

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD AT THE PARK BOARD OFFICE
ON MONDAY, MARCH 29, 2010**

PRESENT:	Chair	- Aaron Jasper
	Vice Chair	- Sarah Blyth
	Commissioners	- Constance Barnes
		- Raj Hundal
		- Stuart Mackinnon
		- Ian Robertson
		- Loretta Woodcock
	Acting General Manager	- Peter Kuran
	Director of Vancouver East District	- Liane McKenna
	Acting Director of Queen Elizabeth District	- Diane Murphy
	Manager of Recreation Services	- Terry Walton
	Co-Acting Director of Stanley District	- Thomas Soulliere
	Communications Co-ordinator	- Barb Floden
	Senior Business Analyst	- Meg Elliott
	Recorder	- Hart Nijjar

STAFF REPORTS

Key Principles for Operating Relationships with Community Centres

Board members received copies of a staff report dated March 20, 2010 recommending that the Board endorse specific key principles (equity among community centres; access for residents to a network of community centres; protection of vulnerable populations; financial sustainability) to guide improvements to the operating relationships between the Park Board and local community centre associations.

In 2010, an operating plan for community centres was established through a Memorandum of Agreement between the Park Board and community centre associations. It ensured that service levels were maintained and staffing levels were not significantly impacted by the budget shortfalls faced by the Board. The agreement was for 2010 only and staff would like to begin dialogue with the community centre associations as early as April to improve operational relationships. The four principles outlined in staff's recommendation will serve as a guide for these upcoming discussions.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Emma Sutherland, Red Fox Program
- Mike Bradley, President, Thunderbird Neighbourhood Association
- Sharon Urton

- Dr. Setty Pendakur, President, Roundhouse Community Arts & Recreation Society
- Eleanor Hadley
- Gayle Uthoff, President, Renfrew Park Community Association

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

- Red Fox is healthy living and employment training program for individuals facing barriers to inclusion
- It has won 2 awards and is recognized for best practices
- Sports are a great way to encourage healthy living and inclusion
- Suggestions on how to increase access for vulnerable populations:
 - Change leisure access guide – the Leisure Access Program needs to be more prominent and accessible
 - There are no programs listed that focus on aboriginal culture
 - Few if any cultural programs for adults
- Need to improve the Joint Operating Agreement
- Keep relationship between the Board and community centre associations strong
- Applaud Britannia, Strathcona, and Ray-Cam associations for meeting the needs of vulnerable populations
- Need more resources to support programs that encourage healthy living
- Concerned about state of partnership between Park Board and associations
- Concerned there is hidden motivation at the Park Board and there are different agendas
- Staff recommendation implies the Joint Operating Agreement (JOA) is stalled but this is not the case
- Progress was being made on JOA without intervention from the Commissioners
- The four principles outlined were not part of framework given to community association presidents in 2009
- Principles outlined by staff are innocuous
- Staff recommendation is premature and should be discussed with association presidents in April
- Principles not clearly defined and that is dangerous
- There is a trust between citizens and the Board that the Board will protect parks and this ability is now being questioned
- There are a lot of volunteer hours that go into managing community centres and Park Board won't be able to handle that responsibility by itself if the capacity of associations is reduced
- Report on recommendations too brief
- Need to recognize that some programs provided by community centres do not make money but are there to provide services to the community

Board members thanked the delegations for attending the meeting and putting forward their comments. The Board also acknowledged the hard work of the volunteer community centre association boards.

Moved by Commissioner Hundal,

THAT the Board endorse specific key principles (equity among community centres; access for residents to a network of community centres; protection of vulnerable populations; financial sustainability) to guide improvements to the operating relationships between the Park Board and local community centre associations.

- Carried Unanimously.

Administrative Report - Position Change

The Board received a staff report dated March 25, 2010 recommending that the Board approve the creation and deletion of the following CUPE 15 regular positions: creation of 5 full-time positions, deletion of 7 full-time positions, and creation of 3 part-time positions, with the source of funds as indicated in the body of this report. All positions being created are subject to classification by the General Manager of Human Resources.

The position changes proposed are necessary to support the new recreation centres at Southeast False Creek and Riley/Hillcrest, to fund transfers for the 311 Project and #1 Kingsway, to achieve budget targets set for 2010, and to comply with the CUPE 15 collective agreement.

Commissioner Blyth left the meeting at this time.

Moved by Commissioner Barnes

THAT the Board approve the creation and deletion of the following CUPE 15 regular positions: creation of 5 full-time positions, deletion of 7 full-time positions, and creation of 3 part-time positions, with the source of funds as indicated in the body of this report. All positions being created are subject to classification by the General Manager of Human Resources.

- Carried.

(Commissioner Blyth was not present at the time of the vote)

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Peter Kuran
Acting General Manager

Commissioner Aaron Jasper
Chair