



PARK BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING MEETING MINUTES

DECEMBER 11, 2017
DECEMBER 12, 2017 (reconvened)
DECEMBER 19, 2017 (reconvened)

A Park Board Committee meeting was held on Monday, December 11, 2017, at 7:11 pm, at the Park Board Office. Subsequently, the Regular Park Board Committee meeting reconvened at 6:08 pm on Tuesday, December 12, 2017 and at 5:00 pm on Tuesday, December 19, 2017.

PRESENT: Commissioner John Coupar
Commissioner Casey Crawford, Chair
Commissioner Catherine Evans, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Sarah Kirby-Yung
Commissioner Stuart Mackinnon
Commissioner Erin Shum
Commissioner Michael Wiebe

**GENERAL MANAGER'S
OFFICE:** Malcolm Bromley, General Manager
Shauna Wilton, Deputy General Manager
Cheryl Chan, Manager, Executive Office and Board Relations
Jessica Kulchyski, Recorder
Carol Lee, Meeting Clerk

The Park Board observed a moment of silence to mark the passing of Chief Leonard George on December 6, 2017.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- 1. Park Board Committee Meeting - November 20, 2017 (Reconvened on November 21, 2017)**

MOVED by Commissioner Wiebe
SECONDED by Commissioner Coupar

THAT the Park Board Committee minutes of the November 20, 2017 meeting, reconvened on November 21, 2017, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Agenda Varied

MOVED by Commissioner Coupar

SECONDED by Commissioner Kirby-Yung

THAT the Park Board Committee varies the agenda to consider the VanSplash: Vancouver Aquatics Strategy prior to the Chair's Report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

AGENDA ITEMS

1. REPORT: VanSplash: Vancouver Aquatics Strategy

Suspension of the Rules

MOVED by Commissioner Crawford

SECONDED by Commissioner Mackinnon

THAT the Park Board Committee suspends the Park Board rules to limit delegations' speaking time to three minutes.

DEFEATED

(Commissioner Crawford voted in favour)

Dave Hutch, Manager of Research and Planning, Park Board introduced Katy Amon, Park Planner, Park Board and Melissa Higgs, Principal, HCMA Architecture + Design.

Ms. Amon and Ms. Higgs jointly led the review of a presentation and highlighted:

- Scope of the strategy
- Development methodology
- Demographic influences
- Consultation summary
- Principles and goals
- Strategy approach and key consideration relative to indoor pools:
 - Comments received during the consultation
 - Hierarchy of Vancouver's pools
 - Current geographic distribution
 - Analysis
 - Operating costs
 - Energy use intensity
 - System-wide recommendations

- Facility-specific recommendations
- Indoor pools vision
- System capacity
- 10-year plan and capital costs for renewal and growth
- Strategy approach and key consideration relative to outdoor pools:
 - Comments received during the consultation
 - Current geographic distribution
 - Criteria for locating outdoor pools
 - Advantages of co-locating indoor and outdoor pools
 - Advantages of co-locating community centres and outdoor pools
 - Recommendations
 - Key considerations for the south Vancouver pool at Killarney Community Centre in Killarney Park and Marpole Community Centre in Oak Park
- Recommendations regarding beaches:
 - 10-year plan and capital costs for outdoor pools and beaches
- Recommendations regarding spray parks and wading pools
- Non-traditional aquatics:
 - Approach to enhance the more traditional aquatic system through innovation
 - Recommendations
 - 10-year plan
- Capital cost context
- 10-year plan for indoor pools, outdoor pools and beaches in light of projected population growth
- 25-year vision.

Mr. Hutch, along with Ms. Higgs, Malcolm Bromley, General Manager, Park Board, and Ms. Amon, responded to questions from the Committee. There was discussion on:

- The rationale for not classifying Maple Grove and Hillcrest Pools as wading pools
- Request for an analysis of the impact of annual maintenance closures on the proximity to pools
- Need to align the recommendation to close neighbourhood pools with community priorities and the City of Vancouver's greenest city strategy
- Whether the option of retrofitting existing facilities was considered
- Whether the jurisdiction of the Park Board over the pools located at schools impacted the recommendation regarding the renovation of the Lord Byng and Templeton Pools
- Need to consider the qualitative aspects of the pool use experience within the implementation of the strategy
- Impact of the reduction in Development Cost Levy (DCL) funding from the City and the anticipated funding from community amenity contributions (CACs) on the ability to deliver the strategy

- Concern regarding the adequacy of the efforts undertaken to engage the Chinese-speaking community in the consultation
- Readiness to retrofit facilities to meet future accessibility requirements.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 9:23 pm and reconvened at 9:30 pm.

Motion to Suspend Rules

MOVED by Commissioner Wiebe

SECONDED by Commissioner Kirby-Yung

THAT the Park Board Committee suspends the Park Board rules to allow the meeting to continue to 11:00 pm.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Commissioners were advised that, as of 3:00 pm on December 11, 2017, there were 1,610 pieces of correspondence received by the General Manager's Office regarding the report. The Correspondence Report provided to Commissioners summarizes the topics of the correspondence received.

Commissioner Shum submitted correspondence expressing opposition to the closure of the Templeton Pool received from the Hastings Community Association. The correspondence included 1,530 online petition signatures, petition comments and individual letters.

The Committee heard from 13 speakers who provided comments and responded to questions from the Committee regarding:

- Opposition to the closure of the Lord Byng Pool
- Support for retaining neighbourhood pools
- Neighbourhood pools build community and provide real access for seniors and people with disabilities
- Safety concerns of young children, seniors and people with disabilities swimming in larger destination pools
- Importance of keeping Lord Byng and Templeton Pools for the sake of the students
- Empty homes on the west side of Vancouver contributes to the low usage of Lord Byng Pool
- Environmental benefits of being able to walk to neighbourhood pools
- Health benefits and reduced costs to the health care system resulting from access to neighbourhood pools
- Suggestion to seek financial support to build and operate more neighbourhood pools from the Federal and Provincial Governments

- Opposition to the closure of Templeton Pool.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 10:55 pm until Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at 6:00 pm at the Park Board Office.

Meeting Reconvened

Commissioner Crawford reconvened the Park Board Committee meeting on Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at 6:08 pm.

1. REPORT: VanSplash: Vancouver Aquatics Strategy (Continued)

The Committee heard from 35 speakers who provided additional comments and responded to questions from the Committee regarding:

- Disagreement with a strategy that de-emphasizes neighbourhood pools in favour of destination pools
- Proposal to make Kitsilano Pool a flagship, year-round facility with a retractable roof, a hot tub, yoga studio, gym, three-story underground parkade and restaurant
- The proposal to locate a pool at Connaught Park is illogical due to the proximity to Kitsilano Pool
- Need to renovate the Vancouver Aquatic Centre (VAC) in order to meet the requirements to host 50-metre competitive events however it is still a good place to host 25-metre events
- Need to add pools in Vancouver's aquatic system to accommodate the current demand
- Suggestion to increase the programming for seniors at Lord Byng Pool
- Perception of conflict of interest, as HCMA Architecture + Design specializes in designing large destination pools
- Opposition to the closure of neighbourhood pools in general and Lord Byng and Templeton Pools in particular
- Disagreement with the calculation of the cost per swim contained in the report
- Concern with the VanSplash consultation process and the survey questions and sample size
- Importance of accessibility to neighbourhood pools in terms of health benefits, community connection and water safety
- Suggestion to augment neighbourhood pools with destination pools
- Suggestion to retrofit neighbourhood pools in order to reduce their operating costs
- Need to consider the true cost, including transportation, when comparing the cost per swim at neighbourhood pools with destination pools
- Suggestion to prioritize the development of new indoor neighbourhood pools in the VanSplash strategy

- The VanSplash strategy does not address the Park Board’s stated priority of building new outdoor pools

Motion to Suspend Rules

MOVED by Commissioner Kirby-Yung

SECONDED by Commissioner Evans

THAT the Park Board Committee suspends the Park Board rules to allow the meeting to continue to 10:30 pm.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Need to ensure that aquatics facilities can meet the high-level training needs of elite athletes
- Need to clarify the intention of the pool at Connaught Park to be an aquatic sport-based, rather than a purely recreational, facility
- Suggestion to utilize the aquatic system to grow the sport of diving
- Importance of neighbourhood pools for specialized programming
- Need to consult with stakeholders in the planning and design of the pool at Connaught Park
- Concern regarding the decline in funding provided by the City for parks and recreation
- ~~– Request for previously closed neighbourhood pools to be resurrected before any destination pools are constructed~~
- Request that the previously closed Mount Pleasant Outdoor Pool be replaced before any destination pools are constructed

Motion to Suspend Rules

MOVED by Commissioner Wiebe

SECONDED by Commissioner Evans

THAT the Park Board Committee suspends the Park Board rules to allow the meeting to continue to 11:30 pm.

DEFEATED

Motion to Suspend Rules

MOVED by Commissioner Coupar

SECONDED by Commissioner Evans

THAT the Park Board Committee suspends the Park Board rules to allow the meeting to continue to 11:00 pm.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Recommendation that the Lord Byng and Templeton Pools not be demolished until there is certainty that they are not required

MOVED by Commissioner Kirby-Yung

SECONDED by Commissioner Mackinnon

THAT the Park Board Committee suspends the Park Board rules to allow the meeting to continue to 11:30 pm.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Appreciation for the inclusive space provided by the Templeton Pool
- Opinion that the intention of the VanSplash report is to sell a preconceived conclusion
- Appreciation for the democratic process demonstrated by the Park Board.

Main Motion

MOVED by Commissioner Kirby-Yung

SECONDED by Commissioner Coupar

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve “VanSplash: Vancouver Aquatics Strategy”, as outlined in this report and attached within Appendix A, to guide the planning of aquatic facilities in Vancouver
- B. THAT the Board endorse the 10-year Implementation Plan attached within Appendix A, as the basis for making submissions to the City’s 2019-2028 Capital Strategic Outlook and 2019-2022 Capital Plan processes; and
- C. THAT the Board approve the location for a new outdoor pool in South Vancouver per either OPTION 1: Co-located at Killarney Community Centre in Killarney Park or OPTION 2: Co-located at Marpole Community Centre in Oak Park.

Motion to Defer

MOVED by Commissioner Evans

SECONDED by Commissioner Mackinnon

THAT the Park Board Committee defers consideration of the recommendation to the January 15, 2018 Committee meeting.

CARRIED

(Commissioners Coupar, Kirby-Yung and Wiebe opposed)

Motion to Recess

MOVED by Commissioner Mackinnon

SECONDED by Commissioner Shum

THAT the Park Board Committee recesses the Committee meeting until a date during the week of December 18, 2017.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Recess

The meeting recessed at 11:35 pm until a future meeting during the week of December 18, 2017.

Meeting Reconvened

Commissioner Crawford reconvened the Park Board Committee meeting on Tuesday, December 19, 2017 at 5:00 pm.

Agenda Varied

The order of the agenda was resumed.

CHAIR'S REPORT

1. Monthly Report: Commissioners in the Community

Chair Wiebe highlighted the participation of Park Board Commissioners at community events that occurred in October, November and December 2017:

- Oct 29: Arbutus Greenway open house and design jam where residents and stakeholders provided input into schematic connections from the Arbutus Greenway to adjacent and nearby parks
- Nov 08: VanPlay workshop with Community Centre Association (CCA) partners
- Nov 11: Attendance at Remembrance Days events throughout the city, including the annual ceremony and parade at Victory Square

- Nov 15: Stanley Park Brewing open house where the vision for the new restaurant and brewery for the former Fish House Restaurant was shared
- Nov 18: Open house on the future of Northeast False Creek
- Nov 19: Archaeological tour of Stanley Park led by Park Board archaeologist Geordie Howe
- Nov 21: Concept plans reviewed by residents at the Cedar Cottage Park open house
- Nov 29: VanPlay community dialogue at the Roundhouse Community Centre
- Dec 01: Media launch of the 33rd annual VanDusen Festival of Lights
- Dec 02: Launch of Lumière Vancouver in Morton and Alexandria Parks
- Dec 06: Oakridge Park open house to obtain feedback for the park's design and programming
- Dec 10: Canada 150 Skating Day at the eight Park Board ice rinks
- Dec 15: Launch of Holiday Heights at Bloedel Conservatory.

2. Annual Report: 2017 Accomplishments

On behalf of the Board, Chair Wiebe recognized the efforts of Park Board staff in the achievements of the past year.

Chair Wiebe highlighted the achievements in 2017 in the delivery of world-class parks and recreation services and in advancing the core values of access, equity, inclusion, reconciliation, financial accountability and quality improvement:

- Community centres were activated as warming centres as part of the City's snow and ice response
- Outdoor skating on Trout Lake for almost two weeks
- Snow and ice removal equipment for the seawall and sidewalks added as part of the City's new snow and ice response plan
- Ground breaking for the new Killarney Seniors Centre and approval of the location for the new Sunset Seniors Centre
- Approval of a new Joint Operating Agreement (JOA) with 20 community centre associations (CCAs), effective January 1, 2018
- Bylaw amendments officially banning the importation and display of cetaceans in Vancouver parks
- Continued progress on the establishment of a new Parks and Recreation Foundation that will be launched in 2018
- Reconciliation with First Nations:
 - Establishment of the Stanley Park intergovernmental working group with monthly meetings of staff and Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nation representatives
 - Unanimous vote to rename Siwash Rock
 - Ongoing process of implementing the Park Board's 11 Reconciliation Strategies
 - Creation of Reconciliation Planner position and planner to collaborate with First Nations partners in the development of the Stanley Park Comprehensive Plan
 - Engagement with First Nations on various major projects

- Canada 150+ events celebrating Indigenous arts and culture
- Development of major new parks:
 - Concept design for Northeast False Creek park presented to the public
 - Commitment to construct 25.2 acres of park space in the East Fraser Lands
 - Final permits acquired for the new \$8 million park at Smithe and Richards, with construction to begin in summer 2018
 - Commencement of public consultation on the plan for the new park in the Oakridge Centre redevelopment
- Park and playground renewals:
 - Opening of the city's largest playground, complete with a 22-metre long zipline, at Creekside Park
 - Opening of new playground at Andy Livingstone Park that is shared with the Crosstown Elementary School
 - Renewals of playgrounds at WC Shelley, Oxford, Major Matthews and Hinge Parks and at Prospect Point in Stanley Park
 - Enhancement of the basketball courts at Kitsilano Beach
 - Basketball court renewal at Mt. Pleasant Park showing the co-existence of art and sport
 - Safety and functional improvements at the renewed skatepark at Quilchena Park
 - Concept plans approved for renewal of China Creek North, Brewers and Clinton Parks
- Accessibility and inclusion:
 - Western Canada's first Challenger Baseball Field located north of Hillcrest Park, created in partnership with Variety-the Children's Charity, Jays Care Foundation, Vancouver Canadians Baseball Foundation and City of Vancouver
 - Non-slip beach access pathway installed at English Bay
 - Work with the Disabled Sailing Association to replace Jericho Pier with an accessible dock
 - Hiring of Trans, Gender Diverse and Two-Spirit Inclusion Facilitators in recreation
 - Leisure Access Program provided more than 16,000 low income or marginalized residents with subsidized access to recreation programs and services
 - Creation of a subsidy for low income residents in Strathcona to provide access to programs at a reduced rate
- Park safety, cleanliness and security:
 - Ranger team expansion to 31 regular and auxiliary Rangers in the winter and 40 in the summer
 - Development of a comprehensive Park Ranger service model in consultation with the police and the City to address safety, security and cleanliness, particularly in relation to the increased use of injectable drugs in parks
 - Opening of a permanent Ranger station in Andy Livingstone Park
 - Approval of 2018 capital funding for renewed park washrooms and washroom attendants

- Launch of the junior ranger pilot program with the aim of allowing youth to participate in a variety of learning modules to encourage environmental responsibility, sustainability, civic leadership and community engagement
- Natural areas and biodiversity:
 - Salt marsh restoration in New Brighton Park
 - Commencement of daylighting a historical stream and enhancing biodiversity at Volunteer and Tatlow Parks
 - Adoption of water conservation plan
 - Park stewards assist with conservation efforts in Vancouver Parks
 - Neighbourhood Matching Fund increased by \$50,000 to encourage more applications and creativity in the local food and stewardship communities
 - Designing parks with the installation of pollinators in mind
 - Installation of window treatment at the Park Board Office to prevent bird strikes
 - Naming of Anna's hummingbird as the official City Bird
- Urban forest strategy:
 - 9,000 trees sold at five tree sales in 2017
 - Work with UBC researchers to map the location, crown size and height of all trees in the City
 - Planting native trees and shrubs that are resilient to environmental changes
- Special events:
 - “Uninterrupted” transporting viewers into the life-cycle of wild salmon in an urban setting under the Cambie Street Bridge
 - Approval of the 2018 Kitsilano bathtub races
 - Approval for the Gourmet Cirque Cabaret to run for five months in Queen Elizabeth Park, beginning in November 2018
 - Skookum Festival being planned in consultation with First Nations to offer multi-day aboriginal themed entertainment in Stanley Park in September 2018
 - Riley Park summer farmers market held in the newly renovated Riley Park
 - Our CityRide mass participation ride in August 2017
 - Canada 150 Skating Day held in partnership with Skate Canada and local skate clubs
- Continued growth of the sport hosting program with City partners
- Food in parks:
 - Interim new concession strategy presented to the Park Board in the fall 2017
 - Stanley Park Brewing will commence operations in the former Fish House Restaurant
 - Revamped menu at the newly renovated Prospect Point Café
 - New community garden created in Riley Park
 - Wild Salmon Caravan, a celebration of wild salmon, held in October 2017 in John Hendry Park
- Public engagement:
 - Growth of social media channel audience

- Numerous community dialogues throughout 2017
- Renaming of Hastings Park playground to Slidey Slides Parks after input received from children at a nearby daycare centre
- Approvals of names of Empire Fields, Lillian To Park and Sun Hop Park
- Words for Birds, a Park Board-led artistic engagement with the public, on attributes of a City Bird
- Arts and culture:
 - Expansion of Lumière Festival in Alexander Park which includes Luna the whale installation at Morton Park
 - Senior arts and health programs are at capacity
 - Fieldhouse activations expanded with arts, sport, food and environmental education groups
 - Approval of George Wainborn Park as the location for the Ireland Canada Monument
 - Day of Laughter celebration at the A-Maze-ing Laughter installation in Morton Park, in partnership with Vancouver Biennale
- Major city-wide strategies:
 - Approval of the People, Parks and Dog Strategy to guide planning, design and management of dog off-leash areas over the next decade
 - Launch of VanPlay, the year-long public engagement on the future of parks and recreation
 - Commencement of engagement to explore ways to improve non-motorized boating opportunities throughout the City
- Aquatics:
 - Partnered with the Lifesaving Society and Lifeguard Outreach Society to offer Swim to Survive, a free drowning prevention program
 - Rehabilitation of Kitsilano Pool
 - 2017 was a record swim season with a 20 percent increase in visitors over the previous summer
 - Successful public engagement to develop VanSplash: Vancouver Aquatics Strategy.

The Committee adjourned at 5:30 pm.

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Malcolm Bromley
General Manager

Commissioner Casey Crawford
Chair