

MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD IN THE PARK BOARD OFFICE
ON MONDAY, JULY 07, 1997

PRESENT: Chair	- Duncan Wilson
Vice-Chair	- Alan Fetherstonhaugh
Commissioners	- Allan DeGenova
	- Laura McDiarmid
	- Patrick Warren
	- Gabriel Yong
General Manager	- Vic Kondrosky
Director of Administrative & Revenue Services	- Philip Josephs
A/Director of Operations	- Ken Spain
Director of Planning	- Jim Lowden
Manager - Public Affairs	- Terri Clark
Manager - Park Acquisition & Research	- Pieter Rutgers
Recording Secretary	- Julie Chiu

The Chairman advised the Board that Commissioner Chesman was out of town on business.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Board held on Monday, June 16, 1997 were adopted as circulated.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Tunnel Watch

The Director of Planning advised the Board that the Province is developing a Request for Expression of Interest which will be a call to any firm which might be interested to build a bridge. These will be reviewed and short-list, following which a formal call for proposal will be made.

Urban Camping Program

Commissioner Wilson advised the Board that he was informed by Sandy McCormick of the School Board that as of today, the Forest Alliance of BC has agreed to fully fund the Urban Camping Program in Stanley Park both for Capital and Annual Operating cost.

PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Hastings Park, PNE Lease Extension

Board members received an Administrative report dated June 11, 1997 from the General Managers of Parks and Recreation and Community Services to City Council and Park Board recommending that staff recommendations A to D be approved.

Pieter Rutgers, Manager of Park Acquisition and Research advised the Board that on April 28, 1997 Council adopted a motion to extend the PNE lease subject to achieving an agreement on transitional park development among the PNE, City and the Park Board. The transitional park development park plan will consist of two phases. In the first phase the Swine and Poultry buildings would be demolished starting in September 97, followed by the BC Pavilion in October. The Foodmart and Showmart buildings would be demolished starting in February 98 following the NHL All Star event. The area currently occupied by the BC Pavilion would be left in a safe, but fallow condition surrounded by a double row of trees around the perimeter. These trees would become the Hastings Park nursery where trees, and other vegetation for the eventual inclusion in the park would be stored and nurtured. Phase two will be following the 98 Fair when the Aquastage area and most of the central asphalt area would be removed and construction would commence on the initial phase of the park's principal feature, the Sanctuary. Constructing the Sanctuary in more than one phase and with the continued presence of the PNE results in some temporary compromises to the park design and a cost premium for temporary utility relocation. In future years, regrading and replanting of edges to achieve a perfect fit between this and later phases of the Sanctuary will have to be undertaken.

Gerry Underhill, Director, Hastings Community Association and a member of the Hastings Park Working Committee appeared before the Board to oppose the proposed two year extension to the PNE lease. Mr. Underhill asked the Board to support the community in their effort to have the construction of Hastings Park begin as soon as possible. Mr. Underhill asked the Park Board to take control of the parksite.

Steve Varty, Executive Officer of CUPE Local 1004 and an on-site employee encouraged the Board to adopt the recommendations in the Administrative report. Mr. Varty stated that the original lease of the PNE was to terminate in 1999.

Greg Antonson, CUPE Local 1004, works at the PNE. Mr. Antonson asked the Board to approve the recommendations to allow the extension to the PNE lease. Mr. Antonson stated that with the termination of the PNE tradition and history will be lost along with a number of jobs. The PNE provides a lot of work especially during the Fair.

Rolf Tevely, Chair, Sports Forum and a member of the Hastings Park Community Association stated that the East End is in need of a sports facility. Mr. Tevely urged the Board to not ratify the plan to provide an extension to the PNE lease, but to implement the restoration of Hastings Park as soon as possible.

Timothy Welsh, Kiwassa Neighbourhood House stated that the restoration of Hastings Park cannot be done in pieces. The community has put in a lot of time towards the planning process for this park and the improvements need to start now. The PNE is in a comfortable position now and is not making an effort to locate an alternate location. If the PNE was forced they will make the move.

John Usher, Director of Operations, Pacific National Exhibition, stated that the PNE will be handing over \$300,000 worth of assets to the Park Board. In terms of the jobs the transition plan allows the PNE to continue to find a new home. They are trying hard to save an eighty seven years tradition. The seventeen days fair provides a lot of jobs for the neighbourhood.

They are doing their best to provide affordable prices at Playland. The transition period will be difficult for the PNE as they will not have all the buildings which they have traditionally used.

Board members discussed the details of the cost of the different phases for the restoration of Hastings Park . The Chair advised the delegations that the Board will be receiving the Administrative Report for information purposes only.

Moved by Commissioner Fetherstonhaugh,

THAT the Board receive the Administrative Report dated June 11, 1997 regarding Request for a Lease Extension of the PNE for information.

-Carried Unanimously.

Commissioner Fetherstonhaugh stated that in May 1994 the Provincial Government finally recognized that the City of Vancouver owned Hastings Park and came up with a five year lease. In November 1994 the Provincial Government and the PNE Board asked the City to reduce the term of the lease to two years as the PNE was in financial trouble. In February 1996 the PNE Board asked the City to give them a one year extension to September 1997. This extension was not agreed to by the Park Board.

Now they are back asking for a further two year extension. The Park Board will not agree to this. The Hastings Park Working Committee has been working on this for many years and is seen as a model for community development.

Commissioner McDiarmid stated that the community of Hastings has waited long enough for this park and will support the Hastings Park Restoration Plan.

Commissioner DeGenova quoted from a newspaper cutting that probably Council did not want to be blamed for killing an eighty seven year tradition, however when the Molson Indy's plan to use the Hastings corridor did not work, they worked hard to find a new location. The PNE should work a little harder to find their new home.

Commissioner Warren stated that maybe the Board should be more emphatic and let Council know that we are opposed to the extension of the lease.

Commissioner Wilson stated that there is a majority on Council who voted for the lease extension, so it would be unrealistic to expect Council to do otherwise. However, the Board can make sure that jurisdiction for this could be with the Board in the future. Commissioner Wilson advised the delegations that he understood the importance of the jobs, however, the Board has always supported the greening of the park. The Board is not anti-PNE, however, the Province keeps breaking its word in terms of relocating the PNE.

Moved by Commissioner Fetherstonhaugh,

WHEREAS the PNE has yet to provide City Council or the Park Board with a final agreement to relocate the fair by the year 2000,

and

WHEREAS the continuation of the PNE at its present location is inconsistent with the Hastings Park Restoration Plan:

THAT the Board renew its continued opposition to any lease extension for the PNE at Hastings Park, and

THAT in the event City Council decides to grant said extension the Board strongly recommends an amendment to the June 11, 1997, Administrative Report from the

General Manager of Parks and Recreation and the General Manager of Community Services, to include the following additional recommendation:

THAT Council agree to convey the Hastings Park site to Park Board jurisdiction as a permanent park prior to the end of the proposed lease extension and acknowledge that any further requests for a lease extension will be at the discretion of the Park Board, and

THAT the above jurisdictional change is made without prejudice of any claim that the Park Board may now or yet have in relation to Hastings Park.

-Carried Unanimously.

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND BUDGETS COMMITTEE

Stanley Park Transportation and Recreation - Public Parking Lot

Board members received copies of a staff report dated July 3, 1997 recommending that the Board retain Tusar Architecture Inc. to design and construct a 300 space public parking lot within the northern portion of the old Stanley Park Service Centre.

Gerry O'Neill appeared before the Board and stated that he supports the parking and it will be a great asset for the Stanley Park Shuttle service. However, in reviewing the staff report he is not comfortable to be at two locations. Mr. O'Neill asked the Board to request staff to redesign the parking configuration to east/west instead of north/south to allow him to build facilities for his horses.

Board members discussed the matter and enquired whether Mr. O'Neill's request could be accommodated. The Director of Planning advised the Board that the report before the Board was to seek approval to begin the planning process and to bring the technical team on board. The plan for the parking lot is very preliminary and could change dependent on the report from the geo-technical team. Mr. O'Neill have been involved so far and will continue to be included in the discussions as the project proceeds.

Moved by Commissioner Yong,

THAT the Board retain Tusar Architecture Inc. to design and construct a 300 space public parking lot within the northern portion of the old Stanley Park Service Centre.

-Carried Unanimously.

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Musqueam Park Biofiltration Wetland Project

Board members received copies of a staff report dated June 19, 1997 recommending that the Board approve the construction of a small biofiltration wetland in Musqueam Park subject to no complaints being received from residents living within a two block radius of the park by July 23, 1997.

Moved by Commissioner Fetherstonhaugh,

THAT the Board approve the construction of a small biofiltration wetland in Musqueam Park (south of the Crown Street and West 46th Avenue intersection), subject to no complaints being received from residents living within a 2 block radius of the park by July 23, 1997, and subject to all design details being to the satisfaction of the General Manager of Parks and Recreation.

-Carried Unanimously.

Coal Harbour Area 1-B Community Facilities Funding

Board members received copies of a staff report dated May 21, 1997 recommending that the Board concur with the recommendations in the Council report dated July 4, 1997 to use Triangle West Community Amenity Contribution funds to finance the City portion of the Coal Harbour Community Centre.

Moved by Commissioner Fetherstonhaugh

THAT the Board concur with the recommendations in the attached Council report to use Triangle West Community Amenity Contribution funds to finance the City portion of the Coal Harbour Community Centre.

Commissioner Warren stated that it seems almost 50% of the funding was being spent on parking. He would like to see a reduction of parking stalls as this area will be serviced by transit and the community centre will be used by people who live in the area. Commissioner Warren stated that he would like to put forward an amendment to bring to Council' s attention that the spending for parking facilities is too high and would like these funds to be reallocated for other more appropriate uses.

Moved by Commissioner Warren,

THAT the Park Board expresses its concerns to Council that the amount of money allocated to parking is excessive as it approaches 50% of the cost of this development,

and,

THAT Council reconsider the parking requirement for this project,

and,

THAT Council look at reallocating those funds for more appropriate uses that will be of greater benefit to the community.

- Carried.

(Commissioners DeGenova and Fetherstonhaugh contrary)

The main motion as amended was put as follows:

THAT the Board concur with the recommendations in the attached Council report to use Triangle West Community Amenity Contribution funds to finance the City portion of the Coal Harbour Community Centre.

and,

THAT the Park Board expresses its concerns to Council that the amount of money

allocated to parking is excessive as it approaches 50% of the cost of this development,

and,

THAT Council reconsider the parking requirement for this project,

and,

THAT Council look at reallocating those funds for more appropriate uses that will be of greater benefit to the community.

-Carried.

(Commissioner DeGenova contrary)

Fraserview Golf Course

Board members received copies of a staff report dated July 3, 1997 recommending that the Board approve granting a statutory right-of-way to B.C. Hydro for the hydro service to the pump station on Kerr Road as described in the attached plan.

Moved by Commissioner Fetherstonhaugh,

THAT the Board approve granting a statutory right-of-way to B.C. Hydro for the hydro service to the pump station on Kerr Road as described on the attached plan.

-Carried Unanimously.

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND BUDGETS COMMITTEE

Regular Full-time Positions

Board members received copies of a staff report dated June 20, 1997 recommending that the Board approve the establishment of two Park Board Asbestos Surveyor/worker Positions as regular full time replacing the existing temporary positions at no additional cost to the Operating Budget.

Commissioner Warren stated that he does not believe that Asbestos is as harmful as it is made out to be. The funds could be put toward other uses such as an anti-smoking campaign.

Moved by Commissioner Yong,

THAT the Board approve the establishment of two Park Board Asbestos Surveyor/Worker Positions as regular full time replacing the existing temporary positions at no additional cost to the Operating Budget.

-Carried.

(Commissioner Warren contrary)

Supply and Installation of Playground Equipment for Kitsilano Park

Board members received copies of a staff report dated June 26, 1997 recommending that the

Board approve the purchase of playground equipment from Swing time distributors for Kitsilano Park playground.

Moved by Commissioner Yong,

THAT the Board approve the purchase of playground equipment for \$14,950.00 from Swing time distributors for Kitsilano Park playground under Quotation Proposal P-97-1.

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 Unanimously.

Q97-38 Dunbar Community Centre Mechanical and Storage Improvements

Board members received copies of a staff report dated June 26, 1997 recommending that the Board award the contract for the renovations at Dunbar community Centre to the low bidder, Bynett Construction Services Ltd.

Moved by Commissioner Yong,

THAT the Board award the contract for the renovations at Dunbar Community Centre to the low bidder, Bynett Construction Services Ltd., for a cost of \$86,463.00.

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 Unanimously.

Millennium Celebration Project

Board members received copies of a staff report dated June 26, 1997 recommending that the Board establish a Millennium Steering Committee to research the scope of possible and planned Millennium celebrations being considered for the year 2000 and recommend an appropriate role for the City in participating in and supporting these activities, that this Steering Committee report back to the Board and City council during December 1997; that the Board request from City Council a budget of \$7,750 to support the work of the Steering Committee.

Moved by Commissioner Yong,

THAT the Board establish a Millennium Steering Committee to research the scope of possible and planned Millennium celebrations being considered for the year 2000 and recommend an appropriate role for the City in participating in and supporting these activities.

THAT this Steering Committee report back to the Board and City Council during December, 1997.

THAT the Board request from City Council a budget of \$7,750 to support the work of the Steering Committee.

-Carried Unanimously.

ENQUIRIES

The Manager of Public Affairs advised the Board that the Arboriculture division inspected the trees around the Fraserview Golf Course and have found a number of diseased trees which will need to be taken down. A newsletter to this effect have been circulated to the neighbourhood. Commissioner Fetherstonhaugh requested a written report on this matter.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Approval of Warrants

Warrant #23 in the amount of \$1,376,638.37, \$1,375,661.86 (Cdn) and \$976.51 (US); Warrant #24 in the amount of \$118,770.00; Warrant #25 in the amount of \$604,543.83: \$603,929.88 (Cdn) and \$613.95 (US).

Annual Report on Remuneration and Expenses of Park Board Commissioners

Staff information report dated June 19, 1997 was mailed to Board members.