



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 27, 2023

A Regular meeting of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation was held on Monday, November 27, 2023, at 8:56 pm, in the Boardroom at the Park Board Office.

PRESENT:

Commissioner Scott Jensen, Chair
Commissioner Brennan Bastyovanszky, Vice Chair
Commissioner Laura Christensen*
Commissioner Tom Digby
Commissioner Jas Viridi

ABSENT:

Commissioner Angela Haer (Medical Leave)
Commissioner Marie-Claire Howard (Medical Leave)

GENERAL MANAGER'S OFFICE:

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

* *Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.*

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 Digby

SECONDED by Commissioner Bastyovanszky

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:

(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;

(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

Absent: Commissioner Christensen

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Special and Regular Board Meetings – October 30, 2023

MOVED by Commissioner Digby

SECONDED by Commissioner Bastyovanszky

THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of October 30, 2023, be approved;

FURTHER THAT the Regular Board meeting of October 30, 2023, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Absent: Commissioner Christensen

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair highlighted the participation of Commissioners at Park Board events since the previous Board meeting on October 30, 2023:

- South Korean Delegation Visit – Commissioners welcomed a delegation from Sejong City in South Korea.
- BCOHRC Mural Launch – Chair Jensen and Commissioner Christensen attended the BC Office of the Human Rights Commissioner Mural Launch at Britannia Community Centre.
- Stanley Park Train Donor Recognition – Commissioners, City Councillors, and Mayor Sim attended the Donor Recognition Event for the Stanley Park Train.
- Marpole Community Centre Groundbreaking Ceremony – Commissioners and City Councillors attended the Marpole Community Centre Groundbreaking Ceremony.
- National Indigenous Veterans Day – Chair Jensen presented a wreath at the National Indigenous Veterans Day Ceremony at Victory Square Park.
- Remembrance Day – Victory Square – Chair Jensen presented a wreath at the Remembrance Day Ceremony at Victory Square Park.
- Remembrance Day – Royal Vancouver Yacht Club – Commissioner Bastyovanszky presented a wreath at the Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club.
- Remembrance Day – Japanese Canadian War Memorial – Commissioner Digby presented a wreath at the Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Japanese Canadian War Memorial in Stanley Park.

- Remembrance Day – Grandview Park – Commissioner Viridi presented a wreath at the Remembrance Day Ceremony at Grandview Park.
- Remembrance Day – Billy Bishop Legion – Commissioner Bastyovanszky attended a Remembrance Day gathering at Billy Bishop Legion in Kitsilano.
- Lumiere Festival – Chair Jensen and Commissioner Digby attended the opening night of the Lumiere Festival, which celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2023.
- Canyon Lights at Capilano Suspension Bridge – Chair Jensen and Commissioner Bastyovanszky attended the opening night of Canyon Lights at Capilano Suspension Bridge Park.
- Oakridge Civic Centre Tour – Commissioners attended a tour of the Civic Centre at Oakridge development.
- Imagine West End Waterfront Open Houses – Chair Jensen and Commissioner Digby attended one of the Imagine West End Waterfront Open Houses.
- 90th Anniversary of the Holodomor – Commissioners and Councillors attended an event recognizing the 90th anniversary of the Holodomor.
- VanDusen Festival of Lights Opening Night – Commissioners attended the opening night of the Festival of Lights at VanDusen Botanical Gardens.
- Trout Lake Bake Knit & Quilt Sale & Pottery Club Sale – Commissioner Christensen attended the Trout Lake Seniors Bake, Knit & Quilt Sale, as well as the Trout Lake Pottery Club Sale.
- Public Engagement at Khalsa Diwan Society – Commissioner Viridi attended a public engagement event at Khalsa Diwan Society in support of the Sunset Neighbourhood Outdoor Amenities project.
- Culture Shift Tour – Chair Jensen and Commissioner Bastyovanszky met with Brock McGillis to discuss the Culture Shift Tour, which encourages the game of hockey to take important strides to be a welcoming place.

COMMUNICATIONS

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

- 12 pieces of correspondence in support of the Member’s Motion titled “Advancing Britannia Renewal”.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

1. Report of the Board Committee – November 27, 2023

The Board considered the report containing recommendations and actions taken by the Board Committee. Its items of business included:

1. Auditor General - Report Back
2. The Great Outdoors Comedy Festival - Special Event
3. LOVELOUD Festival - Special Event
4. Killarney Track & Field Upgrades - Concept Plan

MOVED by Commissioner Digby
SECONDED by Commissioner Bastyovanszky

THAT the Board approve the recommendations and actions taken by the Board Committee at its meeting of November 27, 2023, as contained in items 1 to 4.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
Absent: Commissioner Christensen

STAFF REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

1. Stanley Park Bike Lane & Mobility Study – Update

The Director of Planning and Park Development introduced the item, and the Manager of Planning Policy and Environment, along with the Planner III, provided an update on the [Stanley Park Bike Lane and Mobility Study](#).

Following the presentation, staff responded to questions related to:

- Details and scope of potential access fees for vehicles to enter Stanley Park
- Reduced access fee rates for Leisure Access Pass holders and other low-income visitors
- Consideration of increasing the amount of paved trails in Stanley Park
- Tracking the number of bus tours in Stanley Park
- Coordination efforts between the City of Vancouver and Park Board staff

2. General Manager's Report

Members of the Park Board Leadership Team presented the General Manager's Report, highlighting:

- Recent accolades for VanDusen Botanical Gardens for the Festival of Lights as one of the "Worlds Most Spectacular Holiday Light Displays" by Conde Nast and being recognized as one of Canada's "Top 10 Gardens Worth Travelling For" by the Canadian Garden Council.

- Upcoming Council business related to or impacting parks and recreation:
 - Report titled "2024 Capital and Operating Budget"
- Board briefing memos and emails issued from October 31, 2023 to November 27, 2023.

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At 9:49 pm Commissioner Christensen joined the meeting.

At 9:49 pm, it was

MOVED by Commissioner Digby
SECONDED by Commissioner Bastyovanszky

THAT the meeting extend past 10 pm in order to complete the business on the agenda.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY

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MEMBERS' MOTIONS

1. Advancing Britannia Renewal

Commissioner Digby introduced the motion and responded to questions.

MOVED by Commissioner Digby
SECONDED by Commissioner Christensen

- A. THAT the Board affirms its commitment to advancing Britannia Renewal planning and holding in high regard the community vision developed to date for the Grandview Woodland and Strathcona/Kiwassa area;

FURTHER THAT the Board recognizes that full funding is not currently available for the 2018 Britannia Renewal Masterplan;

AND FURTHER THAT despite the funding challenges, the Board affirms its commitment to working with City of Vancouver, Vancouver School Board, Vancouver Public Library, and Britannia Community Services Centre Society (BCSCS) to achieve the Britannia Renewal goals.

- B. THAT the Board directs staff to report back in Q2 2024 with a revised high level plan for Britannia Renewal, in parallel with the corresponding City of Vancouver report now underway, to include:
- i. The amount of funding allocated for Britannia Renewal in previous Capital Plans (2015-18; 2019-2022), confirming the amount remaining for the purpose of Britannia Renewal, is approximately \$17.4m, and identifying

- the categories of spending permitted (e.g. new construction versus renovation; design versus implementation);
- ii. A schedule of planned spending for repairs and enhancements of Britannia Pool and Fitness Centre, Britannia Rink and Britannia Community Centre facilities over the next 5 years;
 - iii. Re-assessment of capital planning for replacement of indoor swimming pools scheduled in VanSplash to include the Britannia Pool and Fitness Centre, and continuation of the associated Park Board funded planning process;
 - iv. Re-assessment of the replacement of skating rinks scheduled in the VanPlay 2040 Asset Targets to include renewal of the Britannia Rink;
 - v. Working with the City of Vancouver and its commitment to BCSCS for renewal of the Britannia Community Centre facilities;
 - vi. Considerations that might support disentanglement of responsibilities for the Britannia Renewal between the City of Vancouver, Vancouver School Board, the BCSCS, and this Board, and
 - vii. Continued respect for the autonomy of the BCSCS.
- C. THAT the Board directs staff to engage with Provincial partners including but not limited to Ministries of Finance, Housing, Children and Family Development, Education and Childcare, Municipal Affairs, Social Development and Poverty Reduction, and Britannia-adjacent MLAs, as well as Federal partners including but not limited to the area-adjacent MPs and the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program and Pacific Economic Development Canada program for funding opportunities and potential partnerships to prioritize and advance the Britannia Renewal.

Amendment to the Main Motion

MOVED to Commissioner Bastyovanszky
SECONDED by Commissioner Digby

THAT the motion be struck and replaced with the following:

- A. THAT the Board affirms its commitment to advancing Britannia Renewal planning and holding in high regard the community vision developed to date for the Grandview Woodland and Strathcona/Kiwassa area;

FURTHER THAT the Board recognizes that full funding is not currently available for the 2018 Britannia Renewal Masterplan;

AND FURTHER THAT the Board affirms its commitment to working with City of Vancouver, Vancouver School Board, Vancouver Public Library, and Britannia

Community Services Centre Society (BCSCS) to achieve Britannia Renewal goals.

- B. THAT the Board directs staff to report back with a revised high level plan for Britannia Renewal, in parallel with the corresponding City of Vancouver report now underway, to include the amount of funding allocated for Britannia Renewal in previous Capital Plans (2015-18; 2019-2022), and identifying the categories of spending permitted (e.g. new construction versus renovation; design versus implementation).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Abstained: Commissioner Viridi

Question on the Main Motion, as amended

- A. THAT the Board affirms its commitment to advancing Britannia Renewal planning and holding in high regard the community vision developed to date for the Grandview Woodland and Strathcona/Kiwassa area;

FURTHER THAT the Board recognizes that full funding is not currently available for the 2018 Britannia Renewal Masterplan;

AND FURTHER THAT the Board affirms its commitment to working with City of Vancouver, Vancouver School Board, Vancouver Public Library, and Britannia Community Services Centre Society (BCSCS) to achieve Britannia Renewal goals.

- B. THAT the Board directs staff to report back with a revised high level plan for Britannia Renewal, in parallel with the corresponding City of Vancouver report now underway, to include the amount of funding allocated for Britannia Renewal in previous Capital Plans (2015-18; 2019-2022), and identifying the categories of spending permitted (e.g. new construction versus renovation; design versus implementation).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Abstained: Commissioner Viridi

2. Beach Chair & Umbrella Rental Service

As Commissioner Haer was not present to introduce the motion, it was,

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen

SECONDED by Commissioner Christensen

THAT the Member's Motion titled "Beach Chair & Umbrella Rental Service" be deferred to the Regular Board meeting on December 11, 2023.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NOTICE OF MEMBERS' MOTIONS

1. All-Inclusive and Accessible Sensory Park

Commissioner Virdi submitted Notice of Motion on the above-noted matter. The motion below may be placed on the Board meeting agenda of December 11, 2023, as a Member's Motion.

- A. THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation commit to the planning, development, and construction of Vancouver's first inclusive and accessible sensory park, designed to accommodate the unique needs and preferences of neurodiverse children, those with Autism Spectrum Disorder, and those with mobility challenges;
- B. THAT the sensory park's design shall accommodate and prioritize, but not be limited to, the following features in accordance with best design practices:
 - Sensory-rich play zones that stimulate various senses, including touch, sight, sound, and smell, while ensuring comfort and sensory-friendly experiences for children, particularly children with autism.
 - Inclusive and accessible sensory equipment and elements designed to be usable by children of all abilities, including those in wheelchairs.
 - Accessible pathways, ramps, and surfacing to ensure safe and easy mobility for children with mobility challenges
- C. THAT staff be directed to identify and recommend an optimal location for an inclusive and accessible sensory park, taking into account existing parks that may be up for renewal and/or new park development opportunities that may arise or be currently contemplated;
- D. THAT staff be directed to explore a diversity of funding sources, including but not limited to the Park Board and City capital budgets, government grants, private donations, corporate partnerships, and community fundraising, in order to secure the necessary financial resources for this project;
- E. THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation and Park Board staff shall actively seek community and key stakeholder input on the vision outlined in this motion for an inclusive and accessible sensory park project, including feedback from parents, caregivers, and organizations that represent children with autism such as the Pacific Autism Family Network (PAFN), and those with mobility challenges, to ensure that the sensory park's design is inclusive and responsive to the community's needs, and

FURTHER THAT staff be directed to engage with, and potentially partner with, relevant organizations that specialize in designing inclusive and accessible sensory experiences to facilitate the successful implementation of this flagship project;

- F. THAT staff be directed to update the Board, the public, and all relevant stakeholders on the progress of the project on a regular basis and not less than once per year, to see their ongoing input and feedback throughout the project development process.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ENQUIRIES

None.

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Motion to Suspend the Rules

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen
SECONDED by Commissioner Digby

THAT the Board suspend section 2.1 of the Procedure By-law, which states that the Chair and Vice-Chair elections are to take place at the final meeting in December.

CARRIED BY THE
REQUIRED MAJORITY
Opposed: Commissioner Virdi

Following the vote, Commissioner Virdi called a Point of Order requesting clarity on the required majority. The Meeting Clerk advised the 2/3 majority required for suspending a rule applies to Commissioners present, per section 1.3 of the Procedure By-law.

At this point in the proceedings, the General Manager assumed the role of Chair.

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ELECTION OF BOARD CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR – 2024 TERM

1. Election of 2024 Board Chair

As set forth in the Park Board's Procedure By-law, the General Manager, acting as Chair, called for nominations for Chair of the Board for the 2024 term.

Commissioner Jensen moved, and Commissioner Christensen seconded, the nomination of Commissioner Bastyovanszky as Chair of the Board for 2024; Commissioner Bastyovanszky accepted the nomination.

The General Manager called for additional nominations. There being no further nominations, the General Manager declared nominations for the Chair of the Board closed.

The General Manager announced Commissioner Bastyovanszky as Chair of the Board for 2024, by acclamation.

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At this point in the proceedings, Commissioner Jensen, resumed the role of Chair.

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2. Election of 2024 Board Vice-Chair

The Chair called for nominations for Vice-Chair of the Board for the 2024 term.

Commissioner Bastyovanszky moved, and Commissioner Digby seconded, the nomination of Commissioner Jensen as Vice-Chair of the Board for 2024; Commissioner Jensen accepted the nomination.

The Chair called for additional nominations. There being no further nominations, the Chair declared nominations for the Vice-Chair of the Board closed.

The Chair announced Commissioner Jensen as Vice-Chair of the Board for 2024, by acclamation.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR – 2024 TERM

1. Election of 2024 Committee Chair

The Chair called for nominations for Chair of the Committee for the 2024 term.

Commissioner Bastyovanszky moved, and Commissioner Jensen seconded, the nomination of Commissioner Christensen as Chair of the Committee for 2024; Commissioner Christensen accepted the nomination.

The Chair called for additional nominations. There being no further nominations, the Chair declared nominations for the Chair of the Committee closed.

The Chair announced Commissioner Christensen as Chair of the Committee for 2024, by acclamation.

2. Election of 2024 Committee Vice-Chair

The Chair called for nominations for Vice-Chair of the Committee for the 2024 term.

Commissioner Bastovanszky moved, and Commissioner Digby seconded, the nomination of Commissioner Viridi as Vice-Chair of the Committee for 2024; Commissioner Viridi did not accept the nomination.

Commissioner Bastovanszky moved, and Commissioner Christensen seconded, the nomination of Commissioner Digby as Vice-Chair of the Committee for 2024; Commissioner Digby did not accept the nomination.

Commissioner Christensen moved, and Commissioner Bastovanszky seconded, the nomination of Commissioner Jensen as Vice-Chair of the Committee for 2024; Commissioner Jensen accepted the nomination.

The Chair called for additional nominations. There being no further nominations, the General Manager declared nominations for the Vice-Chair of the Committee closed.

The Chair announced Commissioner Jensen as Vice-Chair of the Committee for 2024, by acclamation.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

The Board adjourned at 10:11 pm.

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Steve Jackson
General Manager

Commissioner Scott Jensen
Chair