

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD IN THE PARK BOARD OFFICE
ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2003**

PRESENT:	Chair	- Heather Deal
	Vice-Chair	- Anita Romaniuk
	Commissioners	- Suzanne Anton
		- Allan De Genova
		- Lyndsay Poaps
		- Eva Riccius
		- Loretta Woodcock
	General Manager	- Susan Mundick
	Director of Corporate Services	- Anita Ho
	Director of Vancouver East District	- Lori MacKay
	Manager of Revenue Services	- Philip Josephs
	Director of Stanley District	- Jim Lowden
	Manager of Revenue Services	- Philip Josephs
	Manager of Communications	- Joyce Courtney
	Recorder	- Julie Casanova

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A member of the Board referred to page 7 of the minutes of the meeting of the Board held on Monday, September 8, 2003, with regard to bike racks in parks and stated that the minutes should note that a letter from the Vancouver Cycling Association offering assistance to the bike racks program was received.

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Board held on Monday, September 08, 2003 were adopted as amended.

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair informed the Board with sadness of the passing of former Park Commissioner George Wainborn who served as a member of the Park Board for 33 years ending in 1990. The Chair highlighted his leadership in his major achievements which included the creation of the Stanley Park Miniature Railway, Christmas Carol Ships, Christmas Train in Stanley Park and the development of Quarry Gardens at Queen Elizabeth Park. George Wainborn was the recipient of the Freedom of the City and was named to the Order of Canada in 1999. The Board named the park-site at Richards and Pacific Boulevard, George Wainborn Park.

The Chair asked for a minute of silence in remembrance of George Wainborn.

The Chair reported that :

- the Board participated in a number of festivals such as the open house at Avalon Dairy, Douglas Park Sharing our Wealth Festival and the Opening of Stanley Park Community Garden;
- Commissioner Riccius was appointed to City Council's Food Task Force;
- various Park Board facilities have been listed in the Georgia Strait's Best of Section.

The General Manager advised that Council has a motion with regard to the convening of the Vancouver Caucus to discuss issues such as homelessness, welfare cuts and similar issues which involves all levels of government.

Committee Report

Finance Committee : The next meeting will be on Thursday, October 2 at 8:00 a.m. to go over the August financial statement and finalize the plans for the public consultation meeting October 18 at Riley Park, 2:30 to 5:00 p.m. with regard to the 2004 Budget and Fees and Charges.

Planning and Environment Committee: Had their last meeting at Kerrisdale Community Centre, the meeting was attended by over 150 people. The agenda focused on the re-development of Quilchena Park. Staff will be working with the landscape architect to address the concerns raised by the delegations and report to the next meeting of Planning and Environment Committee on Tuesday, October 7, 2003.

Culture and Recreation Committee : The next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 1 at 7:00 p.m. the agenda will include an update on the Special Events policy review and hear a delegation who wants to find ways to have cultural events for the homeless.

Park Naming Report

Board members received copies of a staff report dated September 11, 2003 recommending that the board officially rename the park now known as Portside Park to C.R.A.B. Park at Portside.

Staff advised the Board that a name change request was made by a member of the community and the Port Authority agreed with the request. The name change is consistent with the park naming guidelines.

Don Larson, C.R.A.B. Water for Life Society, appeared before the Board to support the recommendation.

Moved by Commissioner Romaniuk

THAT the Board officially rename the park now known as Portside Park to *C.R.A.B. Park at Portside*.

- Carried Unanimously.

Harbour Ferries Ltd. Parking Lot - Operating Agreement

Board members received copies of a staff report dated September 11, 2003 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to D.

Staff advised the Board that when the area was turned over to the Park Board for park purposes, the Board entered into a 20 year lease and license agreement with Harbour Ferries to rent the parking lot.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Graham Clarke
- Bob and Cindy Roters
- Pat Pender
- Iraj Seiz
- Pat MacLeod

The following is a summary of comments provided by the foregoing delegations:

- Harbour Ferries are in the final stages of negotiations with the Port Authority;
- provide a lot of job opportunities to Vancouverites;
- equal opportunity employer;
- have a good neighbour policy;
- provided concerns to staff but nothing has been done;
- cannot use balcony because of the noise;
- cars are always parked everywhere;
- buses leave their engines running;
- difficult to sleep in the summer;
- number of cruises have increased;
- do not want Harbour Ferries to lose their business;
- need to change their way of operations, neighbourhood has changed;
- Harbour Ferries indicated that they will improve but not willing to document and sign a binding agreement;
- did not have enough consultation;
- there are families living here;
- need security, things are better when there is security;
- parking lot needs to be re-designed.

Board members thanked the delegations for comments. The development of a good neighbour agreement is an ongoing process to seek solutions to mitigate the problems.

Moved by Commissioner Riccius,

- A) **THAT the lease agreement and licence agreement with Harbour Ferries Ltd for the parking lot at the north foot of Denman Street be replaced by an operating agreement and license agreement and be renewed for the period September 1, 2003 to August 31, 2013.**
- B) **THAT the rent for the first year of the renewal term be set at \$91,000 per annum, with annual increases for the first five years based on Consumer Price Index and a rent review after the first five years to determine the rent for the next five years of the term.**
- C) **THAT no legal rights shall arise and no consents, permissions or licenses 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 Director of Legal Services for the City of Vancouver, that the General Manager be authorised to execute and deliver such documentation on behalf of the Board.**

- Carried Unanimously.

Staff was requested to send a letter to the tour bus companies with a request to not leave the buses idling.

In-Camera Meeting :

Moved by Commissioner Poaps

THAT the Board later this evening go into a meeting which is closed to the public, pursuant to Section 165.2 of the Vancouver Charter, to discuss matters related to paragraph:

(i) the receiving of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose.

(c) labour relations or employee negotiations.

- Carried Unanimously.

Motions :

1. Moved by Commissioner Poaps,

THAT the Board approve the travel of Commissioner Eva Riccius to San Francisco, USA, to attend the 2003 Planner Exchange, October 8 - 10, 2003, at an approximate cost of \$600US.

- Carried Unanimously.

2. Moved by Commissioner Anton,

Whereas :

1. The City of Vancouver has established a Commission on Electoral Reform to implement the ward system in time for the next general civic election;
2. The Vancouver Park Board has been included in the terms of reference of the Commission;
3. The Vancouver Park Board has never been consulted nor has it ever expressed an opinion as to whether it wishes to be included in this process;
4. No consultation with the citizens of Vancouver has taken place as to whether the Park Board should be elected by a ward system;
5. The Park Board is committed to public consultation;
6. The Commission on Electoral Reform is only to examine how we implement wards, not whether we should have wards, so that no discussion as the benefits of each system will be relevant;
7. Vancouver is consistently rated as one of the most livable cities in the world;
8. The Park Board has been elected at large since 1890;
9. No ward city has an elected Park Board; and
10. An elected Park Board is unlikely to survive a ward system;

Therefore be it resolved:

THAT the Vancouver Park Board recommend that no changes be made to the method of election of the Park Board without public consultation and a referendum put to the voters; and

THAT the Vancouver Park Board request that the City not purport to make changes in regard to the election of the Park Board without consulting the Park Board.

Board members discussed the motion and the purpose of the Commission on Electoral Reform. The Commission's primary purpose is to receive public input and recommend options. An amendment to the motion was suggested by a member of the Board.

Moved by Commissioner Romaniuk,

THAT the phrase "and a referendum put to the voters" be deleted and replaced with "will support the public process as conducted by the Commission".

The mover of the motion called point of order on the amendment because it changes the intent of the motion.

Board members requested a clarification on rules and procedure from staff. The General Manager advised the Board that she would need to consult Robert's Rules of Order and this would take some time.

Moved by Commissioner Poaps,

THAT the Board defer discussions on this motion to the next regular meeting of the Board.

-Carried Unanimously.

3. Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

Whereas the sport of fencing is a recognized martial art form the world over, and is enjoyed by recreational fencers both theatrically and as a form of exercise; and

Whereas being an established sport, fencing classes are offered in community centres and gymnasiums throughout the city; and

Whereas the sport of fencing is accessible to those ranging in age from the very young to seniors; and

Whereas Canada has been awarded the Grand Prix World Cup fencing competition in March 2004, and the Canadian Fencing Federation is soliciting bids from potential hosts, and the BC Fencing Association wants to secure this event to be held in the City of Vancouver:

Therefore be it resolved :

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board encourage the active participation in the sport of fencing for citizens young and old, and**
- B. THAT the Vancouver Park Board write a letter of support to the BC Fencing Association in its efforts to secure Vancouver as the venue for the Grand Prix World Cup Fencing Competition in 2004.**

- Carried Unanimously.

4. Moved by Commissioner Poaps,

Whereas the City of Vancouver has an impressive inventory of parks, community centres and recreational amenities to serve the diverse needs of all of its residents; and

Whereas the Park Board places a high priority on the safety and well-being of all Vancouver's residents including homeless people; and

Whereas homelessness has direct and indirect impacts on our parks, park programming and Park Board staff;

Therefore be it resolved:

THAT the Park Board supports City Council's recent initiatives on housing and homelessness, and as appropriate and within our capacity, the Park Board will help to implement those initiatives.

Board members discussed the motion and a member of the Board stated that she required more information with regard to this subject. Board members also requested that the motion be specific on which Council initiatives it was referring to. A staff briefing on this matter was requested.

Moved by Commissioner Poaps,

THAT the phrase "recent initiatives" be replaced with "motion on September 16, 2003 referring to issues".

- Carried Unanimously.

The main motion as amended was put as follows:

THAT the Park Board supports City Council's motion of September 16, 2003 referring to issues of housing and homelessness, and as appropriate and within our capacity, the Park Board will help to implement those initiatives.

- Carried Unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 p.m.

Susan Mundick
General Manager

Commissioner Heather Deal
Chair