

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
HELD AT THE PARK BOARD OFFICE  
ON MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2008**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>- Korina Houghton</b>
	<b>Commissioners</b>	<b>- Allan De Genova</b>
		<b>- Spencer Herbert</b>
		<b>- Heather Holden</b>
		<b>- Ian Robertson</b>
		<b>- Martin Zlotnik</b>
	<b>General Manager</b>	<b>- Susan Mundick</b>
	<b>Director of Corporate Services</b>	<b>- Anita Ho</b>
	<b>Director of Stanley District</b>	<b>- Peter Kuran</b>
	<b>Director of Vancouver East District</b>	<b>- Liane McKenna</b>
	<b>Director of Special Projects</b>	<b>- Jim Lowden</b>
	<b>Manager of Revenue Services</b>	<b>- Philip Josephs</b>
	<b>Child &amp; Youth Services Coordinator</b>	<b>- Booth Palmer</b>
	<b>Manager of Communications</b>	<b>- Joyce Courtney</b>
	<b>Recorder</b>	<b>- Linda Brindley</b>

**Commissioner Woodcock was absent from the meeting.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on Monday, May 26, 2008 were adopted as circulated.

**CHAIR'S REPORT**

The Chair reported on the Board's participation in various community events including the opening of the seawall around south east False Creek, presentations from the Seniors Arts & Health Program, the opening of the new artificial playing field at VanTech, the National 'Play It Fair' Toolkit Launch, the International Triathlon which had 2800 athletes attending from around the world and the unveiling of carved cedar gateways at Brockton Point, done by Susan Point.

## **PRESENTATION**

### **Vancouver Heritage Commission – Stanley Park Hollow Tree Sub-Committee Report: Proposal for the Conservation of Stanley Park’s Hollow Tree**

Meg Stanley and Lorne Whitehead spoke on behalf of the Subcommittee. Mr. Whitehead stated although the tree has significant value, the balancing act is between public safety and the value of the tree. He stated that they are not present to criticize the Board’s decision of March 31<sup>st</sup>, but rather to present information gathered since that date that would allow the tree to remain safely in an upright manner. Ms. Stanley stated that they have established that the Hollow Tree provides a unique and famous gathering place. Their recommendation is to retain the Hollow Tree upright with its appearance substantially unchanged, as a lasting heritage landmark in Vancouver.

Board members questioned the process for placing the tree on the Heritage Register, as a monument, asked the Sub-Committee if they were able to make a commitment to provide the funds to retain the tree and asked staff the cost involved in taking the tree down. Ms. Stanley stated the recommendation would have been made to Council to place the tree on the Heritage Register. Dr. Whitehead replied that the costs were not certain because most of the goods and services listed in the Subcommittee Report were likely available by donation and any remaining costs could be less than the cost of safely mounting the Hollow Tree horizontally. In the event that additional funds were needed, the Subcommittee members were confident they could be covered by donors or other organizations if Park Board agrees to pursue this recommended plan. He added that in the process of seeking additional funds, valuable partnerships could be forged. Staff replied that the cost to take the tree down is estimated at \$15,000.

The Board discussed the issue and the following Motion was put forward by Commissioner Herbert,

**THAT the Board reconsider the decision made at the March 31, 2008 Park Board meeting regarding the Hollow Tree.**

The Motion failed.  
(Commissioners Zlotnik, Holden, Robertson, Houghton contrary)

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **Bright Nights – Renewal of Agreement with BC Professional Fire Fighters’ Burn Fund and CUPE Local 1004**

Board members received copies of a staff report dated May 27, 2008 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to D.

Staff advised the Board that they are recommending the renewal of the agreement with the BC Professional Fire Fighters' Burn Fund for a further five years. CUPE Local 1004 has agreed to the terms of the renewal. The original agreement began ten years ago to provide a joint Christmas light display in Stanley Park and has become an extremely popular event in the City. Net revenues to the Park Board from the 2007 event were approximately \$175,000.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- David Dales, Executive Director, BC Professional Fire Fighters' Burn Fund
- Ray Boucher, Director, BC Professional Fire Fighters' Burn Fund

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

- speaking on behalf of 3600 fire fighters
- is their biggest fund raiser
- event appeals to all ages and ethnicities
- thanks the Park Board for their relationship with the fire fighters

Board members thanked the delegations for their input and stated it is a wonderful partnership that allows a very successful event.

Moved by Commissioner Zlotnik,

- A. THAT the Agreement with the BC Professional Fire Fighters' Burn Fund and CUPE Local 1004 for Bright Nights in Stanley Park be renewed for the period July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2013.**
- B. THAT the Board transfers a 13% share of the Bright Nights net admission revenues annually to the BC Professional Fire Fighters' Burn Fund.**
- C. THAT no legal rights shall arise and no consents, permissions or licenses are granted hereby and none shall arise or be granted hereafter unless and until all contemplated legal documentation has been executed and delivered by all parties.**
- D. THAT once the form of all legal documentation has been approved by the General Manager and Director of Legal Services for the city of Vancouver, that the General Manager be authorised to execute and deliver such documentation on behalf of the Board.**

**- Carried Unanimously.**

## **Financial Statements to April 30, 2008**

Board members received copies of a staff report dated May 27, 2008 recommending that the Board receive the report for information.

Staff presented the Operating Statement for the first four months of the year showing that 36.9% of the budget has been spent and stated the revenue is \$8.6 million for the period which is very similar to 2007. Revenues are up in concessions, parking, marinas and leases while golf and pitch & putt revenues have dropped. There has been a slight decline in revenues from recreation which is attributed to the closure of the Killarney and Trout Lake rinks during construction.

Staff stated that total donations received were \$360,052 which is more than double the amount received in 2007. Donations are allocated for park amenities, special projects and endowments. The Donation Program is on track to achieve its target of \$1.2 million for 2008.

The Stanley Park Restoration Project has received funding of \$2 million each from the Federal and Provincial Governments, as well as the City of Vancouver. Public donations of \$3,310,152 have also been received. To the end of April 30, almost \$5.4 million has been spent leaving a balance of \$4,565,971 which will continue to be used to complete the restoration work.

Board members asked about the number of endowments and how they are managed. Staff responded that there are seven endowments, and the Park Board has combined them for investment purposes. A request was made that the investment information for the endowments be provided to the Board.

The Board members thanked staff for presenting the financial statements to the end of April 2008.

Moved by Commissioner Herbert,

**THAT the Board receive this report for information.**

**- Carried Unanimously.**

## **School Community Connections Project**

Board members received copies of a staff report dated May 28, 2008 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A and B.

Staff advised the Board that the report originally came to the Board Committee about one year ago and the program was scheduled to be launched in 2007, but unfortunately was delayed due to the labour dispute. The program was launched in

January 2008 and a partnership was developed with the Vancouver School Board. A budget of \$40,000 was slated for the pilot phase with Windermere and King George being selected as the two sites for the pilot to take place from January until April. Subject to Board approval, staff will continue the programs for a full year and will report back to the Board by late spring of 2009.

Board members questioned the practicality of continuing the program, if it is necessary to subsidize it. Although the idea is a good one, a business model needs to be prepared.

Staff responded that they are working with the School Board to reduce costs.

Board members discussed the report and are in favour of proceeding.

Moved by Commissioner Robertson,

- A. THAT the Board receive this report for information;**
- and**
- B. THAT the Board direct staff to pursue the additional physical activity program opportunities through the School Community Connections partnership with the Vancouver Board of Education.**

**- Carried Unanimously.**

### **Administrative Report – Position Changes**

Board members received copies of a staff report dated May 28, 2008 recommending that the Board approve the changes to CUPE 15 positions in the recommendations A to C.

Staff explained each proposed position change and stated that operations are periodically reviewed to ensure staffing is appropriate to provide service to the public in support of the Board's priorities. All the changes have been discussed with CUPE 15 and reflect the Collective Agreement.

Board members questioned the process for community centres requesting changes in staffing. Staff replied that most positions are funded by the Park Board and as part of the budget process a submission is made to the Park Board for changes.

Board members discussed the report and are in support.

Moved by Commissioner Robertson,

**THAT the Board approve the following changes to regular CUPE 15 positions:**

- A. An increase to full-time for two part-time positions (14 additional hours weekly for both the Fundraising program and at Moberly Arts Centre);**
- B. The creation of one part-time and two full-time positions (one 25 hour per week position at False Creek Community Centre, and one full-time position for each of Killarney Pool and the Major Maintenance program); and**
- C. The conversion of one part-time and two full-time positions to auxiliary (at Strathcona Community Centre, Burrard Marina and the West End Community Centre respectively);**

**with the source or disposition of funds as indicated in the body of this report.**

**- Carried Unanimously.**

### **In Camera Meeting**

Moved by Commissioner Robertson,

**THAT the Board later this evening go into a meeting which is closed to the public, pursuant to Section 165.2 (1) of the *Vancouver Charter*, to discuss matters related to paragraph;**

- (g) litigation or potential litigation affecting the City**

**- Carried Unanimously.**

**Enquiries, Other Matters and New Business**

Commissioner Herbert asked if there are time parameters for the start times of special events.

The General Manager responded that it depends on the location of the events, the particular event and the time of day. With regard to the Triathlon, it was necessary to start early in the day with the 7:00 a.m. swim. The event was very successful and the set up and removal has been done as quickly as possible.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

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Susan Mundick  
General Manager

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Commissioner Korina Houghton  
Chair