

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD IN THE PARK BOARD OFFICE
ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 09, 1996**

PRESENT:	Vice Chair	- Alan Fetherstonhaugh
	Commissioners	- David Chesman
		- Allan DeGenova
		- Laura McDiarmid
		- Patrick Warren
		- Gabriel Yong
	General Manager	- Vic Kondrosky
	Director of Administrative & Revenue Services	- Philip Josephs
	Director of Operations	- Liane McKenna
	Director of Planning	- Jim Lowden
	Manager - Park development	- Nancy McLean
	Manager - Public Affairs	- Terri Clark
	Recording Secretary	- Julie Chiu

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The of the regular meeting of the Board held on Monday, December 2, 1996 were adopted as circulated.

The minutes of the inaugural meeting of the Board held on Monday, December 2, 1996 were adopted as circulated.

COMMISSIONER DUNCAN WILSON

Commissioner Chesman advised the Board that Commissioner Wilson was not at the meeting because he was undergoing facial reconstructive surgery. Commissioner Chesman stated that on Friday, December 6, Commissioner Wilson and two friends were walking home from playing darts in the West End when he was attacked by four teenagers. The police are treating it as a hate crime.

Commissioner Chesman stated this is a man who has for the past three years given everything he had to this City and worked hard to assume the position and honour as Chair of the Park Board but cannot be at the meeting because of a hate crime. This is something we should all reflect on and this action probably tells us how far we are from the kind of society we would prefer to have.

PLANNING/ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES/OPERATIONS

STANLEY PARK WORKS YARD

Board members received copies of a staff report dated November 28, 1996 recommending that the Board approve the conceptual design for the redeveloped Stanley Park service yard as illustrated on Appendix A; and that the Board retain the services of Tusar Architecture Inc. to further the redevelopment design for the Stanley Park works yard site.

Ron Rothwell, Friends of Stanley Park, appeared before the Board and stated that he was concerned with the proposal as it is part of the transportation plan. The report does not address the reforestation option and turning about 2.5 acres into asphalt without a public meeting is premature. The entire process is driven by tourism. All the data quoted were collected during the summer which is irrational. The park should not be designed in that manner. It is clear that special interest and commercial groups had a major impact on this process. A private stakeholders meeting consisted of special interest and commercial group is not a public meeting and the general public has not had the opportunity to provide any input. The stakeholder process is not a public process.

Commissioner DeGenova questioned staff whether the Friends of Stanley Park were advised of the meetings held with the stakeholders. The Director of Planning and Development advised the Board that the Friends of Stanley Park were invited to all the meetings. Commissioner Chesman stated he recalled that when he was Chair he had a private meeting with Jim Harvey and Ron Rothwell of the Friends of Stanley Park regarding the Stanley Park Transportation Plan. He was given to understand that their preference for the Stanley Park Works Yard would be an underground parking lot. Mr. Rothwell agreed that was a possibility. Commissioner Chesman stated that the Friends of Stanley Park are misrepresenting the public process as they were invited to participate in the stakeholders meetings but chose not to.

Dr. John Nightingale, Director, Vancouver Aquarium, stated that on behalf of the stakeholders who have been working over the past two years with the Park Board he supports the staff report regarding the Stanley Park Works Yard. The main focus is to reduce the number of private automobiles in the park and encourage the use of public transit. The introduction of a jitney service will achieve this goal. The carpark would help in the creation of a park and walk program as right now there is nowhere to park.

Moved by Commissioner DeGenova,

- A. THAT the board approve the conceptual design for the redeveloped Stanley Park Service Yard as illustrated on Appendix A.
- B. THAT the Board retain Tusar Architecture Inc. to further the redevelopment design for the Stanley Park Works Yard site, at a cost not exceeding \$64,145.00 plus G.S.T.

Carried Unanimously

ASBESTOS PIPE REMOVAL

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

Board members received copies of a staff report dated December 6, 1996 recommending that the Board award the quote for asbestos pipe removal at Fraserview Golf Course to Industra Thermal Service Corporation.

Moved by Commissioner DeGenova,

THAT the Board award the quote for asbestos pipe removal at Fraserview Golf Course to Industra Thermal Service Corporation in the amount of \$55,130.

Carried Unanimously

NON-COMMITTEE REPORT ITEM

EVERETT CROWLEY PARK

Donna Tilley and Greg Larocque, Everett Crowley Park Committee appeared before the Board and stated that an ecological assessment was done on the park which was funded by Environment Canada. This project was instrumental in rekindling community interest. A workshop was held in October and the Park committee came up with a mandate which is to encourage stewardship of Everett Crowley Park as an urban wilderness. From that workshop five committees were struck with chairs and co-chairs working on park maintenance, recreation, nature education and appreciation, habitat rehabilitation and the larger ecological context of other groups and agencies being involved in the redevelopment and enhancement of Everett Crowley Park. Ms. Tilley stated that she was pleased that the washrooms at the Fraserview Golf Course will be accessible to park users. She would also ask the Park Board and Engineering Department to put in a 30 K zone to slow the traffic. Ms. Tilley asked the Board to refer to the unanimous motion of 1987 and re-commit itself to preserving the area in its naturalness and any enhancement to achieve this objective. Ms. Tilley introduced Greg Larocque, Parks Canada, who is the manager of continuous learning and diversity programs in Parks Canada heritage. With funding from Vancouver South Lions and assistance from Mr. Larocque the Everett Crowley Park Committee hope to make Everett Crowley Park disabled accessible, not only for those in wheelchairs but also for those with other disabilities.

Commissioner Chesman asked staff to investigate the possibility of a 30K zone as requested by the delegation.

Moved by Commissioner Warren,

THAT this Park Board re-commit itself to the maintenance and preservation of the naturalness of Everett Crowley Park and any steps to enhance its naturalness.

Carried Unanimously

Ms. Tilley thanked the Board and staff for considering the peripheral path system around the Fraserview Golf Course which will allow access to Everett Crowley by a sidewalk on the west side of Kerr Road.

PLANNING/ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES/OPERATIONS

FRASERVIEW GOLF COURSE REDEVELOPMENT, TREE REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT

Board members received copies of a staff report dated November 15, 1996 recommending that the Board approve tree removal at Fraserview Golf Course in accordance with plans to be presented at the meeting.

Moved by Commissioner DeGenova,

THAT the Board approve tree removal at Fraserview Golf Course in accordance with plans to be presented at the meeting for discussion purposes.

Nancy McLean, Park Development Manager, presented the plans for the redevelopment of Fraserview Golf Course. Ms. McLean stated that the environmental consultants looked at the site and recommendations were made which became guidelines for the golf course architect to develop the lines for the course. This information was taken to a public open house which was held in May. There was general support for the plan at the open house. The Board approved the plan in June, 1996. Ms. McLean stated that the water used at this course will be taken from storm water which will be piped across Kerr Road to an irrigation pond supplemented with some city water. This plan will also be daylighting 116 meters of stream. Staff is working with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and Ministry of Environment to work on the criteria of how this can be done. The plan of 1992 which called for the removal of trees has been improved upon by 184 trees. The golf course architect was cognizant of retaining as many trees as possible. There will be a replacement of trees lost on a two for one basis. Information on tree inventory was distributed at the open houses.

Clive Justice, Friends of Stanley Park, advised the Board that he spent a few months in South Estonia and North Poland where he was involved with the design of parks, recreation and nature protection training facilities. One of the criteria for design of golf links in both countries was that there be no major changes to the land form and more importantly that all the trees must remain. It is important to have trees for our health as they help to mitigate the emission of carbon dioxide in the air. Mr. Justice stated that the city regulation requires a development permit for any change to land surface. A tree survey is necessary before a tree can be cut.

Don de Mille, Biologist, stated that the stream was fine for the fish. The plan to daylight the streams is positive. Mr. de Mille stated that the Norcol report was inaccurate.

Will Paulik, Director, Heritage Forests stated that the consultants should be discontinued and save the public money. Allow the community to run the improvements on the golf course and engage in a rehabilitation program.

Ron Rothwell advised the Board that Jim Harvey was ill and would like to read Mr. Harvey's comments. Mr. Harvey's comments urged the Board to save over \$4 million which could be directed into the community centre renewal fund. With the

remaining \$3 million, revitalize the tees, the fairways, the greens and improve the clubhouse. Establish a Fraserview Forest committee dedicated to developing a forest conservation program.

Guy Wera, SPEC stated that grass takes a lot of water and there is a water problem at Fraserview.

Brian Pidcock, Friends of Fraserview Golf Course, stated that he supports the plan for the redevelopment of the Fraserview Golf Course. The original plan was agreed upon in 1992 and public opinion has now changed. He was at the open house in May where he discussed the saving of a particular tree with the golf course architect, but did not see or hear very much opinion regarding the trees from those attending. There was no comment on the trees at the Board meeting in June when the plan was approved.

Bill Nichols, Friends of Fraserview Golf Course, does not want any trees cut down, stop all work now and if necessary contract should be re-negotiated. Enlarge and improve the green area, restore irrigation and provide a perimeter walkway for walkers and joggers. Asked Board to preserve the forest.

Nick Cuff enquired why the excavation has begun in Fraserview Golf Course when the motion for the asbestos pipe removal was approved tonight. Commissioner Chesman advised the delegation that the development plan was approved in June and the motion tonight was to approve a separate contract to remove the asbestos.

Dr. Frederick Bass, a member of the Clouds of Change Task Force. This task force met in 1990 and made a commitment for the city reducing released carbon dioxide. Vancouver is failing in its self assigned goal of holding the carbon dioxide emission at the 1990 level. This involves a major change from what we do with automobiles to what we do with trees. In the 1994 Clouds of Change update it indicated that Fraserview is the largest woodland site. In the status report of the same year it indicated that a management plan for the systematic maintenance of parks and golf course trees does not exist. This would mean that there is no commitment to maintaining a certain number of viable trees in the city. Dr. Bass enquired how the money from the sale of the trees would be spent.

The General Manager advised the Board that the contractor will take the trees as this is included in their contract.

Donna Tilley is in favour of Option 1 which is the least removal of trees. The leaflets which were distributed in the neighbourhood are incorrect. Ms. Tilley stated that the plan included the saving of the clubhouse which will be used for community purposes. Ms. Tilley suggested that signs be posted to keep the public informed.

David Wong it is not too late to re-think. Changing the contract may lose some money. The trees and habitat are educational for children. The trees which are to be removed should be identified.

Helen Spiegelman, Save Our City, is a group of concerned citizens to ensure that the local government is effective and accountable. Ms. Spiegelman stated that they were concerned with the process in the decision making rather than the specific

issues. Ms. Spiegelman stated that the public process conducted by the Park Board around the redevelopment of the Fraserview Golf Course was not effective. The local residents have indicated that they were opposed to the reconfiguration of the golf course but support the repairs.

Laurens van Vliet is a concerned resident and does not want the trees to be cut. Advocates the Friends of Fraserview' s position on a zero tolerance on the cutting o trees. He hopes the plan to develop a perimeter trail along the golf course will go ahead. Be responsible with tax payer' s money.

Derek Lunden, Accessible Golf ' 96, is in favour of the plans to redevelop the golf course. This plan show true leadership and vision. Fraserview will be the only golf course that is fully accessible. The Know No Limits Golf is a reality. Would like the Board to proceed with the plan.

Lee Crowley stated that the redevelopment of the Fraserview Golf Course has some real assets such as turning it back to more of its natural state. Some of the trees are near their life' s end and others are too big to move. There will be more trees planted so that the next generation will not die from the carbon dioxide that will be in the air.

Earl Francis stated that Fraserview Golf Course is 60 years old. The golfers have been paying for this redevelopment since 1993. There are many golfers who are in favour of a longer course. It is unfortunate that some trees will be lost. The plans have been changed many times to save as many trees as possible.

Valerie Jerome stated that at the green congress in Europe information on the percentage of oxygen in the atmosphere was made available. Ms. Jerome stated that according to scientists 15% oxygen would threaten human survival. In 1963 the earth had 21% oxygen and it has fallen to 18%. We need to take care of the trees and particularly preserve the large ones.

Kevin McLaughlin stated that he was concerned with the redevelopment plan , the impact on the forests, both the tree cutting and scrub removal. There is 2 for 1 replanting for the scrub trees that will be removed. It is good to see that the original clubhouse is being saved and he is happy to see the innovative ways of irrigation.

Colin Kelly, Fraser Golf Club, stated that the club has an executive that takes care of the trees. Fraserview is a golf course and not a park. This is the most used golf course and is a source of revenue for the Park Board. This is a competitive market and Fraserview must now compete with other golf courses. The golf course architect has been sensitive to tree removal.

John Green was involved with the process since 1990-91. He was unaware of the meetings in May or June. Mr. Green stated he had hoped that the speaker list from 1991-92 when this process first started could have been referred to and interested people notified. Would like a minimum or no tree removal. Mr. Green stated that he had letters written by twenty children from Cook School who were not in favour of any tree removal.

Sean McEwen has played over thirty years at Fraserview. He does not see the need

to lengthen the course. Mr. McEwen asked the Board to review the design and reduce the number of trees to be cut.

Don Evans a founding member of Friends of Fraserview Golf Course, supports Mr. Bill Nichols statement regarding the Fraserview Golf Course redevelopment.

Peter McLean stated that the golf course was in a terrible shape. The golfers have been paying higher fees for redevelopment and would like the work to proceed. A longer course is needed due to new technology.

Menno Martens was involved with the process from the beginning up until May of this year. The golf course architect has come up with a good plan. The course does not just need more lengths it needs flexibility. The new layout will have four sets of tees which will allow players of various skills to play to their level. The golf club opposed the original plan which was to sell off part of the course for housing. He would like to wish the Board well and would like to see the plan go ahead.

Chris Ensing had to leave, submitted a letter to the Board instead.

Ray Baynes, Director, Heritage Vancouver, stated that they do not want any vegetation removed. Mr. Baynes suggested that the plan could be revised such as the shifting of the tees to save some of the trees.

Maureen Martin stated that this is a golf course for everyone. This is a place to see and experience an old growth forest. Nature produced this beauty and the replacement of trees could not reproduce this beauty.

Isabel Minty the Park Board must respect the park aspect first, golf is recreational which is important too. To cause environmental damage with the outfalls and destroying the heritage for a short term gain will bring a long term loss. We must think about the future generation.

Isabella Brown would like the golf course upgraded with a minimum loss of trees. She wants to have more challenging course, but also wants to save the trees.

Fred Priest is concerned about the ecology, there is a lot of concern over the trees being cut, but the bushes and trees are part of a package. The loss of a natural forest will have a negative impact on wildlife. He is glad to hear that there is an effort to minimize the loss of trees, but needs to an explanation on what is actually being done.

Raymond Wall lives in the area. The golf course could be improved in its exact state. There is no need to expand.

Sid Tan, Sierra Club of British Columbia - Lower Mainland Group, stated that if the Board decides to proceed with the lengthening and widening of the fairways they would recommend the following:

- a. that the removal of native trees and shrubs be minimized wherever possible, including cancelling the westward extensions of Holes 4 and 5.
- b. that the quality of the golfing experience at Fraserview focus more on the

surrounding natural forest, and less on the length of the fairways.

- c. that preservation and enhancement of Vivian Creek be optimized and given close scrutiny by recognized professionals during the planning and development phases.
- d. that wildlife habitat be enhanced through the planting of berry-bearing species, retention of snags where possible, etc.

Robyn Tonello, David Wong read a letter on her behalf.

Jim Neil golfs and walks Fraserview with their dogs. Do not do anything to harm it. This already the busiest golf course. There is no development plan sign at the site. He is against the plan to take out a number of trees. Save the money and use it on other initiatives such as the Killarney Community Centre.

Rick Reed urged Park Board not to cut trees at the Fraserview Golf Course.

Caroline Moore resident of the area. Golfers like the course as it is. The forests will be disturbed for this development.

Commissioner DeGenova withdrew the following motion:

Moved by Commissioner DeGenova.

THAT the Board approve tree removal at Fraserview Golf Course in accordance with plans to be presented at the meeting for discussion purposes.

Moved by Commissioner DeGenova.

THAT the Board approve the tree removal at Fraserview Golf Course in accordance with the plans presented at the meeting subject to:

- i. that an independent consultant be hired to review the wildlife management.
- ii. that Holes 2, 4 and 5 be kept in their existing envelopes to allow the large stand of approximately 120 trees to remain.

Commissioner Yong suggested that representatives of the community be invited to meet with the planning committee to discuss ways to improve on the plan. Commissioner Yong put forwarded an amendment to the motion.

Moved by Commissioner Yong.

THAT the community representatives meet with the planning committee within one month to discuss Commissioner DeGenova' s motion and the results be brought forward to the next meeting of the Board.

(No seconder to the motion)

Board members discussed that matter and Commissioner Warren stated that if there were money to be saved for not cutting some of the trees he would like to see that the money is spent on the site.

Moved by Commissioner Warren.

THAT if there is money saved for not cutting the trees, this money should be put back into park improvements or recreation on the site.

Carried

(Commissioner Yong opposed)

Commissioner Chesman stated that the public process began 2 Park Boards ago. The contracts for the work have been signed. If the Board wish to delay the work, staff should find out what the ramification of the delay would be as he did not want to waste tax payers money for a breach of contract.

Moved by Commissioner Chesman.

THAT Commissioner DeGenova' s motion be deferred to a special meeting on Monday, December 16, 1996 to give staff enough time to discuss with the contractors what the cost and other ramifications might be to delay the redevelopment work at the Fraserview Golf Course by one month.

Carried

(Commissioners Fetherstonhaugh and Warren contrary)

FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION/HUMAN RESOURCES

Contract Awards

Board members received copies of a staff report dated December 3, 1996 recommending that the General Manager be authorized to award contracts in excess of \$50,000 during the Board' s winter break period from December 9, 1996 to January 1997 if required, and in accordance with the conditions as outlined in the report.

Moved by Commissioner Yong.

THAT the General Manager be authorized to award contracts in excess of \$50,000 during the Board' s winter break period from December 9, 1996 to January 6, 1997 if required, and in accordance with the conditions as outlined in the report.

Carried Unanimously

NEW BUSINESS

Moved by Commissioner Fetherstonhaugh.

- A. THAT the Board approve the establishment of the following standing committees; and
- B. THAT staff be requested to prepare detailed procedural guidelines which reflect the changes outlined and submit these guidelines to the Board at the last meeting in January for formal ratification.

Moved by Commissioner DeGenova.

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

Carried Unanimously INFORMATION ITEMS

Approval of Warrants

Warrant #50 in the amount of \$543,642.13, Warrant #51 in the amount of \$336,228.79.