

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD IN THE PARK BOARD OFFICE
ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2001**

PRESENT:	Chair	- Laura McDiarmid
	Vice-Chair	- Clarence Hansen
	Commissioners	- Roslyn Cassells
		- Allan De Genova
		- Dianne Ledingham
		- Christopher Richardson
		- Duncan Wilson
	General Manager	- Susan Mundick
	Director of Corporate Services	- Anita Ho
	Director of Queen Elizabeth District	- Liane McKenna
	Director of Vancouver East District	- Lori Mackay
	Manager of Recreation Services, Stanley District	- Terry Walton
	Manager of Revenue Services, Stanley District	- Philip Josephs
	Manager of Public Affairs	- Terri Clark
	Recorder	- Darlene Cripps

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Board held on Monday, October 1, 2001 were approved as written.

CHAIR'S REPORT

City Council approved the Coexisting with Coyotes in the Urban Environment report at the Council meeting of October 2, 2001. There was no additional Council Report to provide at this time.

STAFF REPORTS

Make All Recreation Safe

Board members received copies of a staff report dated October 1, 2001 recommending that the Board endorse items 1 through 5 of the statutory requirements of the City policies as a component of the Board's "Make all Recreation Safe" initiatives as detailed in the report.

Staff provided a review of the MARS project including the history of it's inception, the program of criminal record checks for staff and volunteers in positions of trust, initiatives and training programs for reporting and intervention regarding child abuse or neglect, training

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programs regarding the prevention of harassment and violence in the workplace, the development of web-based support materials, liaison with partner agencies, and on-going program review and enhancement.

Staff were congratulated for their fine work on this important and challenging project. Commissioners noted that criminal records checks may not screen all potential offenders and that effective human resources procedures, including in-take questionnaires and proper reference checking, continue to be utilized to improve safety. There are procedures in place to remove problem individuals from facilities.

Eleanor Hadley appeared before the Board and outlined her support for criminal record checks and initiatives that encourage the safety of children and others utilizing parks and recreation facilities.

Moved by Dianne Ledingham,

THAT the Board endorse items 1 through 5 of the statutory requirements of the City policies as a component of the Board's "Make all Recreation Safe" initiatives, as follows:

- 1. All employees and volunteers of the Vancouver Park Board and affiliated partners will report incidents of abuse or neglect of children and youth to the provincial Ministry responsible for Children as per the Family, Child and Community Services Act of B.C.**
- 2. All employees and volunteers of the Vancouver Park Board and affiliated partners will report incidents of abuse, neglect and self-neglect of vulnerable adults and seniors to the Vancouver Police Department.**
- 3. A Criminal Record Check will be conducted on new Park Board and affiliated partners, staff and volunteers who will work/volunteer in a position of trust with children/youth and vulnerable adults and seniors.**
- 4. All Park Board and affiliated partner employees and volunteers have the right to work/volunteer in an environment that is protected from violence or the threat of violence from the public they serve as per the Workers' Compensation Act of the Province of B.C.**
- 5. The Vancouver Park Board is committed to the eradication of harassment from its work places, and to the maintenance of a work environment free of sexual harassment.**

- Carried Unanimously

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Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Garden Society - Operating Agreement Renewal

Board members received copies of a staff report dated October 2, 2001 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to D.

Staff reported that growth of both the society and the gardens has been substantial. It was noted that this report concerns a renewal of the agreement for a 15 year term.

The Society was commended for it's work on the gardens. It was noted that proposed expansion of the gardens is currently at the active fund-raising stage.

Moved by Commissioner De Genova,

THAT the Board approve recommendations A to D of the report.

- A. THAT the Board approve a 15 year renewal to the operation agreement to the Dr. Sun Yat-sen Garden Society of Vancouver, with the rent remaining at \$1.00 per annum and any changes being subject to the approval of the General Manager and Director of Legal Services.**
- B. THAT this agreement includes provisions that the horticultural and operations support presently funded by the Board be reviewed on an annual basis.**
- C. THAT no legal rights shall arise and no consents, permissions or licences are granted hereby and none shall arise or be granted hereafter unless and until all contemplated legal documentation has been executed and delivered by all parties.**
- D. THAT once the form of all legal documentation has been approved by the General Manager and the Director of Legal Services for the City of Vancouver, that the General Manager be authorized to execute and deliver such documentation on behalf of the Board.**

- Carried Unanimously

Operating Budget 2001 - Third Quarter Update

The Board received copies of a staff report for information dated October 12, 2001.

Staff provided a brief status for the 9 month period ending September 30, 2001. Budgeted revenues and expenditures are on track to achieve a balanced budget at the fiscal year-end.

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It was noted that budget planning for 2002 will include a program to market golf course club houses for alternate uses, such as weddings and business meetings, and also programs to enhance revenues from parks such as Stanley Park.

Moved by Commissioner Hansen,

THAT the Board receive the report for information.

- Carried Unanimously

ENQUIRIES, OTHER MATTERS AND NEW BUSINESS

It was requested that future staff briefing be scheduled outside of core business hours, as possible. It was noted that briefings are scheduled by incorporating a consensus of those present at the time of planning.

A status report was requested on toilet facilities in parks, specifically - which ones have functioning washrooms (open daily), which have functioning washrooms (not open daily), and which do not have washroom facilities. For those that do not, what plans are in place, including time-line, to provide these facilities. It was noted that some washroom facilities are closed during winter months. Because facilities are not heated there can be problems with water flow at low temperatures; park use generally decreases during winter months. Commissioners were requested to please provide information about specific locations experiencing challenges to District staff for investigation and action.

A commissioner undertook on behalf of a letter writer to ascertain when the Chair will respond to the writer. The Chair indicated that a response will be provided within one week.

Staff undertook to investigate reports that a police patrol car is routinely blocking wheelchair access through Victory Square.

The Chair reported that she participated in the recent City Caucus meeting with municipal, provincial and national representatives.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Susan Mundick
General Manager

Commissioner Laura McDiarmid
Chair