

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD AT THE VANCOUVER PARK BOARD OFFICE
ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 06, 2008**

PRESENT:	Chair	- Korina Houghton
	Commissioners	- Spencer Herbert
		- Heather Holden
		- Ian Robertson
		- Martin Zlotnik
	General Manager	- Susan Mundick
	Director of Vancouver East District	- Liane McKenna
	Director of Stanley District	- Peter Kuran
	Manager of Recreation Services	- Thomas Soulliere
	Manager of Operations	- Ron Caswell
	Recreation Programmer	- Darren Peterson
	Manager of Communications	- Joyce Courtney
	Recorder	- Linda Brindley

Commissioners DeGenova and Woodcock were absent from the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Board held on Monday, September 29, 2008 were adopted as circulated

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair reported that it is Women's History Month during October and a selection of posters commemorating remarkable women have been posted in the Park Board office. The posters will also be displayed at community centres and other public buildings around the City.

City Council Report

The General Manager advised that there will be no Council meeting until next week. The reason for the early Park Board meeting is due to the Thanksgiving holiday next week.

COMMITTEE REPORT

There was no meeting since the Committee's meeting on September 22, 2008.

STAFF REPORTS

Cottonwood Community Garden Proposal

Board members received copies of a staff report dated September 24, 2008 recommending that the Board approve the expansion of Cottonwood Community Garden in Strathcona Park as shown on Appendix 1.

Staff advised the Board that Cottonwood Community Garden is located in Strathcona Park. The garden was officially recognized in 1994 under an agreement between the Park Board and the Strathcona Community Gardeners Society. The garden was granted a 10 year license agreement extension in 2005. In 2006, Park Board staff cleared the subject area and at that time the Community Gardeners approached staff about the possibility of expanding the garden. A written proposal was received from the gardeners in 2007 and the item was discussed at the Park Board Planning Committee. A community consultation process followed and no negative feedback was received. Staff are recommending that the Park Board approve the expansion of Cottonwood Community Garden.

Beth MacLaren appeared before the Board and stated the expansion is really important to the Community Garden because the space will be used for 80 to 100 individual plots instead of common area.

Board members discussed the proposal and stated it is an excellent way to bring the community together. They thanked the community for their patience and staff for bringing the proposal to fruition.

Moved by Commissioner Robertson,

THAT the Board approve the expansion of Cottonwood Community Garden in Strathcona Park as shown on Appendix 1.

- Carried Unanimously.

Vancouver Sport Strategy Implementation Plan

Board members received copies of a staff report October 6, 2008 recommending that the Board approve Recommendations A and B.

Staff advised the Board that in May 2008 the Park Board and City Council approved the adoption of the Vancouver Sport Strategy. Staff was instructed to consult with sports stakeholders within the community and report back on a detailed Implementation Plan including funding strategies and timeline. The First Annual Sport Summit was held September 24 and included a wide cross section of representatives of the sport community. Next steps include approval from Park Board and Council, creation of a Recreation Coordinator position and assembling the stakeholders for the Implementation Committees.

The following delegations spoke to the Board:

1. Ajay Patel
2. Keith Jacobson
3. Sharon Urton
4. Gayle Uthoff, Renfrew Community Association

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

- one of the strong points of the proposal is that it encourages a lifetime of activity from young children to seniors;
- likes that it is in conjunction with national and provincial objectives;
- first City to pull all the aspects together that are involved in sport;
- strongly encourage Park Board to support the strategy;
- the Summit was very well run by staff;
- looks forward to having a complete inventory of facilities;
- hopes that the Community Centre representatives and Association Presidents will be included;
- would encourage staff to make a presentation to the Association Presidents;
- would like to see the strategy modeled similar to the Arts & Culture area.

Board members discussed the proposal and are pleased that Park Board is taking a leadership role in this issue. They thanked the community members and staff for their dedication.

Moved by Commissioner Holden,

- A. THAT the Board approve the Vancouver Sport Strategy Implementation Plan, endorse a request to Council for \$100,000 in additional funding, and subject to Council's approval of funding and classification by the General Manager of Human Resources create a Sport Coordinator position.**

B. THAT the Board authorizes staff to seek additional funding support from other levels of government and participating organizations for the implementation of this initiative.

- 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 (c) of the *Vancouver Charter*, to discuss matters related to paragraph:

(c) labour relations or other employee relations.

- Carried Unanimously.

Enquiries, Other Matters and New Business

Notice of Motion

The following Motion was put forward by Commissioner Zlotnik:

WHEREAS it has been well established that golf is an excellent educational and life-skill building medium. The First Tee Program, established in 1997, capitalizes on this and has grown to include more than 170 cities in the US including one City in Canada being Montreal, Quebec;

AND WHEREAS most chapters are either a partnership with the municipality or a non-profit such as the Boys & Girls Club or the YMCA/YWCA;

AND WHEREAS lengthy discussions have taken place over the last 18 months with the Vancouver Park Board and the Kids First Sport Foundation (the "Foundation"), organized to partner with the Vancouver Park Board ("VPD") and the Royal Canadian Golf Association ("RCGA") on this venture;

AND WHEREAS the Foundation's main purpose is to raise funds to support inner city youth and the administration of the First Tee Program; the RCGA's main purpose is to provide instructional help; and the VPB's main purpose is to provide access to the public golf courses in Vancouver, in particular Fraserview and McCleery;

AND WHEREAS presently both Fraserview and McCleery have existing junior programs, it is the intention to bring the additional life-skill component of the First Tee Program to enhance what is already in place;

AND WHEREAS the common purpose of the “First Tee of Metro Vancouver” is to help expand golf and character-building programs in the metro Vancouver Area and to make them more accessible and affordable to youth of all ethnic diversities, social strata and those with physical disabilities, particularly those who may not otherwise have the financial means to learn and play golf;

AND WHEREAS in order to fully implement the program, the First Tee of Metro Vancouver chapter needs to enter into a 15 year facilities agreement with the VPB (to be approved by “The First Tee” World Golf Foundation, Inc.) that will provide a minimum of 250 hours of access to the courses/driving ranges/practice facilities specified;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the staff of the VPB be instructed to negotiate a Facility Agreement with the First Tee of Metro Vancouver for the use of Vancouver Park Board facilities subject to consideration and approval by the Board.

Commissioner Herbert inquired if staff could provide an update on the recent incident in Stanley Park. The General Manager responded that they were informed by the VPD about the incident and that they are looking for witnesses. There are no further details; however, the General Manager advised that the Board will be informed of updates as received.

Commissioner Herbert asked if the VPD has compiled statistics on park safety. The General Manager stated staff had not been given direction to request the information from the VPD.

Commissioner Holden stated she had received a call regarding drunkenness in Victoria Park. The General Manager stated she will have staff contact VPD to request more regular visits to the park.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Susan Mundick
General Manager

Commissioner Korina Houghton
Chair