



BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 23 AND 24, 2024

A Committee meeting of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation was held on Monday, September 23, 2024, at 6:42pm, in the Boardroom at the Park Board Office, and via videoconference. Subsequently, the meeting recessed and reconvened on Tuesday, September 24, 2024, at 6:01pm.

PRESENT: Commissioner Laura Christensen, Chair
Commissioner Brennan Bastyovanszky
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 & Meeting Clerk
Jessica Kulchyski, Board Support and Meeting Assistant
(September 23, 2024)
Victoria Tyers, Board Support and Meeting Assistant
(September 24, 2024)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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

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Motion to Suspend the Rules

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen
SECONDED by Commissioner Digby

THAT the Board suspend section 15.1 of the Procedure By-law to allow speakers who requested to speak after the deadline.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Board Committee Meeting – September 9, 2024

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen
SECONDED by Commissioner Digby

THAT the Minutes of the Board Committee meeting on September 9, 2024, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Jensen acknowledged the upcoming National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30.

Commissioner Bastyovanszky expressed gratitude to the volunteers and staff who participated in the International Coastal Cleanup on September 21 along Vancouver's Stanley Park Seawall.

COMMUNICATIONS

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

- Two pieces of correspondence in support of Referred Item 1
- One piece of correspondence addressing other aspects related to Referred Item 1
- 99 pieces of correspondence in support of Item 4

REFERRED ITEMS

1. Revitalizing the Park Board

At the Regular Board meeting on September 9, 2024, the Board referred the following motion to the Committee meeting on September 23, 2024, in order to hear from speakers, followed by debate and decision.

The Committee heard from eighteen speakers in support of the motion.

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Motion to Extend

At 9:30pm, it was,

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen
SECONDED by Commissioner Digby

THAT the meeting extend to the end of agenda item 3.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY

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Subsequently, it was,

MOVED by Commissioner Bastyovanszky
SECONDED by Commissioner Digby

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

- A. THAT the Park Board remains a democratically elected board, directly accountable to the people of Vancouver for a future vision for parks and recreation that is sustainable and inclusive.
- B. THAT the Park Board will work in partnership with the City of Vancouver to secure a new funding formula, improved facilities maintenance and operations management structure, and to reclassify the parks currently listed as "Temporary" to be redesignated as "Permanent" parks, to ensure the financial and operational independence of the elected Park Board and to secure the parks and recreation system for the future.
- C. THAT the Park Board will work with First Nations, the City of Vancouver, Community Centre Associations, park partners, the Province, the Federal Government, and the public to achieve a modernized mandate based on transparency, accountability and a commitment for excellent parks and recreation for the future.
- D. THAT the Park Board will continue the strong commitment to reconciliation and decolonization by working with First Nations for the stewardship and future preservation of Vancouver's green space, parks and recreation facilities.

- E. THAT the Park Board directs staff to develop a collaborative process for broad public consultation with the aim to design and implement a revitalized mandate for an elected Park Board by October 2026.

CARRIED

In favour: Commissioners Bastyovanszky, Christensen, Digby and Jensen

Opposed: Commissioner Viridi

Recess

The meeting recessed at 9:50pm and reconvened at 9:58pm.

STAFF REPORTS

1. Queen Elizabeth Park Dancing Fountain Repairs - Contract Award

The Director of Park Operations responded to questions on [Queen Elizabeth Park Dancing Fountain Repairs - Contract Award](#).

Subsequently it was,

MOVED by Commissioner Bastyovanszky

SECONDED by Commissioner Jensen

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation (“Park Board”) authorize staff to negotiate to the satisfaction of the Park Board’s General Manager, the City of Vancouver’s (the “City”) Director of Legal Services, and the City’s Chief Purchasing Official and enter into a contract with Jacob Bros Construction Inc., for targeted repairs to the Dancing Waters Fountain at Queen Elizabeth Park, with an estimated contract value of \$1,225,823.00 (includes PST), plus applicable taxes (GST), to be funded through the 2023-2026 Capital Plan.
- B. THAT the City’s Chief Purchasing Official and Park Board’s General Manager be authorized to execute on behalf of the Park Board the contract contemplated by A above.
- C. THAT no legal rights or obligations will be created by the Park Board’s adoption of A and B above, unless and until such contract is executed by the authorized signatories of the City as set out in A through C of the Report dated September 13, 2024, entitled “Queen Elizabeth Park Dancing Fountain Repairs - Contract Award”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Sod Procurement for Sport Field Facilities - Contract Award

The Director of Park Planning & Development, along with the Landscape Architect of Park Development, responded to questions on the [Sod Procurement for Sport Field Facilities - Contract Award](#).

Subsequently it was,

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen
SECONDED by Commissioner Bastyovanszky

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation ("Park Board") authorize staff to negotiate to the satisfaction of the Park Board's General Manager, the City of Vancouver's (the "City") Director of Legal Services, and the City's Chief Purchasing Official and enter into a contract with Northwest Turf Solutions, Inc., for the supply of sod turf, for a term of approximately 22 months, with the option to extend the contract at the Park Board's discretion, with an estimated contract value of \$792,750.00 plus applicable taxes over the initial 22 month term, to be funded through the FWC26 Capital Budget for training sites.
- B. THAT the City's Chief Purchasing Official and Park Board's General Manager be authorized to execute on behalf of the Park Board the contract contemplated by A above.
- C. THAT no legal rights or obligations will be created by the Park Board's adoption of Recommendations A and B of the Report dated September 18, 2024, entitled "Sod Procurement for Sport Field Facilities - Contract Award" unless and until such contract is executed by the authorized signatories of the City as set out in these A through C of the Report dated September 18, 2024, entitled "Sod Procurement for Sport Field Facilities - Contract Award".

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Rehabilitation of Jericho Pier - Contract Award

The Associate Director of Park Development, along with the Civil Engineer of Park Development, were present to respond to questions on [Rehabilitation of Jericho Pier - Contract Award](#).

Staff responded to questions related to replacement of piles, sustainability, value and related policy.

Subsequently it was,

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen
SECONDED by Commissioner Bastyovanszky

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation (“Park Board”) authorize staff to negotiate to the satisfaction of the Park Board’s General Manager, the City of Vancouver’s (the “City”) Director of Legal Services, and the City’s Chief Purchasing Official and enter into a contract with Blue Water Systems Ltd, for the rehabilitation of Jericho Pier, for a term of approximately 8 months, with the option to extend the contract at the Park Board’s discretion, with an estimated contract value of \$1,071,837.21, plus applicable taxes over the initial 8 month term, to be funded through the 2023-2026 Capital Plan.
- B. THAT the City’s Chief Purchasing Official and Park Board’s General Manager be authorized to execute on behalf of the Park Board the contract contemplated by A above.
- C. THAT no legal rights or obligations will be created by the Park Board’s adoption of A and B above unless and until such contract is executed by the authorized signatories of the City as set out in A through C of the Report dated September 12, 2024, entitled “Rehabilitation of Jericho Pier - Contract Award”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

In favour: Commissioners Bastyovanszky, Christensen, Jensen and Viridi

Abstained: Commissioner Digby

Recess

The Committee meeting recessed on Monday, September 23, 2024, at 10:10pm and reconvened on Tuesday, September 24, 2024, at 6:01pm.

4. Improving Disc Golf at Vancouver Parks - Report Back

The Director of Park Planning & Development introduced the item and the Associate Director of Planning Policy & Environment, along with the Planner of Planning Policy & Environment, were present to respond to questions on [Improving Disc Golf at Vancouver Parks - Report Back](#).

Following the introduction, staff responded to questions related to:

- Prioritization of strategies
- Sport Court Strategy
- Funding
- Staff capacity
- VanPlay
- Disc golf courses
- Public engagement
- Collaboration with users

– Jericho Lands

The Committee heard from four speakers in support of the recommendations.

Subsequently it was,

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen

SECONDED by Commissioner Bastyovanszky

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

- A. THAT the Board approve the scope of work for a disc golf plan as outlined in the Report dated September 12, 2024, titled “Improving Disc Golf at Vancouver Parks - Report Back”.
- B. THAT the Board direct staff to consider this plan as a priority for consideration in the 2025 Service Plan, ahead of other initiatives, including those identified as priorities in VanPlay, subject to approval of the 2025 Service Plan and 2025 capital budget.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Inclusive and Accessible Sensory Park - Report Back

The Associate Director of Park Development, along with the Project Manager of Park Development, presented an overview on [Inclusive and Accessible Sensory Park - Report Back](#).

Following the presentation, staff responded to questions related to donations, funding and destination playgrounds.

Subsequently it was,

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen

SECONDED by Commissioner Virdi

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to proceed with posting a public Request for Proposals seeking consulting services for the concept design of an Inclusive Destination Playground and Splash Pad at Memorial South Park.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Committee meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm.

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Steve Jackson
General Manager

Commissioner Laura Christensen
Chair



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

Commissioner Brennan Bastyovanszky
Chair