



PARK BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 15, 2019

A Regular Park Board Committee meeting was held on Monday, April 15, 2019, at 6:41 pm, at the Park Board Office.

PRESENT: Commissioner Tricia Barker, Vice-Chair
Commissioner John Coupar
Commissioner Dave Demers
Commissioner Camil Dumont
Commissioner Gwen Giesbrecht, Chair
Commissioner John Irwin
Commissioner Stuart Mackinnon

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair acknowledged that the meeting is taking place on the traditional territory of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Park Board Committee Meeting – April 1, 2019

MOVED by Commissioner Demers
SECONDED by Commissioner Irwin

THAT the Park Board Committee minutes of the April 1, 2019 meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COMMUNICATIONS

The Committee was advised that there were three emails opposed and one in support of the staff recommendation on the Playing Field Upgrades – Synthetic Turf and Lighting. All emails have been sent directly to Commissioners.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. REPORT: Harbour Green Dock – Proposed Change of Use, Management and Maintenance

Tiina Mack, Manager, Park Development, Park Board, introduced the project team members:

- Sev Araujo, Manager, Commercial Operations, Park Board
- Ali Nayeri, Engineer, Park Board
- Paul Storer, Branch Manager, Transportation Design, Engineering, City of Vancouver.

Ms. Mack led the review of a presentation on the proposed change to the use, management and maintenance of Harbour Green Dock (Dock) and highlighted:

- Background of the Dock
- Current condition due to the design, environmental challenges and previous usage
- Management and enforcement challenges
- Repair and restoration options
- Physical berthing barriers and usage restriction options
- Management models
- Consideration of addition of limited commuter ferry service:
 - General operation parameters
 - Objectives of a public engagement process to be undertaken in partnership with Engineering Services
- Proposed transfer of the Dock to Engineering Services:
 - Principle for future operation
 - Process and timeline.

Ms. Mack, along with Malcolm Bromley, General Manager, Park Board, and Mr. Storer, responded to questions from the Committee. There was discussion on: confirmation that additional options would be considered if the public does not support limited commuter ferry service; execution of a Memorandum of Understanding that would protect the maintenance of the public access as a pedestrian walkway and availability of public recreational boating if jurisdiction of the Dock were transferred to Engineering Services; public notification of the temporary removal of the Dock; origins/destinations of the local commuter ferry are to be determined; concept that ferries would not be moored at the Dock; and proposed timing for the Dock to return to operation.

The Committee heard from two speakers who advocated for the continuation of open water views and the timely return of the pedestrian walkway and public recreational boating. One speaker also suggested that a breakwater be constructed to mitigate the impact of waves on the Dock. The speakers responded to questions from the Committee.

The Chair advised that a written submission from a registered speaker who was unable to attend the meeting had been distributed to Commissioners.

MOVED by Commissioner Mackinnon
SECONDED by Commissioner Irwin

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to:

- A. Facilitate a joint public engagement process with Engineering Services about the proposed addition of limited commuter ferry services at Harbour Green Dock, as described in the report;
- B. Report back on the findings of the public engagement for the purpose of considering approval of the change of use of the Harbour Green Dock to include limited commuter ferry services; and
- C. Develop a Memorandum of Understanding to transfer the management, maintenance and operation of the Harbour Green Dock to Engineering Services if the addition of limited commuter ferry services is supported by the Board, after the Report back, with all terms and conditions to the satisfaction of the Park Board and Engineering Services General Managers; and
- D. Remove the existing Harbour Green Dock during the interim period for safety.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. REPORT: Playing Field Upgrades – Synthetic Turf and Lighting

Tiina Mack, Manager, Park Development, Park Board, introduced the project team members:

- Erin Embley, Planner II, Planning, Policy and Environment, Park Board
- Alexandre Man-Bourdon, Landscape Architect, Park Board
- Darren Peterson, Manager of Recreation Services, Park Board
- Doug Shearer, Acting Manager of Planning Policy and Environment, Park Board.

Mses. Mack and Embley jointly led the review of a presentation on the proposed installation of a new synthetic turf playing field and lighting at Sir Winston Secondary School and lighting at existing synthetic turf fields in Hillcrest Park and at Kitsilano Secondary School and highlighted:

- Previous Board decisions
- Background information:
 - Strategic alignment
 - Synthetic turf inventory
 - Project rationale
 - Collaboration with the Vancouver School Board and the Vancouver Field Sport Federation
- Results of the public engagement process
- Proposed lighting installation at Hillcrest Park and Kitsilano Secondary School
- Proposed new synthetic turf field at Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School
- Next steps.

Ms. Mack, along with Ms. Embley, responded to questions from the Committee. There was discussion on: timing for installation of synthetic fields at other secondary schools; process for selecting sports that would be accommodated on the synthetic fields; improvement in lighting technology to mitigate the impact to neighbouring residents; notification process prior to installation of new high-mast lighting; deposition of synthetic turf material upon removal; the use of tree canopies to cool and shade the synthetic fields during warm weather; opportunities for the use of synthetic turf fields for stormwater management; and concern regarding the health risks of exposure to materials utilized in synthetic turf fields.

The Committee heard from six speakers. Four speakers expressed opposition to the staff recommendation to install a synthetic turf field at Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School due to the environmental impact of synthetic turf fields. One speaker advocated for the installation of a lit synthetic turf field to replace the gravel field at Beaconsfield Park. One speaker spoke in favour of the staff recommendation. The speakers responded to questions from the Committee.

Main Motion

MOVED by Commissioner Coupar
SECONDED by Commissioner Dumont

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the installation of a synthetic turf playing field and lighting at Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School, on the existing grass playfield/diamond adjacent to West 57th Avenue, pending approval of a shared-use agreement with the Vancouver School Board; and
- B. THAT the Park Board approve the installation of outdoor lighting at the following two locations:
 - i. Hillcrest Park on the existing mini synthetic turf playing field; and
 - ii. Kitsilano Secondary on the existing synthetic turf field, pending approval of a shared-use agreement with the Vancouver School Board.

Amendment to the Main Motion

MOVED by Commissioner Irwin
SECONDED by Commissioner Giesbrecht

THAT the following be added as Item B and the subsequent item be renumbered:

- B. THAT Park Board staff explore more organic sustainable substrate options and stormwater filtration and report back to the Board.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Amendment to the Main Motion

MOVED by Commissioner Mackinnon
SECONDED by Commissioner Barker

THAT Item A be amended to:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve, in principle, the installation of a synthetic turf playing field and lighting at Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School, on the existing grass playfield/diamond adjacent to West 57th Avenue, pending approval of a shared-use agreement with the Vancouver School Board.

CARRIED

In favour: Barker, Coupar, Demers, Giesbrecht, Irwin, Mackinnon

Abstained: Dumont

Question on the Main Motion, as Amended

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve, in principle, the installation of a synthetic turf playing field and lighting at Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School, on the existing grass playfield/diamond adjacent to West 57th Avenue, pending approval of a shared-use agreement with the Vancouver School Board;
- B. THAT Park Board staff explore more organic sustainable substrate options and stormwater filtration and report back to the Board; and
- C. THAT the Park Board approve the installation of outdoor lighting at the following two locations:
 - i. Hillcrest Park on the existing mini synthetic turf playing field; and
 - ii. Kitsilano Secondary on the existing synthetic turf field, pending approval of a shared-use agreement with the Vancouver School Board.

Commissioner Demers requested the motion be separated into distinct propositions.

Question on Item A

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board that the Vancouver Park Board approve, in principle, the installation of a synthetic turf playing field and lighting at Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School, on the existing grass playfield/diamond adjacent to West 57th Avenue, pending approval of a shared-use agreement with the Vancouver School Board.

CARRIED

In favour: Barker, Coupar, Giesbrecht, Irwin, Mackinnon

Opposed: Dumont

Abstained: Demers

Question on Item B

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board that Park Board staff explore more organic sustainable substrate options and stormwater filtration and report back to the Board.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Question on Item C

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board that the Park Board approve the installation of outdoor lighting at the following two locations:

- i. Hillcrest Park on the existing mini synthetic turf playing field; and
- ii. Kitsilano Secondary on the existing synthetic turf field, pending approval of a shared-use agreement with the Vancouver School Board.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Committee adjourned at 9:14 pm.

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Malcolm Bromley
General Manager

Commissioner Gwen Giesbrecht
Chair