

**Minutes of Meeting  
Planning Committee, Vancouver Park Board**

**DATA OF MEETING:** November 7, 2006

**ATTENDEES: Park Board Commissioners**  
Commissioner Korina Houghton, Chair  
Commissioner Spencer Herbert  
Commissioner Ian Robertson

**Park Board Staff**

Piet Rutgers	Director, Planning and Operations
Terry Walton	Manager, Recreation Services, Van East District
Garry Lum	Recreation Supervisor, Van East District
Daisy Chin	Recreation Coordinator, Stanley District
Doug Taylor	Recreation Coordinator, Stanley District
Yuna Flewin	Committee Secretary

**Delegations**

Pete Quevillon	KidSport, Sport BC
Sandra Stevenson	Sport BC
Dick Woldring	More Sports
Jeff Malmgren	Vancouver Field Sports Federation

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm, with the following Agenda:

1. Approval of Minutes of October 17, 2006 Meeting
2. Triathlon Event
3. MoreSports
4. Artificial Turf Field at Andy Livingstone Park

**1. Approval of Minutes of October 17, 2006 meeting**

The minutes of the October 17, 2006 meeting were amended to reflect a change to the wording in the second agenda item, the Ocean Wise Program. The amended reads “the Staff is to prepare a Board report recommending to adjust seafood purchases in line with the Ocean Wise and SeaChoice programs in the Park Board concessions and clubhouse system.” The minutes were approved with this amendment.

**2. Triathlon Event**

Daisy Chin and Terry Walton presented the background and implications of a proposal to host the International Triathlon Union (ITU) World Championship in 2007 and 2008 at English Bay. ITU’s proposal is to host a trial event on June 10, 2007 in preparation for the Championship on June 8, 2008. The trial event will include 600-900 amateur athletes, and the Championship will expect 4,000-7,000 athletes to compete. The organisers are requesting the use of the English Bay area. This proposal involves the use

of a substantial portion of the beach from the Denman and Davie Street entrance way leading southward to the Bidwell parking lot right by the Inukshuk. They need this area to accommodate bike racks, event routes, fencing etc. They also envision using the grass or beach area as a transition zone, and riders coming up on to Beach Avenue. The organisers have indicated that they would loop the route starting from Beach Avenue to Burrard Street and back on northbound. This event will involve closure of the area including Beach Avenue and beach and seawall portions during the day of the event. They are also proposing to set up a VIP section on top of the bathhouse and rent the Boathouse Restaurant. The estimated period of closure is 7-10 days including the set-up and take-down, which will pose a significant impact on the West End residents, park users and traffic. The Staff are considering the Ceperley Meadow area as an alternative site provided that the bike and run routes are located outside of the park. The Vancouver Triathlon with 400 members currently uses this location to hold their events, and the closure of Stanley Park's roadway is between 7-10 am. Staff further explained that the City of Vancouver is concerned about the lack of information surrounding this event. One option is to hold the 2007 trial event and analyse the outcome for 2008.

#### Discussion

- A Commissioner inquired where the route will be located. The distance needed to hold the event is 10 kilometres. The organisers have not provided a detailed route plan.
- A Commissioner asked if the Spanish Banks area was more suitable. The organisers are requesting a central location to hold the event.
- Sandra Stevenson from Sport BC explained the structure of ITU. ITU has a head office in Vancouver. In order to hold this event in Vancouver the rights to the event will be transferred to the national body, Triathlon Canada. This may be causing the delay in providing sufficient information of the event. Ms. Stevenson will get in touch with Triathlon Canada to obtain more detailed plan of the event and discuss her findings with the Board Staff.
- A Commissioner requested more information from the organisers.

#### Next Steps

Staff to report back to the Board in January. The report will include the Ceperley Meadow alternative and approval of one-year trial event.

### **3. MoreSports**

Garry Lum presented to the Board a brief update on one of the communities' long-running programs, MoreSports and its operational sustainability.

#### Delegations

- Dick Woldring explained that MoreSports has been working on drafting a memorandum of agreement with various partners and sponsors to identify the best operational option. One of the options is for Sport BC to take over the program to enhance its operational capabilities.
- Sandra Stevenson explained that Sport BC is interested in making sure all children in BC get a chance to play sports and has various chapters throughout the

province. Sport BC and MoreSports could form a partnership as Vancouver currently does not have a chapter. Sport BC would assist MoreSports in managing the children's contracts and fundraising for the programs. Sport BC is considering two options for running MoreSports: by diverting funds from KidSport or by forming a tri-party agreement with the Park Board and the School Board. Sandra further explained in order to pursue the latter Sport BC requests two-year commitment for funding from the Park Board and School Board along with a two-year business plan to secure future programming. There are also discussions to pursue a management and licensing agreement in the future. The meetings are ongoing, and in the new year a more detailed update will be given to the Board.

- Pete Quevillon commented that this program is targeted toward inner-city children who are in need of assistance in playing sports, which is part of the KidSport's strategies.

#### Discussion

- A delegate explained that the tri-lateral agreement with the Park Board and the School Board will involve more administration cost in a form of legal and financial expenses.
- A Commissioner asked if the change will affect the children who participate in the program. A delegate replied it would have a positive effect on the children as the change would add more security to the existing program and increase their accessibility to play sports.

#### Next Steps

Staff to report back to the Board in December.

#### **4. Artificial Turf Field at Andy Livingstone Park**

Piet Rutgers presented the Committee with the background information on the artificial turf field at Andy Livingstone Park. The turf was installed in 1995, and its surface is deteriorating considerably. Staff has been monitoring this field in coordination with engineers and found the old foundation is collapsing. There is no way to stabilise the foundation as the soil is contaminated, and the condition will continue to worsen. There are three options for the surface restoration: all grass field, sectional infill turf with Velcro seams or continuum infill turf. The cut and stitch method is usually used for a field with a solid ground such as concrete, and one of its drawbacks includes lack of durability along the seams. Staff is recommending the third option which should last for another 10 to 11 years. The cost is currently estimated at 1.5 million. There is some funding in the artificial turf reserve, and since the land is leased from the Province, consultation with the provincial offices is underway. Staff recommends the project as there is a history of field use and acceptance in the community.

Doug Taylor added that 70% of the field users in Andy Livingstone Park are part of the youth or adult soccer. During the day there are also many non-permit holders using the field. There needs to be a field that lasts, and the infill turf can accommodate increased programming.

### Delegation

- Jeff Malmgren emphasised the importance of the Andy Livingstone site to the field users. The field was built not as a community field but as a destination for all city users primarily due to its double-field capability. The demand for this type of field is increasing, but there is not any other alternative in the city. The Southeast False Creek development will add more population to the neighbourhood, which will affect this already over-used field in Andy Livingstone Park.

### Discussion

- A Commissioner asked for a clarification on the difference between the cut-stitch infill turf and flowing infill turf. Staff explained the former is a Velcro type, and the latter is seamless.
- A Commissioner enquired if parts of the field can be taken out and filled. Staff answered that the field is at the end of its life cycle.
- A Commissioner asked if there is a confirmation from the provincial government regarding the funding contribution. Staff replied the matter is being currently pursued but is at its beginning stage.
- A delegate commented that once there is a clear direction from the Park Board fund-raising strategies could be developed.
- A Commissioner asked how long it would take to complete the project once the Board approves it and the funding is in place. Staff replied it would take nine to twelve months.
- A Commissioner enquired if the project would be satisfactory to field hockey users as well as the soccer players. Staff answered the field hockey users are using the Eric Hamber Secondary School and UBC sites more and more. The Andy Livingstone Park site is not a primary field for the field hockey players.
- A Commissioner commented that there is a type of an artificial infill turf that is suitable for both sports and recognised by FIFA and International Field Hockey Federation and recommended the Board would look into it as an option within the budget.

### Next Steps

Staff to report back to the Board with recommendation in January of 2007.

## **5. Next Meeting**

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 5, 2006.