



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 16, 2023

A Regular meeting of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation was held on Monday, October 16, 2023, at 7:07 pm, in the Boardroom at the Park Board Office, and via videoconference.

PRESENT:

Commissioner Scott Jensen, Chair
Commissioner Brennan Bastovanszky, Vice Chair
Commissioner Laura Christensen
Commissioner Tom Digby
Commissioner Angela Haer
Commissioner Marie-Claire Howard
Commissioner Jas Virdi

GENERAL MANAGER'S OFFICE:

Steve Jackson, Acting General Manager
Denise Swanston, Acting Manager, Board Relations
Victoria Tyers, Board Support and Meeting Assistant & Meeting Clerk

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair acknowledged that the meeting is taking place on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations. The meeting is being held on the land respectfully and with the knowledge that there must be continued acknowledgement of the history of injustice toward Indigenous peoples. The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation is committed to supporting truth and reconciliation, and to use this opportunity to amplify local First Nations voices and culture through our work in community.

IN CAMERA MEETING

MOVED by Commissioner Haer

SECONDED by Commissioner Digby

THAT the Board will go into meetings prior to the next Regular Board Meeting, which are closed to the public, pursuant to Section 165.2(1) of the *Vancouver Charter*, to discuss matters related to paragraphs:

(a) personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the city or another position appointed by the city;

(i) the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;

(j) information that is prohibited, or information that if it were presented in a document would be prohibited, from disclosure under section 21 [disclosure harmful to business interests of a third party] of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act; and

(k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of an activity, work or facility that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the Council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the city if they were held in public.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Special and Regular Board Meetings – September 25 , 2023

MOVED by Commissioner Digby
SECONDED by Commissioner Christensen

THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of September 25, 2023 and the Regular Board meeting of September 25, 2023, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair [highlighted](#) the participation of Commissioners at Park Board events since the previous Board meeting on September 25, 2023:

- Commissioners recognized National Truth & Reconciliation Day on September 30, 2023
- Commissioner Digby attended the Orange Shirt Walk for Truth & Reconciliation
- Commissioner Bastyovanszky attended Orange Shirt Day at Arts Umbrella
- Commissioner Bastyovanszky attended the LMS University League Final and LMS BC Early Risers Finals for amateur cricket
- Commissioner Bastyovanszky attended the Meraloma Club 100th Anniversary celebration
- Commissioner Bastyovanszky attended Car-Free Day on Denman
- Chair Jensen attended the Vancouver BANKSYLAND Pop-up as a guest of the British Consulate-General Vancouver
- Chair Jensen and Commissioner Bastyovanszky attended the launch of the Gay Games 2023 bid.

COMMUNICATIONS

The following correspondence related to the Board meeting agenda were received via the [Contact Park Board Commissioners](#) web form:

- MOTION: Off Season Usage Parking Pass – Jericho Beach Park
 - 41 pieces of correspondence in support of the recommendation

STAFF REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

1. Park Board Meeting Dates – Proposed 2024 Schedule

The Manager of Executive Office and Board Relations introduced the [proposed 2024 Board Meeting schedule](#) and responded to questions.

MOVED by Commissioner Christensen
SECONDED by Commissioners Digby

THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the 2024 meeting dates as outlined below, with the meetings open to the public commencing at 6:30pm and with Regular Board meetings to immediately follow Board Committee meetings (when scheduled):

January 22	February 05 February 26	March 11
April 08 April 22	May 06 May 27	June 10 June 24
July 08 July 22	August Break	September 9 September 23
October 07 October 21	November 04 November 25 (Special Budget)	December 09

FURTHER THAT the Board reserve the hour prior to each public meeting for an In Camera meeting, should it be required;

AND FURTHER THAT the Board reserve every Tuesday evening following the above-noted meeting dates, commencing at 5:30pm, should any meetings need to be reconvened or rescheduled.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Sport Field Development Update

The Director of Planning and Park Development introduced the item, and the Manager of Park Development, along with the Project Manager, [presented an update](#).

Following the presentation, staff responded to questions related to:

- Community engagement with the public, user groups and stakeholders
- Sport Field activation timelines and impact on neighbourhood parks
- Current and proposed sport fields and amenities, and associated costs
- John Hendry Park Master Plan
- Sports field funding sources and the Growing Communities Fund
- Timelines and feasibility

3. General Manager's Report

The Director of Planning and Park Development presented the [General Manager's Report](#), highlighting:

- Construction for the Oppenheimer Park playground renewal targeted to commence in spring 2023 following to recent receipt of a Tire Stewardship of BC Grant.
- Vancouver Tennis Society, in partnership with the Park Board, received grants from ParticiPACTION to host sport events.
- Activities and events supporting National Truth & Reconciliation Day by the Decolonization Arts & Culture (DAC) team and the collaboration with Community Centre Association partners.
- The recent recognition of the Vancouver Park Board as an international leader in city greening as a result of the pollinator meadows project.
- Upcoming Council business related to or impacting parks and recreation:
 - Report titled "Contract Award for Marpole Community Centre Construction Project"
 - Report titled "Provincial 'Growing Communities Fund': Allocation to Temporary Plazas, Turf Field and Moberly Park and Spray Park at Ross Park"
- Board briefing [memos and emails](#) issued from September 25, 2023 to October 16, 2023.

MEMBERS' MOTIONS

1. Off Season Usage Parking Pass – Jericho Beach Park

Commissioner Howard introduced the motion and responded to questions.

MOVED by Commissioner Howard

SECONDED by Commissioner Jensen

THAT the Board of Parks and Recreation, effective immediately, approve a new off season usage (October 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024) parking pass at Jericho Lot (Lot 69);

FURTHER THAT the General Manager has delegated authority to establish an appropriate price for the off-season parking pass for the 2023 year. Future off-season parking pass price setting will align with the usual Board fees and charges process.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Mural and Sports Court Activation at Sunset Beach Park

Commissioner Bastovanszky introduced the motion and responded to questions.

MOVED by Commissioner Bastovanszky
SECONDED by Commissioner Haer

WHEREAS:

1. In accordance with the Vancouver Charter, the Park Board has exclusive jurisdiction and control over park land use in the City of Vancouver, including any events, activities, programs, fees, structures, and improvements that occur within designated parks;
2. Sports transcends cultural and socioeconomic barriers. It brings people together and fosters a sense of community; By providing and enhancing spaces for the community to play and connect in our city, we are helping to promote social cohesion and enhance well-being;
3. Sunset Beach is a popular Vancouver gathering spot for locals and tourists alike, including the Sunset Beach sports pad which offers multiple opportunities for community sports activities;
4. There is currently limited outdoor sporting infrastructure in the area, making the Sunset Beach sports pad a valuable asset for promoting active living;
5. The community engagement for the 30 year plan for the West End Waterfront completed its most recent round in the Fall of 2023, early feedback showed support for more sports court activations in the West End, such as soccer, basketball, and roller sports;
6. The Park Board received an offer of a donation from 'Art X Sport' to update the mural in Sunset Beach Parking lot and to renew and expand the sports courts;
7. By activating the Sunset Beach sports pad, we can provide more opportunities for residents to engage in physical activity, particularly in sports like basketball, soccer, and roller hockey. These sports are popular and accessible to people of all ages and income levels. Such inclusivity aligns with the City of Vancouver's healthy community strategy and its commitment to promoting active living among its residents, and is inline with Sunset Beach as a designated quiet beach;
8. In addition to sports activities, the Sunset Beach sports pad offers an opportunity to combine sport activations with other activation projects such as a mural project and other arts and community activations;
9. The Sunset Beach sports pad is an ideal location for an Art X Sport activation project. The central location and proximity to public transportation make it easily accessible to residents from various parts of the city. The proximity to the beach, seawall, and water also would add to the overall appeal of a multi-pronged activation. It would provide a unique and enjoyable experience for both players and spectators, attracting visitors from near and far;
10. Local artist, Carling Jackson of Art X Sports, is a professional, award-winning athlete portrait artist who primarily focuses on using contemporary art to effect change and make the world a better place. She was the first sports artist in FIFA history to paint at a World Cup and is the most commissioned artist by athletes in

the world. She has been commissioned to paint over 170 paintings for athletes across 17 leagues and 22 countries; and

11. Given the various community needs for sporting facilities and arts related activations, the potential benefits of activating the Sunset Beach sports pad should be seen as a priority opportunity to accomplish these community objectives in a timely, relatively low cost manner. It is therefore crucial for the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation to prioritize this project.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT the Board directs staff to explore the potential donation of an art mural and work with the 'Art X Sport' group to activate and renew the existing sports court space at Sunset Beach parking lot with a sport-themed mural, ideally in time for Summer 2024.
- B. THAT staff be directed to explore and facilitate potential funding sources, including from private contributions, sponsorships and the city, to advance a temporary 'pop up sports activation' space at Sunset Beach parking lot, adjacent to the existing sports court, and to report back on possible scope, costs, timelines, and program ideas with results reported back to the Board in Q12024 for decision.
- C. THAT for staff to work with city staff on the potential of a change of use to allow food and beverage at Sunset Beach parking lot, with accessible, affordable options, following the precedent at Plaza of Nations.

Amendment to the Main Motion

MOVED by Commissioner Christensen

SECONDED by Commissioner Virdi

THAT the following be inserted between A and B:

THAT the Board directs staff to work with user groups and identify stakeholders of the Sunset Beach sports court activation area.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Question on the Main Motion, as Amended

- A. THAT the Board directs staff to explore the potential donation of an art mural and work with the 'Art X Sport' group to activate and renew the existing sports court space at Sunset Beach parking lot with a sport-themed mural, ideally in time for summer 2024.
- B. THAT the Board directs staff to work with user groups and identify stakeholders of the Sunset Beach sports court activation area.
- C. THAT staff be directed to explore and facilitate potential funding sources, including from private contributions, sponsorships and the city, to advance a

temporary 'pop up sports activation' space at Sunset Beach parking lot, adjacent to the existing sports court, and to report back on possible scope, costs, timelines, and program ideas with results reported back to the Board in Q12024 for decision.

- D. THAT for staff to work with city staff on the potential of a change of use to allow food and beverage at Sunset Beach parking lot, with accessible, affordable options, following the precedent at Plaza of Nations.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NOTICE OF MEMBER'S MOTIONS

1. An Inclusive Children's Water Park at Ross Park - Bridging the Gap in South East Vancouver, an Underserved Neighborhood

Commissioner Haer submitted Notice of Motion on the above-noted matter. The motion below may be placed on the Board meeting agenda of October 30, 2023, as a Member's Motion.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation direct staff to construct an inclusive children's water park at Ross Park, Vancouver, as a crucial step towards bridging the recreational gap in this underserved neighbourhood.
- B. THAT staff thoughtfully design the water park to ensure accessibility for children of all abilities, including those with physical, sensory, or cognitive challenges. It should feature water play elements that engage and stimulate children's senses, providing a safe and enjoyable space for everyone to come together. The inclusive children's water park at Ross Park will not only enhance the quality of life for local children but also create a focal point for community gatherings and activities, fostering a sense of pride and unity among the residents.
- C. THAT staff ensure the project will be undertaken with community engagement at its core, seeking input and feedback from the residents of South East Vancouver, community organizations and local stakeholders to incorporate their ideas and preferences into the park's design to ensure the project's success and sustainability.
- D. THAT staff work with Vancouver City Council to allocate adequate funds and resources to initiate the planning, design, and construction of the inclusive children's water park at Ross Park.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ENQUIRIES

A Board member requested an update on pace of transition away from gas and diesel powered equipment to electric powered equipment with respect to leaf blowers, lawn care machinery, and urban forestry tools.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

The Board adjourned at 8:31 pm.

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Steve Jackson
Acting General Manager

Commissioner Scott Jensen
Chair