

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD IN THE PARK BOARD OFFICE ON MONDAY, MAY 11, 1998**

PRESENT:	Chair	- Duncan Wilson
	Vice-Chair	- Alan Fetherstonhaugh
	Commissioners	- David Chesman
		- Allan DeGenova
		- Laura McDiarmid
		- Patrick Warren
		- Gabriel Yong
		- Allan Argent
	Acting General Manager	
	Director of Administrative & Revenue Services	- Philip Josephs
	Director of Operations	- Liane McKenna
	Acting Director of Recreation Services	- John Grant
	Manager of Public Affairs	- Terri Clark
	Sports Fields & Diamond Coordinator	- Terry Walton
	Recording Secretary	- Julie Chiu

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on Monday, April 27, 1998 were adopted as circulated.

Tunnel Watch

Commissioner Wilson reported that he met with the Minister of Transportation and the Mayors of the North Shore and Vancouver municipalities concerning the First Narrows Crossing. The Minister indicated that the Provincial Government will be making an announcement in the next few weeks. It would either be a four lane upgraded crossing with a tunnel from the entrance of the park to the North Shore in one direction with two lanes coming back on the surface across the upgraded Lions Gate Bridge or it would be an updated version of the status quo with three lanes on the surface. Commissioner Wilson stated that he informed the Minister of the Board's position of which favours an out of the park solution and that either scenario we will be seeking an agreement with the Province in terms of the eventual elimination of the causeway from the park.

City Council Report

Commissioner Wilson stated that there was one City Council related item. He wished to make a motion concerning the status of flags in the parks.

Moved by Commissioner Wilson,

Whereas it is assumed by the public that flags located in City parks are the responsibility of the Park Board and, therefore, the conditions of such flags is considered to reflect the maintenance practices of the Board not the City,

And Whereas the condition of the National Flag at these locations is regularly faded and tattered,

Be it Resolved that the Park Board formally request the City to either:

- 1. Transfer the responsibility and budget for these flags to the Park Board or**
- 2. Implement a program to ensure that these flags are properly maintained and replaced.**

And

THAT City Council be advised that despite request of City staff by the Park Board, through it staff, to have the Canadian flags currently flying at Morton Triangle replaced - they have remained in place tattered and faded for several months.

-Carried Unanimously.

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND BUDGET COMMITTEE

The Management of Volleyball on Vancouver Beaches

Board members received copies of a staff report dated April 30, 1998 recommending that the Board approve recommendations a to d in the staff report.

Moved by Commissioner Yong,

- a) THAT the Board receive the Management Plan for Beach Volleyball as information (See Appendix A).
- b) THAT the Board designate volleyball areas at Kitsilano (8 courts maximum), Locarno (6 courts at the Sailing Centre - 3 courts maximum at the picnic site), Spanish Banks East (8 courts) and West (8 courts) Beaches for the 1998 season of play (See Appendix B).
- c) THAT volleyball play be restricted to designated areas unless authorized (permitted) by the Board.
- d) THAT the Board review/evaluate the dedication of beach volleyball areas after this trial period.

Terry Walton, Sports Fields and Diamonds Coordinator, advised the Board that in the spring of 1997, Recreation staff, Lifeguards and Beach Maintenance staff met with representatives of the BC Volleyball Association to discuss volleyball on Vancouver's beaches. The use of portable courts can be attributed to the fact that the demand for beach volleyball cannot be accommodated on the Board's 16 permanent courts. To ensure access, groups bring their own portable posts. However, the use of portable volleyball courts causes maintenance concerns as the stakes and post supports left behind in the sand has the potential to injure players as well as damage maintenance equipment. Also there are conflicts with other users. Staff is proposing that beach volleyball only be allowed on specific areas of the beach and that these designated areas be defined by the placement of logs.

Elizabeth Gram appeared before the Board and stated that she was concerned the eight courts to be erected on a trial basis may become permanent. Ms. Gram enquired how the Board proposed to enforce the restriction of temporary courts being put up. The placement of banners advertising products should be reconsidered so that public walking on the path can see beyond to the water. Ms. Gram also commented that volleyball games create a lot of dust and would like to Board to look at ways to reduce the dust.

Elizabeth Gram read the presentation from Elaine MacLeod which indicated that the beach was too small to be monopolized by one group. Families using the play area should have clear access to the beach. There is a lot of dust generated and the residents should not have to tolerate it.

Patricia Jackson appeared before the Board and stated that the dust from the volleyball courts is intolerable. She is not able to bring her grandchildren to the beach

because of the dust.

John McCormick, President, West Point Grey Residents Association, appeared before the Board and stated that the community was not properly informed of this proposal. There are no signs on the beaches either. He would like the beach to be left as is. There is no need to be organised as proposed. The two sites at Locarno is not suitable.

Board members discussed the matter and Commissioner Yong stated that beach volleyball is popular among the teens. This is only on a trial basis. Commissioner Yong stated that he would like staff to investigate on the possibility of reducing the dust problem.

Moved by Commissioner Yong,

THAT staff investigate and report back to the Board on methods of reducing any dust problems associated with volleyball play.

- Carried Unanimously.

Commissioner Chesman stated that he does not support the motion . Commissioner Chesman commended staff on a well written report. He does not support the alienation of public land for private use and sometimes a trial translates to entitlement. The evaluation process need to involve the community. Commissioner Chesman stated that he would like to put forward some amendments.

Moved by Commissioner Chesman,

THAT the maximum number of courts be reduced as follows:
Kitsilano to 6 courts maximum
Locarno to 4 courts at the Sailing Centre and 2 courts at the picnic site
Spanish Banks East to 6 courts and West to 6 courts

Commissioner McDiarmid stated that she supports the reduction to the maximum number of courts. She is opposed to volleyball at Locarno.

The amendment motion was put and it was DEFEATED.
(Commissioners Fetherstonhaugh, McDiarmid, Warren, Wilson and Yong contrary)

Moved by Commissioner Chesman,

THAT beach volleyball courts shall not be placed in a manner that

impedes reasonable public access to the water.

- Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Chesman,

THAT beach volleyball courts shall not be placed in a manner that impedes sight lines to the beach and water from adjoining public view spaces and communities.

- Carried.

(Commissioners Fetherstonhaugh, Warren and Yong contrary)

Moved by Commissioner Chesman,

THAT the evaluation of the 1998 trial process shall take the form of a stakeholder forum process including but not limited to Park Board staff, B C Volleyball Association, Kits Point Resident Association, North West Point Grey Homeowners Association, Kitsilano Community Centre and Point Grey Community Centre to advise Park Board on the trial process and recommendations for the future.

-Carried.

(Commissioner Warren contrary)

Moved by Commissioner Chesman,

THAT the evaluation shall consider the appropriateness of the continued alienation of public beaches to private volleyball use.

- Carried.

(Commissioners Fetherstonhaugh, Wilson and Yong contrary)

Moved by Commissioner Chesman,

THAT the evaluation shall also consider a means by which the various impacts created by beach volleyball might be controlled.

-Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Chesman,

THAT the last sentences in item b of the main motion be amended to include the phrase “on a trial basis” after the word beaches.

-Carried Unanimously.

The amended main motion was put as follows:

- a) **THAT the Board receive the Management Plan for Beach Volleyball as information (See Appendix A).**
- b) **THAT the Board designate volleyball areas at Kitsilano (8 courts maximum), Locarno (6 courts at the Sailing Centre - 3 courts maximum at the picnic site), Spanish Banks East (8 courts) and West (8 courts) Beaches on a trial basis for the 1998 season of play (See Appendix B).**
- c) **THAT volleyball play be restricted to designated areas unless authorized (permitted) by the Board.**
- d) **THAT the Board review/evaluate the dedication of beach volleyball areas after this trial period.**
- e) **THAT staff investigate and report back to the Board on methods of reducing any dust problems associated with volleyball play.**
- f) **THAT beach volleyball courts shall not be placed in a manner that impedes reasonable public access to the water.**
- g) **THAT beach volleyball courts shall not be placed in a manner that impedes sight lines to the beach and water from adjoining public view spaces and communities.**
- h) **THAT the evaluation of the 1998 trial process shall take the**

form of a stakeholder forum process including but not limited to Park Board staff, B C Volleyball Association, Kits Point Resident Association, North West Point Grey Homeowners Association, Kitsilano Community Centre and Point Grey Community Centre to advise Park Board on the trial process and recommendations for the future.

- i) THAT the evaluation shall consider the appropriateness of the continued alienation of public beaches to private volleyball use.**
- j) THAT the evaluation shall also consider a means by which the various impacts created by beach volleyball might be controlled.**

-Carried Unanimously.

1998 Revenue Generation Initiatives

Board members received copies of a staff report dated May 7, 1998 recommending that the Board approve the revenue generation proposals for increased golf course green fees on Fridays, Weekends and Statutory Holidays and a new admission fee at Maple Grove Pool.

Dave Atherton appeared before the Board and stated that he was against the proposed increases as suggested in the staff report. Mr. Atherton stated that the play on the courses are too slow. He also suggested that the Board should look into different prices during different times of the day.

Board members discussed the matter and Commissioner Wilson asked the Community Services and Budget Committee to look into more effective marshalling on the golf courses.

Moved by Commissioner Yong,

THAT the Board approve the revenue generation proposals for increased golf course green fees on Fridays, Weekends and Statutory Holidays and a new admission fee at Maple Grove Pool.

-Carried Unanimously.

Core Services - Resident Opinion Survey

Board members received copies of a staff report dated May 7, 1998 recommending that the Board approve the commissioning of a Residents Opinion Survey and focus groups to assist in defining the “core services” of the Board and that the Acting General Manager be authorized to approve a contract not to exceed \$60,000 with a firm to administer the Opinion Survey and focus groups, the sources of funds to be the Corporate Sponsorship Fund.

Board members discussed the matter and Commissioner Yong stated that the source of funds should not be the Corporate Sponsorship Fund as the Youth Services are more in need of this fund. Commissioner Yong suggested that the funding be from the Operating Budget. The Acting General Manager advised the Board that it would be difficult to find \$60,000 in the Operating Budget, the only other alternative is the NNR. Commissioner Warren stated that it was important to determine the core services before allocating funding. Board members agreed that it was important to look at the core services.

Moved by Commissioner Yong,

- A. THAT the Board approve the commissioning of Residents Opinion Survey and focus groups to assist in defining the “core services” of the Board.**
- B. THAT the Acting General Manager be authorized to approve a contract, not to exceed \$60,000, with a firm to administer the Opinion Survey and focus groups, the source of funds to be the Corporate Sponsorship Fund.**

- Carried Unanimously.

Commissioner Chesman left the room at this time on a potential conflict of interest for the next three items on the agenda.

Award of Fertilizer and Grass Seed Contract

Board members received copies of a staff report dated May 4, 1998 recommending that the contract for Fertilizer and Grass Seed in the amount of \$98,459.06 be awarded to low bidders as outlined in the report.

Moved by Commissioner Yong,

- A. THAT the contract for Fertilizer and Grass Seed in the amount of \$98,459.06 be awarded to low bidder as outlined in this report.**
- B. THAT no legal rights shall arise hereby and none shall arise hereafter until execution of the contemplated document.**

-Carried Unanimously.

Improvements to W. C. Shelly Park

Board members received copies of a staff report dated May 7, 1998 recommending that the Board approve the award of the landscape contract to Landesign Landscape Construction Ltd. to carry out improvements to W. C. Shelly Park.

Moved by Commissioner DeGenova,

- A. THAT the Board approve the award of the landscape contract, Q98-15, to Landesign Landscape Construction Ltd. To carry out improvements to W. C. Shelly Park.**
- 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 Unanimously.

Improvements to Riley Park Preschool Playground

Board members received copies of a staff report dated April 30, 1998 recommending that the Board approve the award of the playground contract, P98-2 to Playtech Distributors Inc. to carry out playground improvements to Riley Park.

Moved by Commissioner DeGenova,

- A. THAT the Board approve the award of the playground**

contract, P98-2 to Playtech Distributors Inc. to carry out playground improvements to Riley Park.

- 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 Unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Trout Lake - Dog Problems

Commissioner McDiarmid stated that the off-leash dog problem at Trout Lake has escalated and would like to direct staff to proceed immediately with a community consultation with a view to including Trout Lake as a designated off-leash area. Also to extend the pilot project for two months at the existing parks including Trout Lake.

Moved by Commissioner McDiarmid,

THAT the Board direct staff to proceed immediately with a community consultation with a view to including Trout Lake as a designated off-leash area and to extend the pilot project for two months at the existing parks including Trout Lake in this extension.

Board members discussed the matter and the Public Affairs Manager advised the Board that the City Pound advice would be to blitz Trout Lake rather than making it an off-leash area. The Acting General Manager advised the Board that community consultation is a healthy way to approach the problem. Commissioner McDiarmid asked staff to also check on the signage at Trout Lake.

The revised motion was put as follows:

THAT the Board direct staff to conduct a community consultation process in the area of Trout Lake to find a solution to the dog problems and that staff also ensure that there are enough signage in the area.

-Carried Unanimously.

BCRPA /CPRA Conference in Penticton

Commissioner Yong advised the Board that Commissioner McDiarmid, Warren and himself along with the Acting General Manager attended the BCRPA/CPRA Conference in Penticton. Commissioner Yong indicated that there were several good speakers with a lot of innovative ideas for revenue generation and recreation. Commissioner Yong stated that one of the delegate from Metro Toronto Parks had very good ideas for revenue generation and a document relating to the matter was handed over to the Director of Administrative & Revenue Services. Commissioner McDiarmid suggested that Vancouver Park Board be involved with Sheldon Kennedy's attempt to raise awareness on abuse in junior hockey. This matter was referred to the Community Services and Budget committee. Commissioner Warren suggested that staff invite Brian Johnson to speak to the Association Presidents. Commissioner Warren also suggested that the Board should have periodic meetings with Parks Commission from adjoining municipalities.

ENQUIRIES

Commissioner Warren enquired about the status of the sculpture exhibit. The Acting Director of Recreation Services advised the Board that the submissions are being reviewed and will go ahead in the summer.

Commissioner Wilson stated that he received a complaint regarding the yellowness of Harbour Green Park and asked the Director of Operations to review the matter with the horticultural staff.

Commissioner Warren stated that the Board should pursue the idea of registering our trademark. Commissioner McDiarmid suggested that this matter be referred to the Community Services and Budget Committee meeting.

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. **Approval of Warrants**
Warrant #19 in the amount of \$523,122.02, Warrant #20 in the amount of \$866,148.92: Cdn:\$866,140.55, US \$8.37.

Allan Argent
Acting General Manager

Commissioner Duncan Wilson
Chair