

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD AT THE PARK BOARD OFFICE
ON MONDAY, MARCH 31, 2008**

PRESENT:	Chair	- Korina Houghton
	Vice Chair	- Ian Robertson
	Commissioners	- Allan De Genova
		- Spencer Herbert
		- Loretta Woodcock
		- Martin Zlotnik
	General Manager	- Susan Mundick
	Director of Corporate Services	- Anita Ho
	Director of Stanley District	- Peter Kuran
	Director of Queen Elizabeth District	- Lori MacKay
	Manager of Communications	- Joyce Courtney
	Recorder	- Julie Casanova

Commissioner Holden was absent from the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on Monday, March 10, 2008 were adopted as circulated.

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair reported on the Board's participation in the decommissioning of the old Sunset Community Centre, launch of the Active Adventure Passport program for sitting volleyball clinics, the HSBC donor recognition tree planting to aid the Stanley Park Restoration project and Youth Politik sessions.

City Council Report

Council will be receiving reports on the 2008 Interim Budget Estimates and Public Consultation Results and Funding Allocation for the Olympic and Paralympic Celebrations Program. The 2008 Annual Special Events Report will be discussed at the City Services and Budget Committee.

COMMITTEE REPORT

The Committee received an update on the Vancouver International Biennale Sculpture, English Bay Bistro design, Coal Harbour Restaurant, Stanley Park Legacy plans, the status of the Hollow Tree and Burrard Marina improvements.

STAFF REPORTS

Commemorative Naming – Oak Park Tennis Courts

Board members received copies of a staff report dated March 19, 2008 recommending that the Board approve the commemorative naming of two tennis courts in Oak Park after Vancouver tennis player Lorne Main.

Staff advised the Board that a request was received from the Honorable Garde Gardom to recognize Vancouver native Lorne Main for his tennis achievements by naming the tennis courts in Oak Park after him. Lorne Main has been a successful tennis competitor on the local, national and international tennis scene for nearly 70 years. Mr. Main is an ambassador of the sport for British Columbia and Canada and he has given written permission to the proposed commemorative naming. The naming of the two tennis courts at Oak Park after Lorne Main meets the guidelines of the Commemorative Naming Policy.

Jim Gilmore, a long-time friend of Lorne Main, appeared before the Board and expressed his support to the commemorative naming of the tennis courts at Oak Park. Mr. Gilmore described Lorne Main as one of the greatest characters in Canadian sport, the only Canadian who won the Monte Carlo Championship. Mr. Gilmore expressed his appreciation to the Board for recognizing successful athletes.

Moved by Commissioner Robertson,

THAT the Board approve the commemorative naming of two tennis courts in Oak Park after Vancouver tennis player Lorne Main.

- Carried Unanimously.

Commemorative Naming – Wallace Field

Board members received copies of a staff report dated March 19, 2008 recommending that the Board approve the commemorative naming of the playing field in Jericho Park after RCAF pilots, Blake, Richard, Philip and David Wallace.

Staff advised the Board that we had received a request from the Jericho Beach Project Committee to replace the cairn and reinstall the memorial plaque that had gone missing from Jericho Park. The plaque and cairn was originally installed in 1944 to honour the four sons of Clarence Wallace, who served in the Royal Canadian Air Force.

The proposal to reinstall the plaque in Jericho Park after RCAF pilots Blake, Richard, Philip and David Wallace meets the guidelines of the Commemorative Naming Policy. Board members were advised that Bryan Quinlan, Chair of the Jericho Project Committee was present to answer questions.

Board members discussed the report and stated that the committee worked hard on the project to restore the plaque and it was important to Vancouver's history to recognize the contributions to the war effort by this Vancouver family.

Moved by Commissioner De Genova,

THAT the Board approve the commemorative naming of the playing field in Jericho Park after RCAF pilots Blake, Richard, Philip and David Wallace.

- Carried Unanimously.

2008 Vancouver International Triathlon World Championships

Board members received copies of a staff report dated March 18, 2008 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A and B.

Moved by Commissioner Robertson,

- A. THAT the Board approve the use of English Bay and Ceperley Park June 2 through June 8, 2008, the partial road closure of the western portion of Stanley Park on June 5th (6:00am-10:30am) and on June 6th (6:00am-10:30am), a full road closure of Stanley Park on June 7th (6:00am-12:00pm) and a partial road closure of Park Drive from Second Beach Pool to the Beach Avenue entrance on June 8th (6:30am to 6:30pm) for the 2008 Vancouver Triathlon World Championships.**
- B. THAT all arrangements will be to the satisfaction of the General Manager.**

- Carried Unanimously.

Vancouver International Sculpture – Biennale

Board members received copies of a staff report dated March 14, 2008 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to C.

Staff reviewed the Agreement with the Vancouver International Sculpture Biennale for a series of temporary sculpture exhibition. Due to the temporary nature of the exhibit, the established process for accepting donation of works of art was

abbreviated. The Biennale has brought forward a proposal for permanent installations. This request will change the approval process and would require a public consultation to assess the public's view on permanent art installation in parks and open spaces.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Michella Frosch, Vancouver International Biennale
- George Wagner
- Eleanor Hadley
- Roger Swetnam
- Fred James

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

- supports a long-term partnership between the Park Board and the Biennale; the Vancouver Biennale is a successful program and brings economic benefit to the city;
the Biennale will work with the donor to remove the "Device to Root Out Evil" piece within the timeline specified by the Board;
- need to know public response to the "Device to Root Out Evil" piece was measured, the piece does not take up a lot of green space, this work was not censored until now, a piece of art has more than one interpretation;
- thought the upside down church was already removed, understood that this piece was not accepted in the United States, in spite of objections from the citizens of Vancouver, this piece has remained longer than the 18 months, the Board should not have allowed its exhibition as it is an insult to all religion;
- the 'device' is a great asset to the community, there will always be opposition, it is a good conversational piece, and fits into the sight lines down Bute Street.

Board members discussed the report and thanked the Biennale for bringing different art to the city. A member of the Board stated that the "Device to Root Out Evil" piece is controversial, it is located in a community park and hopes an alternate location may be found for this sculpture. A member of the Board stated that the agreement was to exhibit the sculpture at this location for 18 months and the rules of the agreement must be followed to honour the public trust, however, he will amend the motion to ask staff to work with the Biennale to find an alternate location for this sculpture.

Moved by Commissioner Robertson,

- A. THAT the Board consult with the public on a proposal from the Biennale Foundation that some of the temporarily installed sculptures remain on park land beyond the originally agreed on 18 month period but not beyond September 2015.**
- B. THAT the Board direct staff to initiate the standard donation processes for the sculpture "Echoes" proposed by the Biennale for donation to the Park Board.**

C. THAT the Board direct the Biennale to remove the sculpture "Device to Root Out Evil" as per the terms of the original agreement.

An amendment motion was put forward.

Moved by Commissioner Herbert,

**THAT recommendation C be amended to add the following after 'agreement':
And, that staff work with the Biennale to find a new location in the City of Vancouver as part of the temporary installation program.**

- Carried Unanimously.

A vote was taken on the main motion as amended and it was **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Stanley Park Hollow Tree

Board members received copies of a staff report dated March 31, 2008 recommending that the Board approve the taking down of the "Hollow Tree" as it has become a public safety concern.

Staff advised the Board that the "Hollow Tree" has become a safety risk for the many visitors to the park. The trunk is vertically cracked and in some places separated. The area around the snag has been fenced off and a structural engineering firm was retained to assess the possibility of saving the Hollow Tree. The engineered solution to stabilize the snag will ruin the aesthetics of the site and diminish the attraction of the tree. In order to preserve some of the history of the Hollow Tree, the snag could be taken down and laid as two longitudinal pieces and visitors can walk between the piece to appreciate its size. A new single cedar could be planted at the centre with an interpretive panel providing the history of changes that time and nature brought to bear on the Hollow Tree.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Meg Stanley
- Ralph Kelman, British Columbia Big Tree Committee
- Bruce Macdonald
- Mary Jewell
- Eleanor Hadley
- Jock Langlois

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

- have researched and written about the Hollow Tree;
- efforts to keep the tree up have been ongoing for over 40 years;
- the tree has been dead for a long time, it is a piece of pop art;

- it does not matter that the tree is being held up, important to preserve tree as part of heritage conservation;
- consult the Heritage Commission before any intervention;
- this is not a snag but a monument tree, the Board does not have enough information to make a decision tonight;
- the site can be treated as an Olympic attraction, have it fenced, and people can sign waivers to visit the tree, a way to raise funds for the restoration project;
- ask the Federal Government to dedicate this as a national monument;
- most people would like to see the tree saved;
- need to bring the tree back to the vertical position to simplify the problem;
- involve people who care for its heritage value, the problem lies with lack of care by people who are taking care of Stanley Park;
- new donors to help keep the tree standing have been found, this is a tourist attraction, and a significant artifact, need people to work on options to keep the tree standing;
- the tree could be saved from the inside, run a contest for the students at the UBC Dental Faculty to save the tree from within, it takes imagination to fix things, do not cut tree and do not put braces;
- have looked at the tree a number of times, just need to re-set the tree to have it for many more years.

Board members acknowledged the comments made by the delegations and stated that the recommendation from staff with regard to the Hollow Tree was made with the best information available. A member of the Board requested a recess at this time for consultation with members of the Board. The Board recessed at 9:11 p.m.

The Board re-convened at 9:18 p.m.

A member of the Board stated that the tree has been dead for many years and although staff and members of the Board are compassionate about the many special memories people have regarding the Hollow Tree, the safety factor is the biggest concern. A member of the Board stated that there needs to be discussions regarding the big trees in Stanley Park and would like to move a motion to ask staff to report back on what steps are currently being taken and to consult with ecologists to see what further steps might be taken. The Chair advised the member that he may put forward his motion during Enquiries, Other Matters and New Business.

Moved by Commissioner Robertson,

THAT the Board approve the taking down of the “Hollow Tree” as it has become a public safety concern.

- Carried Unanimously.

Golf Business Consultant – Contract Award

Board members received copies of a staff report dated March 3, 2008 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A and B.

Staff advised the Board that there was a need for the services of a consultant to assist in the implementation of a marketing plan and a comprehensive review of the business process for the Golf Marketing Plan. A request for proposal was sent to ten consultant firms with experience in golf course management and marketing. CK Golf Solutions meets the all the requirements of the RFP.

Board members discussed the report and indicated that the golf course management is moving in the right direction to make it more profitable.

Moved by Commissioner Zlotnik,

- A. THAT the Board award the contract for the Golf Business Consultant to CK Golf Solutions at a fixed fee of \$157,770 plus \$34,730 for disbursements and allowances.**
- B. THAT no legal rights shall arise hereby, and none shall arise until the execution of the contemplated contract. The Board may rescind this resolution at any time up to the execution of the contemplated contract.**

- Carried Unanimously.

Stanley Park Restoration Project – Seawall Repair Consultant

Board members received copies of a staff report dated March 31, 2008 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to D.

Moved by Commissioner Herbert,

- A. THAT the Board retain AMEC Earth and Environmental Ltd. to provide consulting services for the repairs to the Stanley Park Seawall;**
- B. THAT no legal rights or obligations will be created or arise by the Board's adoption of Recommendation A above unless and until such legal documents are executed.**

- Carried Unanimously.

Stanley Park Restoration – Legacy Project

Board members received copies of a staff report dated March 31, 2008 recommending that the Board retain Aldrich Pears Associates to develop an outdoor interpretive signage program for Stanley Park.

Moved by Commissioner Herbert

THAT the Board retain Aldrich Pears Associates to develop an outdoor interpretive signage program for Stanley Park.

- Carried Unanimously.

Stanley Park Restoration Project – Extension of Forestry Operations Contracts

Board members received copies of a staff report dated March 31, 2008 recommending that the Board extend the forestry operations contracts as outlined in the report for work related to the Stanley Park Restoration Project by \$750,000.

Moved by Commissioner Herbert,

THAT the Board extend the forestry operations contracts as outlined in this report for work related to the Stanley Park Restoration Project by \$750,000.

- Carried Unanimously.

In-Camera Meeting

Moved by Commissioner Herbert,

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:

- (k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of an activity, work or facility that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the Council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the city if they were held in public.**

- Carried Unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Susan Mundick
General Manager

Commissioner Korina Houghton
Chair