

**Minutes of Meeting  
Culture and Recreation Committee, Vancouver Park Board  
2099 Beach Avenue, Vancouver**

**DATE OF MEETING:** March 2, 2005

**ATTENDEES: Park Board Commissioners**

Commissioner Lyndsay Poaps  
Commissioner Heather Deal  
Commissioner Suzanne Anton  
Commissioner Loretta Woodcock

**Park Board Staff**

Liane McKenna     Director of Queen Elizabeth District  
Terry Walton        Manager of Recreation Services, Stanley District  
Barbara Joughin    Recorder of Minutes

**Delegations**

Pierre Rivard        Le Centre Culturel Francophone de Vancouver  
Raymond Liens       Le Centre Culturel Francophone de Vancouver

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

**1. Approval of January 12, 2005 Minutes:**

The minutes of the Culture and Recreation Committee meeting of January 12, 2005 were adopted as presented (moved by C. Poaps, seconded by C. Deal, all in favour).

**2. Approval of January 24, 2005 Minutes:**

The minutes of the Culture and Recreation Committee meeting of January 24, 2005 were adopted as presented (moved by C. Poaps, seconded by C. Deal, all in favour).

**3. Proposal from Centre Culturel Francophone de Vancouver:**

Delegations:

- Pierre Rivard, Executive Director, Centre Culturel Francophone de Vancouver (the Centre), gave the Committee an overview of the Centre's activities and funding, and described a recent organizational assessment that identified parallels between the role of the Centre and the role of community centres in the Park Board system. He explained that because the Centre provides recreational, educational and artistic services in French, Canada's second official language, to all Vancouverites, regardless of ethnicity or culture, it should be considered as a municipal community centre, and be supported as such. However, there is currently no policy in place that allows an organization that provides municipal services to access funding from the municipal tax base. He proposed that the Park Board establish a partnership agreement with the Centre that provides financial support for the Centre's contribution to recreation and cultural services in Vancouver.

- Raymond Liens, a member of the Board of the Centre, spoke in support of its contribution to the larger community and the need for a different relationship with the City of Vancouver and the Vancouver Park Board. He said that the Centre offers the same kind of programming that community centres do, in the French language.

Staff advised the Committee that the Park Board is responsible for activities on park land, and that relationships are formalized with organizations in park buildings and on park lands.

The Committee told the delegation that the Park Board cannot provide a formal agreement with the Centre because neither the land nor the building used by the Centre are within the Park Board's jurisdiction, and referred them to the City of Vancouver to pursue an official relationship. However, the Committee said the Park Board is very interested in expanding collaborative initiatives with the Centre in the area of community cultural services, and the group discussed different possibilities, including:

- A letter of support from the Park Board to the Centre for use in approaching the City of Vancouver for municipal support, and Community Centre Associations, for French language program partnerships.
- Use of the Park Board website to promote Centre activities, and of the City website for access to French language options.

Next Steps:

Park Board staff will prepare a letter of support for the arts and cultural work that the Centre Culturel Francophone de Vancouver has done in collaboration with the Vancouver Park Board.

**4. Aquatics Program Study:**

Terry Walton gave the Committee information about a proposed Aquatic Program Study for indoor pools in Vancouver. He said that staff has recognized the need to review indoor pool programming and operations, and informed the Committee that a task force (comprised of senior Park Board staff, pool programmers, and aquatic users) would review and approve the project Terms of Reference, and establish a project time line. Terry provided the Committee with draft Terms of Reference for the study. Park Board staff will carry out the work program identified in the Terms of Reference, and will develop draft policies and procedures for the Task Force.

Staff noted that pools are the most popular recreation facility in the Park Board system and generate significant revenues. Of indoor pool revenues, 60% are from public fees, 35% are from lessons, and the remainder are from pool rentals. The importance of including rental groups in the review was noted. A member of the Committee asked which pools cost the most to operate, and staff agreed to provide an estimate of pool operating costs.

Next Steps:

Draft Terms of Reference for an Aquatics Program Study of indoor pools will be brought to the Board for review and approval on April 11, 2005.

**5. Late Night Event Booking at the Roundhouse:**

Terry Walton provided an update on a recent request from the public for late night event booking at the Roundhouse Community Centre. Staff brought the request to the Board of the Roundhouse Community Arts and Recreation Centre for consideration. Although the Roundhouse Board was sympathetic to the request, they wish to preserve both the current good relations with the neighbourhood and the evening programming revenues that could be jeopardized by noise bylaw infractions. Soundproofing would cost an estimated \$200,000, and would not be effective when late night users leave facility doors open.

Next Steps:

Staff will suggest alternative downtown facilities for late night event booking to the delegation who requested late night event booking at the Roundhouse Community Centre.

**6. 2006 BCRPA Conference:**

Terry Walton provided an update about planning for the BC Recreation and Parks Association (BCRPA) Conference that will be hosted at the Vancouver Wall Centre in April 2006. He said that the Park Board is part of the lower mainland organizing team, and will provide some staff resources to assist with the event. He noted that the BCRPA assumes all responsibility for the event, including the budget.

**7. Next Meeting:**

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm. The next Culture and Recreation Committee meeting will be on April 6, 2005. Possible agenda items include:

- Get Out Youth Legacy