- AND WHEREAS** the people of Vancouver should be encouraged to take an interest in and visit Vancouver's parks;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT,

The Vancouver Park Board request that the Mayor proclaim July 17, 2004 as "Canada's Parks Day" in Vancouver,

And that the Vancouver Park Board encourages residents and visitors to visit a park that day.

- Carried Unanimously.

Enquiries, Other Matters And New Business

Board members requested an update on how the enforcement for dogs off-leash was progressing. The Director of Queen Elizabeth District advised the Board that she will gather the information for the Board.

There was a request to look into the idea of celebrating Arbor Day similar to the Upfront Garden competition by having a contest for your favourite tree. Staff will investigate and report back on the options.

A member of the Board requested briefing notes from the Vancouver Exhibition and Convention Centre. Staff advised the Board already had this information, as the content for the open house was not different from the recent Public Open House.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 p.m.

Susan Mundick
General Manager

Commissioner Anita Romaniuk
Chair