



PARK BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 10, 2019

A Regular Park Board Committee meeting was held on Monday, June 10, 2019, at 6:38 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 – May 27, 2019

MOVED by Commissioner Irwin
SECONDED by Commissioner Demers

THAT the Park Board Committee minutes of the May 27, 2019 meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COMMUNICATIONS

The Committee was advised that, from May 27, 2017 to 3:00 pm on June 10, 2019, there were 24 pieces of correspondence received in support of the recommendation regarding the SKOOKUM Music Festival and one letter in support for the proposed land exchange between Gordon Park and David Thompson Secondary School, with the request that the current urban farm be continued within the context of the land exchange.

The correspondence has been forwarded directly to Commissioners by email.

STAFF REPORTS

1. REPORT: SKOOKUM Music Festival – Report Back and Addition to Annual Calendar of Major Special Events

Octavio Silva, Manager of Business Development, Park Board, introduced Jenny Jung, Supervisor of Special Events and Filming, Park Board.

Mr. Silva led the review of a presentation on the inaugural SKOOKUM Music Festival (Festival) and the request to add the event to the Annual Calendar of Major Special Events and highlighted:

- Background of the Festival
- Key learnings from the inaugural Festival
- Proposal to add the Festival to the annual calendar of special events
- Key event parameters
- Conceptual site plan
- Event benefits
- Other considerations.

Mr. Silva responded to questions from the Committee. There was discussion on: future efforts to enforce the Park Control By-law and to educate the Festival patrons of the restrictions on smoking in the park; the potential for future revenues and a legacy investment; options to mitigate the noise impacts; discussions with the event organizer to make the event more accessible to marginalized populations; the need to address noise impacts and enforcement of smoking restrictions in the development of the updated Special Event Guidelines; and request that a report back be provided to the Park Board following the 2020 Festival.

The Committee heard from six speakers who expressed support for the staff recommendation to add the Festival to the Park Board's Annual Calendar of Major Special Events. The speakers responded to questions from the Committee.

MOVED by Commissioner Coupar
SECONDED by Commissioner Demers

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board receive for information the report back on the 2018 SKOOKUM Music Festival as outlined in this report; and
- B. FURTHER THAT the Board approve the addition of the SKOOKUM Music Festival to the Annual Calendar of Major Special Events starting in 2020.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Agenda Varied

By consensus, the order of the agenda was varied to consider Item 3 prior to Item 2.

3. REPORT: On Water, Vancouver’s Non-motorized Watercraft Recreation Strategy

Doug Shearer, Acting Manager of Planning, Policy and Environment, Park Board, introduced Erin Embley, Planner II, Park Board.

Ms. Embley led the review of a presentation on the proposed future direction, implementation and delivery of non-motorized watercraft recreation strategy and highlighted:

- Background of the development of the strategy
- Directions, strategies and actions to support the vision
- Public engagement process utilized to shape the strategy and feedback received
- Quick start projects.

Ms. Embley, along with Mr. Shearer and Dave Hutch, Acting Director of Park Planning and Development, Park Board, responded to questions from the Committee. There was discussion on: the need for future analysis regarding access to the Fraser River by non-motorized watercraft in light of the development of the East Fraser lands; engagement with the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations on the development of the strategy and the Northeast False Creek (NEFC) Park design; request to include specific information regarding the timing to enhance the Jericho Sailing Centre facility; potential for partnerships with private landowners to provide access to the water; and concern regarding potential conflicts between beach stewardship organizations and Park Board staff who are paid to maintain the beaches.

The Committee heard from six speakers who expressed support for the draft “On Water, Vancouver’s Non-motorized Watercraft Recreation Strategy” and noted the need to protect public access to the waterways for recreational purposes. There were concerns expressed regarding the water quality in False Creek and the impact of the proposed expansion of the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club on rowing in Coal Harbour. The speakers responded to questions from the Committee.

Extension of Meeting

MOVED by Commissioner Mackinnon
SECONDED by Commissioner Irwin

THAT the Park Board extends the meeting beyond 10:00 pm.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOVED by Commissioner Mackinnon
SECONDED by Commissioner Irwin

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve “On Water, Vancouver’s Non-motorized Watercraft Recreation Strategy”, as outlined in this report and attached as Appendix A, to guide the planning and design of non-motorized recreation facilities and programs in Vancouver; and

- B. FURTHER THAT the Board endorse the 10-year Implementation Plan attached within Appendix A, as the basis for submissions to future capital budgets, the City's 2023-2032 Capital Strategic Outlook, and future capital plans.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Recess

The meeting recessed at 10:05 pm and reconvened at 10:10 pm.

2. REPORT: Gordon Park and David Thompson Secondary School Proposed Land Exchange

Doug Shearer, Acting Manager of Planning, Policy and Environment, Park Board, introduced Jordan McAuley, Planner, Park Board and Jim DeHoop, Manager of Planning, Vancouver School Board.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Commissioner Mackinnon declared a conflict of interest and departed the meeting at 10:13 p.m.

Mr. Shearer led the review of a presentation on the proposed land exchange between the Vancouver School Board and Vancouver Park Board at the Gordon Park and David Thompson Secondary School sites and highlighted:

- Background of the proposed land exchange
- Proposed configuration of the land exchange during and upon completion of construction
- Potential facilities to serve as temporary replacement of Vancouver School Board fields during construction
- Engagement conducted by the Vancouver School Board:
 - Options presented to the public regarding the seismic upgrading of David Thompson School
 - 86% of the respondents supported a potential land exchange
- Vancouver School Board support for the proposed land exchange
- Potential community benefits of the land exchange
- Next steps
- Preliminary school and park design and construction timeline.

Mr. Shearer, along with Mr. DeHoop, Malcolm Bromley, General Manager, Park Board, and Dave Hutch, Acting Director of Park Planning and Development, Park Board, responded to questions from the Committee. There was discussion on: limited loss of mature trees as a result of the land exchange; consideration of the replacement of the fieldhouse would be part of the park planning process; the Vancouver School Board's intention to continue to operate the community garden during and following construction; the need to engage the neighbouring residents and stakeholders regarding the proposed land exchange; the need for the 53rd Avenue road allowance to be designated as a Permanent Park; concern regarding the loss of the use of the David Thompson School field during the construction period; potential for the community garden to be located in the new park; and concern that the relocation of the community garden to the park would result in a net loss of park space.

MOVED by Commissioner Irwin
SECONDED by Commissioner Barker

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board authorize staff to initiate land exchange negotiations with the Vancouver School Board for an equal area of the David Thompson Secondary School site in exchange for the north portion of Gordon Park, which would be subject to the following conditions:
 - i. provision of suitable alternate Vancouver School Board fields to accommodate displaced Gordon Park users during construction of the new school and park improvements;
 - ii. resolution of the East 53rd Avenue road allowance with the City of Vancouver Engineering Department; and
 - iii. reinstatement of, and enhancements to, Gordon Park; and
- B. FURTHER THAT all arrangements negotiated in relation to this proposed land exchange, including changes to areas designated as permanent park, will be subject to subsequent Park Board and City Council approval, and no legal rights or obligations will be created by Park Board adoption of Recommendation A above.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

In favour: Barker, Coupar, Demers, Dumont, Giesbrecht and Irwin

Absent: Mackinnon

The Committee adjourned at 10:55 pm.

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Malcolm Bromley
General Manager

Commissioner Gwen Giesbrecht
Chair