

MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD IN THE PARK BOARD OFFICE
ON MONDAY, JULY 29, 1996

PRESENT:	Chair	- David Chesman
	Vice-Chair	- Alan Fetherstonhaugh
	Commissioners	- Allan DeGenova
		- Tim Louis
		- Donna Morgan
		- Duncan Wilson
		- Vic Kondrosky
	General Manager	
	Director of Administrative & Revenue Services	- Philip Josephs
	Director of Finance	- Doug Holden
	Director of Operations	- Liane McKenna
	Director of Planning	- Jim Lowden
	Director of Recreation	- Allan Argent
	A/Manager - Public Affairs	- Carol DeFina
	Recording Secretary	- Julie Chiu

The Chair advised the Board that Commissioner Ashford was away on personal business.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on Monday, July 22, 1996 were adopted as circulated.

PLANNING/ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES/OPERATIONS

Redevelopment of Lower Zoo Area

Board members received copies of a staff report dated July 18, 1996 recommending that the Board approve the concept plan attached to the report, for the restoration of the former Lower Zoo and Lumberman's Arch picnic areas.

Clive Justice, Friends of Stanley Park, appeared before the Board and stated that they were pleased to see that the concept plan called for the restoration of the stream and pond system and the removal of 1.8 acres of asphalt paving. Mr. Justice stated that they were not in favour of using recycled water from the Aquarium for the salmon interpretation program. The Friends of Stanley Park recommended that the Board engage a consultant to design a major family and children's playground based on a forest theme, the streams, ponds and streamside be in accordance with the concept plan, but without kiosks or other structures of a commercial nature.

Annelise Sorg, No Whales in Captivity, stated that she agreed with the comments of Friends of Stanley Park. The salmon interpretation program is another of the Aquarium's expansion plans. The salmon will not be able to come back and spawn and she is concerned about the water quality in Coal Harbour. Ms. Sorg stated that she was also concerned with the tax payer's money going toward an aquarium expansion. The lower zoo area should be returned to green space.

Dr. John Nightingale, Vancouver Aquarium, appeared before the Board and stated that the Aquarium endorses the salmon interpretation program. It would provide a larger volume movement of pedestrian traffic with less environmental damage as it would be the key point for pedestrian circulation. The stream is part of a natural landscaping plan for the lower zoo area, whether the stream has salmon or not, however, the Aquarium was interested to tell the story of how the loss of spawning habitat has caused the decline in the salmon population. Restoring some of the spawning habitat is the key to rebuilding the runs of pacific salmon. The Aquarium is prepared to participate in the designing of the stream once the plan is approved.

Gerry O'Neil, AAA Horse and Carriage, appeared before the Board and stated that according to the plans for the redevelopment of the lower zoo area his business could be affected adversely. Mr. O'Neil was concerned that the proposed pick-up zone may be impractical.

Eleanor Hadley appeared before the Board and stated that the staff report was deceptive. Ms. Hadley stated that the Board should spend money on cleaning up Stanley Park and not in building an artificial stream. It seems everything is in conjunction with the Aquarium. Ms. Hadley stated that she was opposed to creating artificial streams in Stanley Park when there is not enough room for pedestrians and cyclists.

Jo Wodz, Painters Corner, appeared before the Board and stated that she was not a representative of the Artists in Painters Corner. Each of the artists should receive a copy of the report individually. Ms. Wodz stated that the primary reason there was a cost to the permit was toward maintenance of the park, however, it does not seem that this is being done. The painters would like to be relocated when construction begins.

Board members discussed the matter and Commissioner DeGenova requested staff to look into the complaint of the stench in the painters' corner. Commissioner Morgan stated that extending an artificial stream for a salmon enhancement program should not be a first priority. There are a number of environmental questions that need to be answered. Commissioner Morgan stated that it would good to also look at a forest/adventure theme for the children's playground. The

staff report has been sent to those with specific interests in the park, but not the general public. This is a matter that needs more discussion. Commissioner Louis stated that there is agreement that the redundant asphalt will be removed, staff should be instructed to begin this work. The balance of the concept plan should be sent to a public meeting.

Moved by Commissioner Louis,

THAT the Board instruct staff to proceed with the removal of redundant asphalt and return it to green space at a cost not to exceed \$100,000.

-DEFEATED

(Commissioners Chesman, DeGenova, Fetherstonhaugh and Wilson contrary)

Commissioner Wilson stated that the plan as presented in the staff report was a good one. Public meetings cost a lot of money with very few people attending them. Commissioner Morgan stated that there have been successful and well attended public meetings. This is an environmental issue and more information is required. Commissioner Morgan stated that item 4 should be amended to indicate that it be based on a forest adventure/naturalistic theme as it be a good use to the existing space. Commissioner Chesman stated that this is a concept plan, details of which could change. Commissioner Chesman stated that he could support an amendment to direct staff to consider a forest/adventure type playground. Commissioner Morgan stated that she is not directing the location of the playground except that it should follow this theme.

Moved by Commissioner Morgan,

THAT item 4 of the plan objectives be amended to add the words "based on a forest adventure/naturalistic theme".

-DEFEATED.

(Commissioners Chesman, DeGenova, Fetherstonhaugh and Wilson contrary)

Moved by Commissioner Morgan,

THAT this matter be deferred until after a public meeting is held.

-DEFEATED.

(Commissioners Chesman, DeGenova, Fetherstonhaugh and Wilson contrary)

Commissioner Chesman stated that the most significant aspect of the plan is the removal of the 1.8 acres of current asphalt in favour of green space. The park has been a victim of ad hoc planning through the years. This plan tries to incorporate a rational plan for the lower zoo area. The reclaiming of the stream is a good idea, the salmon is not a big motivator. Commissioner Chesman stated that he had been critical

of the Aquarium because they have not co-operated with the Board to the extent that they ought to have. However, he is pleased to note that the Aquarium is now endorsing a plan which takes away parking from the Aquarium and will prevent the expansion of the whale pool. Commissioner Chesman stated that one of his goals when he took the Chair in 1994 was to have the Board assume an environmental leadership role. A plan which evisages a measure of salmon enhancement in one of the largest municipal parks is a useful endeavour. The approval of this plan will move the this park toward green space and answering the environmental leadership question.

Moved by Commissioner DeGenova,

THAT the Board approve the concept plan attached to the staff report dated July 18, 1996 for the restoration of the former Lower Zoo and Lumberman's Arch picnic areas.

-Carried.

(Commissioners Louis and Morgan contrary)

Lions Gate Crossing

The following motion was put forward by Commissioner Chesman at the Board's meeting of July 22, 1996 as a follow-up to the presentation by Tom Nichols, President, Save Our Parkland Association.

Moved by Commissioner Chesman,

WHEREAS the Provincial Government is in the process of preparing a short list of options for a refurbished Lions Gate Bridge, the Vancouver Park Board would like to reiterate and expand on portions of its resolution of April 11, 1994, as follows:

THAT the Board is absolutely opposed to any Lions Gate crossing that would require or result in either the expansion of the right-of-way through Stanley Park or any compromise of Lost Lagoon, including a 4-lane surface roadway.

THAT the Board would favour any crossing option that

would result in the elimination of vehicular traffic through Stanley Park and a return of the current right-of-way to traditional use. A bored tunnel is the only acceptable way of achieving a widened roadway through the park.

-Carried Unanimously.

RECREATION SERVICES

Skateboard Facility Under Burrard Street Bridge

Board members received copies of a staff report dated July 24, 1996 recommending that the Board defer a decision on capital funding of a skateboard facility under Burrard Street Bridge pending the results of community consultation process with the surrounding community.

Moved by Commissioner Wilson,

THAT the Board request Council to include a potential skateboard park under the umbrella of the City's self-insurance plan and,

THAT upon affirmative notification from Council the Board authorise a community consultation process for a skateboard park under the Burrard Street Bridge and,

THAT upon the successful result of the foregoing that the Board consider including \$25,000 from the next Capital Plan for this facility.

Aaron Orlando, Vancouver Skateboarding Association, appeared before the Board and stated that they are working toward the development of a skateboard park. Mr. Orlando asked the Board to include \$25,000 in the Capital Plan, to delegate a staff member to work with the group until a park is developed and to take steps to secure a lease of the property. Mr. Orlando advised the Board that there is a great need for a skateboard park and hoped that issues such as risk management could be worked out.

Board members discussed the matter and Commissioner Morgan suggested that the Board work with the group to put together a brief to risk management for submission to Council. Commissioner Wilson stated that this could be added to the motion.

The motion now reads as follows:

THAT the Board work with the group represented by Aaron Orlando, Vancouver Skateboarding Association, to put together a brief to risk management, for a request to Council to include a potential skateboard park under the umbrella of the City's self insurance plan,
and;

THAT upon affirmative notification from Council the Board authorise a community consultation process for a skateboard park under the Burrard Street Bridge,
and;

THAT upon the successful results of the foregoing, the Board consider including \$25,000 from the next capital plan for this facility.

-Carried Unanimously.

NON-COMMITTEE REPORT ITEM

CUPE Local 15

Representatives from CUPE Local 15 appeared before the Board regarding contracting out food services at the golf courses. They were concerned with the quality of service. They were concerned that tenders have been called to manage these operations without any discussion between management and CUPE 15. A financial and operational report is yet to be received by the union. It is important to know where the problems are perceived to be before developing proposals for improvement and changes in the delivery of service. It is not the intention of CUPE 15 to bid on their own jobs, however, in order to present the Board with a comprehensive case for maintaining the service in house it is imperative that they examine a copy of the operational and financial report, as well as the bids received from the contractors.

Board members discussed the matter and Commissioner Louis enquired why the union was not advised. The General Manager advised the Board that another union representative was advised of this matter and reports and other financial statements were handed over to them. However, if the union requires further copies, these will be provided. The tenders were opened in public and pertinent information read out at the time of the opening is the only information that can be provided. Commissioner Morgan stated that whatever information was made public at the tender opening should be made available to the union.

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PLANNING/ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES/OPERATIONS

Fraserview Clubhouse - Appointment of Architect

Commissioner Chesman left the room on a potential conflict of interest.

Board members received copies of a staff report dated July 25, 1996 recommending that the Board appoint the firm of Matsuzaki Wright Architects Inc. as architects for the Fraserview Clubhouse.

Moved by Commissioner DeGenova,

- A. THAT the Board appoint the firm of Matsuzaki Wright Architects Inc. as architects for the Fraserview Clubhouse,
- B. THAT no legal rights shall arise hereby, and none shall arise until execution of the contemplated contract. The Board may rescind this resolution at any time up to the execution of the contemplated contract.

-Carried.

(Commissioners Louis and Morgan contrary)

INCOME OPERATIONS/MARKETING/PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Corporate Sponsorship - Coffee Award

Board members received copies of a staff report dated July 16, 1996 recommending that the Board award a five year contract to Blenz Coffee Ltd for the exclusive supply of coffee; that Blenz Coffee Ltd pay the Board an annual rights fee of \$15,000 in 1997, \$15,000 in 1998, \$15,000 in 1999, \$18,000 in 2000, \$18,000 in 2001 for a total of \$81,000. Commissioner Morgan stated that this was merging corporate sponsorship with a tendering process, where a competitive price of the coffee could offset the rights fee. Commissioner Morgan asked the Board to defer this matter for further analysis as we could be doing ourselves a financial disservice.

Moved by Commissioner Wilson,

1. THAT the Board award a five year contract to Blenz Coffee Ltd. for the exclusive supply of coffee;
2. THAT Blenz Coffee Ltd. pay the Board an annual rights fee of \$15,000 in 1997, \$15,000 in 1998, \$15,000 in 1999, \$18,000 in 2000, \$18,000 in 2001 for a total of \$81,000;
3. THAT no legal rights shall be created by passage of these resolutions and none shall arise hereafter except by the signing of the contemplated document.

-Carried.

(Commissioners Louis and Morgan contrary)

RECREATION SERVICES

West Point Grey Little League Proposals

Commissioner Chesman returned to the meeting at this point.

Board members received copies of a staff report dated July 17, 1996 recommending that the Board approve the construction of a permanent batting cage in the NE corner of West Point Grey park.

Moved by Commissioner Wilson,

THAT the Board approve the construction of a permanent batting cage in the NE corner of West Point Grey Park with all arrangements to the satisfaction of the General Manager.

-Carried Unanimously.

Leisure Access Card Program - Application Procedures & Benefits Changes

Board members received copies of a staff report dated July 18, 1996 recommending that the Board receive for information the attached report regarding new Leisure Access application procedures and benefits for residents with limited incomes who do not receive income assistance.

Moved by Commissioner Wilson,

THAT this matter be deferred to the next meeting of the Board.

-Carried Unanimously.

ENQUIRIES

Commissioner Wilson advised the Board that there was an incident with discrimination on the part of one of our staff members. This was done inadvertently due to the newness of this employee and lack of familiarity of how our staff would normally deal with this situation. Joslin Kobyłka, Manager, Central Recreation Services will draft a letter to the two individuals for the Chair's signature.

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Approval of Warrants
Warrant #30 in the amount of \$417,245.20.
2. Park Board Capital and Operating Accounts - Budget Transfer
Staff information report dated July 22, 1996 was mailed to Board members.

V. Kondrosky
General Manager

Commissioner David Chesman
Chair

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