

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD AT THE PARK BOARD OFFICE
ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 03, 2005**

PRESENT:	Vice Chair	- Lyndsay Poaps
	Commissioners	- Suzanne Anton
		- Heather Deal
		- Allan De Genova
		- Anita Romaniuk
		- Loretta Woodcock
	General Manager	- Susan Mundick
	Director of Planning and Operations	- Piet Rutgers
	Director of Queen Elizabeth District	- Liane McKenna
	Manager of Research and Planning	- Mark Vulliamy
	Manager of Operations – Queen Elizabeth District	- Bill Manning
	Manager of Communications	- Joyce Courtney
	Research Planner	- Michel Desrochers
	Recorder	- Barbara Joughin

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Board held on Monday, September 19, 2005 were adopted as circulated.

Susan Mundick advised the Board that a member of the public noted that the minutes of the regular meeting of the Board held on Monday, May 09, 2005 did not record who was present for the vote on the Riley, Hillcrest and Nat Bailey Master Plan motion. The minutes were amended on page 7 to record the arrival and departure times of the Commissioners, and were adopted as amended.

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Vice Chair advised the Board that the Chair, Commissioner Eva Riccius is on maternity leave. Due to the large number of delegations, there was no report from the Chair.

City Council Report

Council will disband the Sustainable Purchasing Policy Task Force but will continue with the implementation of the Sustainable Purchasing Policy. Council will determine the benefits package for 2901 East Hastings (Hastings Race Course).

The 2006 – 2008 Capital Plan borrowing questions will go to City Council's Planning and Environment Committee on Thursday, and they will also continue the discussion of the new Animal Control By-Law.

Planning and Environment Committee: the next meeting will be on October 4, the items on the agenda are Nelson Park Design, naming a park near Langara College and China Creek South Park Concept Design.

Culture and Recreation Committee: the next meeting will be on October 5, and the committee will receive an update on the Rain and Shine Festival that celebrated the Park Board's community partners, an update on the West End Integrated Neighbourhood Network, a review of accessibility, and a request for a whales in captivity referendum.

Finance Committee: met on September 26, items included the August Operating Statement. Planning has started to set priorities for the 2006 Operating Budget, including a public consultation process with opportunities for feedback on the website and through the media.

STAFF REPORTS

Hillcrest/Riley/Nat Bailey Stadium Parks Master Plan

Board members received copies of a staff report dated September 19, 2005 recommending that the Board approve the revised Hillcrest, Riley, Nat Bailey Parks Master Plan incorporating a modified parking and access arrangement as illustrated in Appendix A.

On May 9, 2005 the Board approved the siting and massing of the Aquatic Centre and the Legacy building and asked staff to address issues related to the location of parking areas and the proposed controlled intersection at Ontario Street and 30th Avenue. Staff were also asked to look at further traffic control measures for the neighbourhood, and to prepare a transportation plan for Nat Bailey Stadium.

Staff advised the Board that the revised plan is the result of further traffic studies carried out by the project's transportation consultant since May 9, 2005 and on feedback gathered from a public open house and from the Planning and Environment Committee on September 15, 2005. Based on this feedback, five principles were identified that must be balanced to achieve an acceptable parking and traffic plan: flexibility, client convenience, neighbourhood impact, park user impact, and affordability.

Once the Board approves a Master Plan that sets out parking and building siting in general terms, the Director of Planning for the City of Vancouver will forward a report to Council requesting that the land be rezoned as CD-1. The subsequent permitting and public consultation processes will provide many opportunities for involvement in the final planning and development of the site.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

1. Steve Gustavson, Little Mountain Baseball
2. Ken Bregman
3. Jeff Malmgren, Vancouver Field Sports Federation
4. Richard Campbell, BEST
5. Allan Buium
6. Anita Pollard
7. Ian Robertson, Dunbar Little League
8. Geoff Catliff, Westside Senior Soccer Society / Vancouver Community Baseball / Hillcrest Sports Society
9. Ray Carter, Friends of Nat Bailey / Vancouver Canadians Baseball
10. Evan Sahmet, Community Committee
11. Claire Cullen, Riley Park Community Centre Association
12. Stan Jang
13. John and Donna Zitco
14. Kit Fortune
15. David Mumford

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

- important to maintain some parking near Little League clubhouse;
- putting parking and the Aquatic Centre into the centre of park changes the park feel;
- problems of over-development in the whole site can't be fixed by squeezing things together;
- support the decision to leave Little Mountain Baseball in place;
- cannot afford to lose any field space, watch out for "rendition creep";
- Ontario Street greenway provides an opportunity for families to cycle together safely;
- people will continue to drive as long as it is more convenient than the alternatives;
- show leadership by choosing traffic safety rather than convenience;
- this revision does not preserve green space and continuous green space is negated by placing parking in the park;
- constructing these facilities must leave a positive, sustainable legacy;
- table this proposal until the next Park Board meeting to give people time to consider the strong negative impact on the city;
- this proposal contradicts what many residents in the area want to see;
- the open house did not allow enough time to talk to staff;
- this version of the master plan has been changed dramatically since the original, and uses up more greenspace;
- current model goes against the Board's direction to keep the Ontario Street greenway intact by restricting traffic between Peveril and 33rd;
- put more parking where the current curling rink is;

- it is false economy to not consider underground and structured parking;
- please do not pave over the park;
- moving the Little Mountain Baseball diamond is moving part of the history of baseball in Vancouver and is a slight to the volunteers;
- the Aquatic Centre located as shown encroaches on the best green space in the park;
- go back to VANOC for more money to invest in structured parking;
- the first six versions of the master plan left Hillcrest Park untouched but now the fields are downsized;
- the ability to shift fields as wear progresses will be lost;
- buildings encroach onto the fields and break up the park;
- this plan has inadequate buffer zones between and around the fields;
- discussions are underway about indoor soccer and baseball winter training in the basement of the aquatic centre;
- generally in favour of the plan for the moment and will want to see more detail when available;
- the location of Aquatic Centre is contrary to the siting and massing that was approved by the Board on May 9, 2005;
- parking lot on Ontario Street does not benefit the community but will be used by city-wide destination visitors;
- placing an exit onto the Ontario Street greenway is a bad idea, please re-examine possibilities;
- request that the decision be tabled to a later meeting to have time to properly analyze the implications to Riley Park Community Centre;
- thank you for reducing onsite parking twice, we need to provide incentives for alternatives to auto use;
- the plaza makes for more pedestrian-friendly facilities;
- having a 160 stall parking lot and drop-off beside the pool breaks up the continuity of the perimeter path;
- put funds from next the capital plan into structured parking;
- request a minimum of one month postponement to approve the plan to include sufficient consideration of traffic impacts on Dinmont Avenue;
- residents along the west side of Hillcrest Park are most affected by the revised plans, which do not include recommendations for traffic movement, lighting, or safety considerations on the west side;
- locating a big building in the center destroys the way the park is meant to be used;
- temporary parking for the Canadians baseball season could be a large greenspace when not in use for parking;
- it is disturbing to see how the options move around and it is difficult to keep track;
- the process needs to be tightened, can't allow too much latitude;
- concerned that reducing parking but not reducing building size will mean either white elephants or not enough parking;

- these issues still exist for the neighbourhood and will have to go to structured parking if placing high density parking into a neighbourhood.

Board members thanked the delegations and acknowledged that time to review and evaluate the changes was very short. In response to comments and requests from all that have been involved in the process, many revisions of the Master Plan have been produced and this reflects the will to develop a model that best balances all the requirements and principles.

Moved by Commissioner Romaniuk,

That the Board approve the revised Hillcrest, Riley, Nat Bailey Parks Master Plan incorporating a modified parking and access arrangement as illustrated in Appendix A.

Board members referred to the proposed location of the Aquatic Centre and permanent parking areas in the revised Master Plan and an amendment to the motion was proposed.

Moved by Commissioner Anton,

That the motion be amended to add, "With the exceptions:

- A. The Aquatic Centre revert to the location approved on May 9, 2005
- B. The 100 parking stalls shown next to the Aquatic Centre be moved elsewhere on the site.

Parts A and B of the motion were voted on separately.

Part A was put forward and it was defeated. (Commissioners Deal, De Genova, Poaps, Romaniuk, and Woodcock contrary)

Part B was put forward and it was defeated. (Commissioners Deal, De Genova, Poaps, Romaniuk, and Woodcock contrary)

Board members discussed the number and location of parking areas in Hillcrest and Nat Bailey Parks and an amendment to the main motion was put forward.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

That the main motion be amended to add:

A maximum of 100 parking stalls be located adjacent to the Aquatic Centre and reallocation of some spaces throughout the site be pursued.

Carried.

(Commissioner Anton contrary)

Board members summarized the key areas requiring direction from the Board to staff and an amendment to the main motion was proposed.

Moved by Commissioner Deal,

That the main motion be amended to add:

For the purpose of initiating the rezoning process and direct staff to:

- 1. Maximize the amount of permeable materials in parking areas;**
- 2. Reorient the temporary parking lot on the current community centre site to parallel Ontario Street;**
- 3. Ensure that land allocated for temporary parking is available for active park purposes;**
- 4. Relook at the number of exits and entrances on Ontario Street and consider right hand turn only for the parking lot adjacent to the new community centre;**
- 5. Ensure that the number of playing field spaces are maintained;**
- 6. Ensure that the building design of the aquatic centre should protrude into the park as little as possible provided that it can still accommodate a drop-off circle and civic square and preserve as many trees as possible on Clancy Loring.**
- 7. Review measures to reduce parking requirements once all the facilities are operational.**

Carried.

(Commissioners Anton and De Genova contrary)

The main motion was put as amended,

That the Board approve the revised Hillcrest, Riley, Nat Bailey Parks Master Plan incorporating a modified parking and access arrangement as illustrated in Appendix A for the purpose of initiating the rezoning process and direct staff to:

Ensure that a maximum of 100 parking stalls be located adjacent to the Aquatic Centre and reallocation of some spaces throughout the site be pursued; and

- **Maximize the amount of permeable materials in parking areas;**
- **Reorient the temporary parking lot on the current community centre site to parallel Ontario Street;**
- **Ensure that land allocated for temporary parking is available for active park purposes;**
- **Relook at the number of exits and entrances on Ontario Street and consider right hand turn only for the parking lot adjacent to the new community centre;**
- **Ensure that the number of playing field spaces are maintained;**
- **Ensure that the building design of the aquatic centre should protrude into the park as little as possible provided that it can still accommodate a drop-off circle and civic square and preserve as many trees as possible on Clancy Loring.**
- **Review measures to reduce parking requirements once all the facilities are operational.**

Carried.

Commissioner Anton contrary.

2006-08 Capital Plan: Final Allocation

Board members received copies of a staff report dated September 23, 2005 recommending that the Board approve the 2006-2008 Capital Plan as described in the report and detailed in Appendix A.

Staff advised the Board that the recommended Park Board Capital Plan for 2006-2008 totals a historic high of \$80,045,000. Significant outcomes include the reconstruction of two ice rinks, the construction of a new aquatic centre, new and renewed parks, and a synthetic turf playfield. On October 4, 2005 City Council is scheduled to approve the wording of and the final amounts to be included in the plebiscite questions. The electorate will vote on the Park Board's Capital Plan during the civic election on November 19, 2005.

The Board recognized staff for their hard work in the preparation of the draft Capital Plan.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

1. Suzanne Stark, West Point Grey Community Centre Association
2. Ian Clement, West Point Grey Community Centre Association
3. Margie Knox, VanDusen Botanical Garden Association
4. Gail Uthoff, Renfrew Community Centre Association
5. Ken Bregman
6. Jeff Malmgren, Vancouver Field Sports Federation
7. Karen Cooke, Vancouver Olympic Club
8. Graham Fell
9. Brian Young, Renfrew Community Centre Association
10. Bill Yuen, Renfrew Community Centre Association

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

- the West Point Grey Community Centre Association is prepared to contribute 33% of the total project funds to and requested inclusion of \$1.4 million in the Capital Plan to improve access to their reception area, fitness centre, and gymnasium, and to create a accessible multi-purpose programming space;
- the VanDusen Garden Association is completely committed to their renewal project and is concerned that donors will view the reduction in Park Board funding as a weakening of Park Board support;
- there are many Renfrew pool patrons with special needs and they are going outside the community to pools with accessible changerooms;
- property taxes should fund community centres and big destination facilities should be funded by senior government;
- the field renewal plan put out a plan to improve and maintain fields but are now 30% behind due to rising costs; another 15% reduction means degradation of the fields will escalate and this hurts field players;
- need to have money for a track study to convince funders to support track construction;
- two lanes of existing track at Point Grey have been removed and it is assumed they will be replaced;
- please continue to support the completion of the changeroom project at Renfrew pool; in addition, the elevator is installed but money is needed to pay for it.

Moved by Commissioner Anton,

That the Board approve the 2006-2008 Capital Plan as described in the report and detailed in Appendix A.

Moved by Commissioner Anton,

Whereas:

- A. Representatives of track and field have appeared before this Board several times to make the case for a new track to be built in Vancouver;**
- B. The Board has not in recent years done any detailed planning around track facilities in Vancouver;**

It is resolved that:

- 1. The Board approve in principle the proposition that new synthetic track surfaces are an important part of our community facilities;**
- 2. The Board directs that a portion of the Planning and Feasibility budget in the 2006 – 2008 capital plan be directed toward a plan for track and field;**
- 3. Staff be requested to discuss the plan with the Vancouver School Board and encourage their participation in the planning process.**

Carried Unanimously

Moved by Commissioner Anton,

Whereas:

- A. The pool house at Marpole Community Centre is in disrepair and generally not useable;**
- B. Marpole-Oakridge Community Association has been working on a project for the pool house for several years and has developed a plan for its renovation, with an estimated cost of \$350,000;**
- C. The Marpole-Oakridge Community Association has raised \$200,000 towards the renovation;**
- D. Representatives from the Marpole-Oakridge Community Association have requested \$150,000 within the 2006 – 2008 capital plan to pay for the pool house renovation;**

It is resolved that:

1. **This Board approve in principle the plan to renovate the Marpole-Oakridge Community Centre pool house; and**
2. The Board hereby direct staff to reallocate \$150,000 within the 2006 – 2008 Capital Plan to pay for the pool house renovation.

Parts 1 and 2 of the motion were voted on separately.

Part 1 was put forward and it was carried unanimously.

Part 2 was put forward and it was defeated. (Commissioners Deal, Poaps, Romaniuk, and Woodcock contrary)

Commissioner Woodcock left the room at this time.

Moved by Commissioner Anton,

That the Board approve the 2006 – 2008 Capital Plan as put forward in June 2005 and reallocate as recommended by staff \$800,000 for various improvements and unforeseen projects as set out in this report.

The amendment was defeated. (Commissioners Deal, Poaps, and Romaniuk contrary)

Commissioner Woodcock returned to the room at this time.

Moved by Commissioner Romaniuk,

That the Board reallocate \$200,00 from Column I Row P-08e “Road Surfacing” to Row P-01a “Neighbourhood Park”, Column I “Pay in Lieu” and allocate \$200,000 from Row P-01 Column K “Capital Plan” to Row P-03a “Playfields”.

Carried Unanimously

A member of the Board suggested that staff work with the Marpole-Oakridge Community Centre Association to look for alternate sources of funds for their project.

Moved by Commissioner Deal,

That the Board direct staff to work with the Marpole-Oakridge Community Centre Association to look into ways to fundraise for their pool house project and look for alternate sources of funds.

The motion was tabled to Enquiries, Other Matters and New Business.

The main motion was put as amended,

That the Board approve the 2006-2008 Capital Plan as described in the report and detailed in Appendix A as amended:

That the Board reallocate \$200,000 from Column I Row P-08e "Road Surfacing" to Row P-01a "Neighbourhood Park", Column I "Pay in Lieu" and allocate \$200,000 from Row P-01 Column K "Capital Plan" to Row P-03a "Playfields".

Carried Unanimously

The Board acknowledged staff and community members for their work on the 2006-2008 Capital Plan and said that although it had been a difficult process to allocate funding we are moving in the right direction.

Conversion of Moberly Park Fieldhouse

Board members received copies of a staff report dated September 22, 2005 recommending that the Board approve the conversion of the Moberly Park Fieldhouse to provide additional capacity, programming and activities at the Moberly Arts and Cultural Centre.

Staff reviewed a proposal to renovate and update the existing community hall at the Moberly Fieldhouse. The building has been operated jointly by the Sunset Community Association and the Vancouver Park Board since 1999 as the Moberly Arts and Cultural Centre, with a mandate to support increased public use as an artist's centre and general public events. The facility now has one large hall and a smaller space in the basement, but has limited space for programs. The current proposal is to renovate the unoccupied caretaker's suite to create a third space for programs, activities, and meetings. The renovated space will be wheelchair-accessible.

At the September 14, 2005 meeting, the Culture and Recreation Committee recommended that the Board approve the proposal to renovate the caretaker suite at Moberly Hall for a change of use.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

That the Board approve the conversion of the Moberly Park Fieldhouse to provide additional capacity, programming and activities at the Moberly Arts and Cultural Centre.

Carried Unanimously.

Enquiries, Other Matters and New Business

Moved by Commissioner Deal,

That the Board direct staff to work with the Marpole-Oakridge Community Centre Association to look into ways to fundraise for their pool house project and look for alternate sources of funds.

Carried Unanimously

A Board member noted that the Park Board was not mentioned in the Four Pillars prevention document as a project partner. The General Manager informed the Board that staff have not received information about the process or invitations to participate and that a staff person will be assigned to address the exclusion and ensure the Board's interests are represented.

A member of the Board asked for clarification about an update on Hastings Park. Staff said that once a recruitment process for a planner is complete, a community consultation will be their first task. The item will be added to the next staff briefing for a more in-depth update.

Susan Mundick
General Manager

Commissioner Lyndsay Poaps
Vice Chair