



## REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 24, 2024

A Regular meeting of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation was held on Monday, September 24, 2024, at 7:36 pm, in the Boardroom at the Park Board Office.

**PRESENT:**

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

**ABSENT:**

Commissioner Angela Haer  
Commissioner Marie-Claire Howard

**GENERAL MANAGER'S OFFICE:**

Steve Jackson, General Manager  
Denise Swanston, Manager, Board Relations & Meeting Clerk  
Connie Law, Board Support and Meeting Assistant  
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 Jensen  
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:

- (d) the security of the property of the city;
- (f) law enforcement, if the Council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the conduct of an investigation under or enforcement of an enactment;
- (g) litigation or potential litigation affecting 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;

(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;

FURTHER 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(2) of the Vancouver Charter, to discuss matters related to paragraph:

(b) the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the city and a provincial government or the federal government or both, or between a provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

### **1. Regular Board Meeting – September 9, 2024**

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen

SECONDED by Commissioner Christensen

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board meeting of September 9, 2024, 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 9, 2024:

- Commissioner Jensen attended the Car Free Day event alongside VSB Chair Jung.
- Commissioner Jensen visited Gibby's Field, and Commissioner Christensen delivered remarks at its official opening.
- Commissioner Jensen attended the unveiling of The Point on behalf of the Park Board and the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee.
- Commissioner Christensen attended the 2024 Canine Library event at John Hendry Park.
- Commissioner Jensen attended the Childcare Council of Vancouver meeting on September 17 in his role as liaison.

- Commissioners Digby and Haer attended the West Southland Residents Association AGM.
- Chair Bastovanszky and Commissioners Christensen and Jensen attended the Great Outdoors Comedy Festival at Brockton Point.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

No communication related to the meeting agenda was received.

## **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT**

### **1. Report of the Board Committee – September 23 and 24, 2024**

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

1. Revitalizing the Park Board
2. Queen Elizabeth Park Dancing Fountain Repairs - Contract Award
3. Sod Procurement for Sport Field Facilities - Contract Award
4. Rehabilitation of Jericho Pier - Contract Award
5. Improving Disc Golf at Vancouver Parks - Report Back
6. Inclusive and Accessible Sensory Park - Report Back

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen  
SECONDED by Commissioner Digby

THAT the Board approve the recommendations and actions taken by the Board Committee at its meeting of September 23 and 24, 2024, as contained in items 1 to 6.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **STAFF REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS**

### **1. General Manager's Report**

The General Manager [presented](#) the General Manager's Report, highlighting:

- Burrard Slopes Park – Building Deconstruction – The four existing buildings on the future Burrard Slopes Park site are to be removed this fall, with deconstruction work expected to be completed in spring 2025.
- Daylighting of Canyon Creek at Spanish Banks Beach Park (West Extension) – Update - Following project site signage in February 2024, and two pop-up engagement events in

July, Park Board staff are currently working on tendering services, with a contract award scheduled for October 2024.

- FIFA Training Sites – Temporary Changes at Killarney Park – As part of the FIFA World Cup scheduled for the summer of 2026, upgrades to the Killarney Park north fields will begin in the coming weeks to help facilitate the development of a training Site for the men’s international team players.
- FIFA Training Sites – Public Outreach at Memorial South Park – Upgrades to facilitate the FIFA World Cup 26 Training Site at Memorial South Park will begin in the coming weeks. Staff are planning an in-person information session this fall to communicate the timelines for track and field closures.
- Completion of Musqueam Park Bridge Replacement – A new pedestrian and equestrian bridge has been installed across Musqueam Creek at Musqueam Park. The trail reopened ahead of schedule on September 12.
- Urban Park Activation: Celebrating Art in Andy Livingstone Park – In the summer of 2024, the Big Top Art Tent Artists Collective collaborated with Carnegie Community Centre elders to bring a painting and banner making project to Andy Livingstone Park from June to September.
- Council Agenda Items:
  - Report titled “[Quarterly Capital Budget Adjustments and Closeouts](#)” on September 24, 2024.
- Board briefing [memos and emails](#) issued from September 9, 2024, to September 24, 2024.

## MEMBERS’ MOTIONS

### 1. Preservation and Protection of the Green Space at the Corner of Gore and Union

MOVED by Commissioner Digby

SECONDED by Commissioner Jensen

#### WHEREAS

1. Since 1971 the green space on the east side of Gore Avenue between Keefer and the Union Street bikeway has been a city-owned road right-of-way, with Park Board crews receiving special funding from the city to maintain the space for the benefit of local residents;
2. The green space has been sometimes known locally as everything from “Garbage Park” to “People’s Park”;
3. In 2024, the City changed the title of this property to give management of it to the REFM department;
4. In the spring of 2024, REFM promptly proposed a rezoning of this green space to be paved and put to use as a temporary fire hall; and

5. Currently, as of September 2024, the city has reportedly postponed this action and is seeking alternate locations for a temporary fire hall in the area, which is recognized by many as an urgent need.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT the Board hereby declares its interest and intent to preserve the green space at the northeast corner of Gore/Union, initially under the care and custody of the Park Board, and eventually as a permanent park.
- B. THAT the Board directs staff to report back by Q2 2025 on costs and options for the Park Board to acquire care and custody of the green space at the corner of Gore/Union to maintain it as a public green space.
- C. THAT a copy of this motion shall be sent promptly to the Mayor and Council for them to arrange ways and means to give effect to this interest and intent.

**Motion to Refer**

REFERRAL MOVED by Commissioner Digby  
SECONDED by Commissioner Jensen

THAT the motion entitled "Preservation and Protection of the Green Space at the Corner of Gore and Union" be referred to the Committee meeting on October 7, 2024, to hear from speakers, followed by debate and decision.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

**ENQUIRIES**

Commissioners requested updates related to the following topics:

1. An update on the lighting projects at Kitsilano Secondary School and Hillcrest Mini Field.
2. An update on the status of the Coal Harbour Park playground.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

The Board adjourned at 7:55 pm.

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Steve Jackson  
General Manager

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Commissioner Brennan Bastyovanszky  
Chair