Commissioner Allan DeGenova was absent due to illness.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Chesman referred to the 2010 Olympic Games and stated that he would like the minutes to reflect in more detail the discussions held with Mr. Bentall, particularly that Commissioner Chesman advised Mr. Bentall that under no circumstances would this Board permit any impact upon the Hastings Park Restoration Plan by the Olympics. Mr. Bentall indicated that it was not the committee’s desire or intention to impact the Hastings Park Restoration Plan in any way.

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on Monday, October 5, 1998 were adopted as amended.

STAFF REPORTS

Volunteer Policy

Board members received copies of a staff report dated October 15, 1998 recommending that the Board adopt the attached Volunteer Policy.
Ken Davidson, President, CUPE 1004 appeared before the Board and stated that the members of CUPE 1004 were appreciative to be on the Volunteer Task Force Committee. Mr. Davidson asked the Board to have a public consultation process before adopting the policy. There should be more discussion on safety concerns such as police checks and how these will be done. How does the Board propose to provide the funding for the volunteer coordinator and training of volunteers. The members of CUPE 1004 are also concerned about being replaced by volunteers.

Board members discussed the matter and Commissioners Warren and Yong advised the Board that the policy on the table was only a framework and that on implementation details such as the issues brought forward by Mr. Davidson will be looked at. Commissioner Yong thanked staff members Jule Hopkins, Carol DeFina, Bill Manning, Mike Mackintosh and Paul Montpellier for their involvement on the Volunteer Task Force Committee.

Moved by Commissioner Warren,

THAT the Board of Parks and Recreation adopt the Volunteer Policy attached to the staff report dated October 15, 1998.

- Carried Unanimously.

Extension of U-Park Enterprises Ltd.’s Agreement

Board members received copies of a staff report dated October 14, 1998 recommending that the agreement between the Board and U-Park Enterprises Ltd. be amended to extend the expiry date from June 12, 2000 to November 30, 2000 with all other terms and conditions of the agreement to remain the same; and that the equipment upgrades listed in this report be in place by November 30, 1998.

Moved by Commissioner Yong,

A. THAT the agreement between the Board and U-Park Enterprises Ltd be amended to extend the expiry date from June 12, 2000 to November 30, 2000 and that all other terms and conditions of the agreement remain the same.

B. THAT the equipment upgrades listed in this report be in place by November 30, 1998.

C. THAT no legal rights shall arise hereby and none shall arise hereafter until execution of the contemplated document.
Commissioner Chesman put forward an amendment to recommendation B.

Moved by Commissioner Chesman,

B. THAT such extension is conditional upon and subject to the equipment upgrades listed in this report being satisfactorily and completely in place by November 30, 1998.

- Carried Unanimously.

The main motion as amended was put as follows:

A. THAT the agreement between the Board and U-Park Enterprises Ltd be amended to extend the expiry date from June 12, 2000 to November 30, 2000 and that all other terms and conditions of the agreement remain the same.

B. THAT such extension is conditional upon and subject to the equipment upgrades listed in this report being satisfactorily and completely in place by November 30, 1998.

C. THAT no legal rights shall arise hereby and none shall arise hereafter until execution of the contemplated document.

- Carried Unanimously.

Fraser River Debris Trip

Board members received copies of a staff report dated October 14, 1998 recommending that the Board advise the Province of the serious consequences of withdrawing funding of $180,000 for the operation of the Fraser River Debris Trap, and request the Province to consider other options to continue the operation of the Fraser River Debris Trap.

Ron Caswell, Supervisor, General Parks and Beaches, provided a verbal and video
presentation to the Board on how the closure of the Fraser River Debris Trap could impact Vancouver’s Beaches. Mr. Caswell advised the Board that in August 1998 the Ministry of Forests announced that they were withdrawing funding for the Fraser River Debris Trap. The trap is managed by the Debris Management Board, whose members include representatives from the Federal Government, the Provincial Government and private industry. Funding for the operation of the trap is split equally (i.e. $180,000 each) among the three participants. The announcement by the Ministry of Forests to withdraw its share of funding puts the future of the trap in jeopardy. If debris is allowed to float down the Fraser unabated, Vancouver’s beaches will be affected. Park Board beach maintenance costs could increase two to three times to continue to maintain clean beaches.

Board members discussed the matter and it was suggested that notices be put up around the beaches so that the public could be made aware of the Provincial Government’s plan to withdraw funding for the Fraser River Debris Trap. The General Manager advised the Board that before we take this step, we should find out from the Provincial Government on what their plans are. After further discussions, it was agreed that we initiate an aggressive letter writing campaign to all the MPs and MLAs, local media and other stakeholders to canvass their support to retain the Fraser River Debris Trap.

Moved by Commissioner Fetherstonhaugh,

THAT the Park Board advise the Province of the serious consequences of withdrawing funding of $180,000 for the operation of the Fraser River Debris Trap, and request the Province consider other options to continue the operation of the Fraser River Debris Trap.

- Carried Unanimously.

Communities in Bloom

Board members received copies of a staff report dated October 14, 1998 recommending that Park Board approval be given to enter the 1999 Communities in Bloom Competition and that the Park Board consider establishing an Organizing Committee responsible for the event, chaired by a Commissioner.

Moved by Commissioner Chesman,

A. THAT Park Board approval be given to enter the 1999
Communities in Bloom Competition.

B. THAT the Board consider establishing an Organizing Committee responsible for the event, chaired by a Commissioner.

-Carried Unanimously.

Commissioner McDiarmid will chair the Organizing Committee for the 1999 Communities in Bloom Competition.

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Approval of Warrants
Warrant #46 in the amount of $377,523.11; Warrant #47 in the amount of $286,268.26.