

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD AT THE PARK BOARD OFFICE
ON MONDAY, MARCH 22, 2004
AT WEST POINT GREY COMMUNITY CENTRE**

PRESENT:	Chair	- Anita Romaniuk
	Vice-Chair	- Loretta Woodcock
	Commissioners	- Suzanne Anton
		- Heather Deal
		- Allan De Genova
		- Eva Riccius
		- Lyndsay Poaps
	General Manager	- Susan Mundick
	Director of Planning & Operations	- Piet Rutgers
	Director of Corporate Services	- Anita Ho
	Director of Queen Elizabeth District	- Liane McKenna
	Manager of Information Technology	- Norman Mills
	Manager of Communications	- Joyce Courtney
	Recorder	- Julie Casanova

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Board held on Monday, March 08, 2004 were reviewed and there was a request to amend “replace the upstairs flooring” to “repair the upstairs flooring” for False Creek Community Centre. The minutes were adopted as amended.

CHAIR’S REPORT

The Chair reported that the Board participated in the following :

- attended a meeting on Hastings Park at City Hall
- fund-raiser pancake breakfast at Renfrew Community Centre
- peace march
- film on the waterfront narrated by Jim Lowden at Mill Marine Bistro
- fund-raiser by skateboarders

Finance Committee : discussed budget priorities, Board members should check their email for the NNR listing which was circulated last Friday. The Board will be receiving the budget report at the April 5 meeting.

Planning and Environment Committee : the next meeting will be on Thursday, April 1, at 7:00 pm. On the agenda are Parks Canada Commemorative Heritage Statement for Stanley Park, Stanley Park Signage Program, Shorter Cycling Route in Stanley Park, Curb Drops for Strollers and Wheelchairs in Stanley Park.

Culture and Recreation Committee: the meeting in March was cancelled, the next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 7 at 7:00 pm, on the agenda are two items, Dragon Boat Festival and Joint Operating Agreement.

OPEN QUESTION PERIOD

Andrea Karas - Jericho Arts Centre Board, performers and volunteers would like to thank the Board, West Point Grey Board and community centre staff for their support of the Jericho Arts Centre. The program at the centre help young people to develop their artistic career and hands on experience related to theatre production.

Dick Scarth, West Point Grey Homeowners Association - wanted to know the status of the volleyball court site selection and whether West Point Grey was still being considered as a possible site. Mr. Scarth was advised staff were still evaluating various sites across the city and West Point Grey was not being considered.

Sandra Martinique - would like the Board to develop a landscaping plan for May and Lorne Brown Park to discourage off-leash dogs in the park. She would like to see more enforcement. Board members advised the delegation to contact animal control when there are infractions.

Amelia Mccumber - representing the First Nations requested that they be involved in the planning process for the future of Jericho lands.

Jason Wilshire - was concerned that TransLink might be putting a ferry terminal at Jericho or Kitsilano. Board members advised him that they had no knowledge of this plan, he should contact TransLink directly.

Olga Betz - would like the Board to put up signs in parks to discourage members of the public from dropping off their pet rabbits in the parks. Board members stated that they were not aware of this problem and asked staff to follow up on this issue.

Ian Clements - the Fencing Association trains individuals in the sport of fencing. They would like the Board to consider building a facility for fencing.

Christa - requested a gate for the parking at Jericho to discourage people from staying in the parking lot till 2:00AM to 3:00AM in the morning. Staff advised the Board that there is a noise problem in the summer and the police patrol the lot . A gate solution has been considered. There are two to three locations which would require gating. Board members requested a memo with regard to this situation.

Eric - West Point Grey resident, there are enough volleyball courts, no need to have more. He wondered what happened to the beavers which were at the pond a summer ago.

Dick Scarth - provided an update on the Spanish Banks daylighting project. He stated that the creek has seen a coho and chum return since it was daylighted in 1999.

DELEGATIONS

James Gill, John Shaw and Georgina Jollisse, West Point Grey Community Association presented the Vision Plan for West Point Grey Community Centre. The delegation stated that the present facility is fragmented and consolidation of services through a centralized location is preferred. Accessibility at the present facilities is a challenge. The cost of maintenance will be reduced with a consolidated facility. They are considering setting up the Jericho Arts Centre as a separate society as the program offered at the centre is different to traditional community association programming. The delegation requested for a West Point Grey Needs Assessment Process and the development of a master plan. The Community Association will contribute one third of the cost for the master plan.

Board members discussed the vision and advised that a needs assessment process is under discussion tonight. A member of the Board requested a system wide audit on accessibility issues with a view to a long term solution.

PRESENTATION

New Park Board Website

Staff presented the new Park Board Website with a new address www.vancouverparks.ca. The first website was launched in 1996 and since then visits to the site have increased over the years. In order to provide quick and easier access to information staff worked on improving the pages with better search features and a clean professional look. Board members were presented with a live demonstration on the easy navigation of the site.

Board members thanked staff for the extensive work done on this major achievement.

West Point Grey Park and Recreation Needs Assessment

Board members received copies of a staff report dated March 12, 2004 recommending that a park and recreational facilities needs assessment for the West Point Grey neighbourhood be conducted in cooperation with the West Point Grey Community Association and guided by the terms of reference contained in this report.

Staff advised the Board that this was a third try to have a needs assessment study for the West Point Grey area. Request from various organizations to renovate or expand their facilities emphasizes the need for a study to be done to guide the community centre and other recreation facility development on a long term direction.

Don Voight, a member from the West Point Grey Community Centre requested that the plans look at providing a practice facility for their band.

Board members discussed the matter and requested that the assessment should reference the waterfront study and accessibility to the community centre by public transit. Board members felt that the needs assessment for West Point Grey was not a high priority as the decision for Jericho Lands was still pending and there were other community centres with more urgent needs. However, the Board will support this request and would like youth to be involved in the process.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

THAT a park and recreational facilities needs assessment for the West Point Grey neighbourhood be conducted in cooperation with the West Point Grey Community Association and guided by the terms of reference contained in this report.

- Carried Unanimously.

Commissioner Woodcock stated that she was proud to be the liaison to the West Point Grey Community Centre and thanked the West Point Grey Association for the reception and for hosting the Board meeting. Commissioner Woodcock apologized that she had to leave the meeting as she was catching a flight.

Commissioner Woodcock left at this point of the meeting.

2003 Accomplishment Report

Board members received copies of a staff report dated March 12, 2004 recommending that the Board receive the report for information.

Staff reviewed the 2003 Accomplishment Report representing the energy, vision and hard work of Park Board staff, volunteers, partners, the Board and the City. A survey of Vancouver residents to evaluate our performance indicated that most felt that the Park Board is doing a good job in providing parks and recreation services which enhances the quality of their life and makes the community stronger. The Board also took the lead on key issues such as pesticides reduction, mosquito monitoring, responding to the fire and drought situation last summer, initiating an Olympic Youth Legacy program and Community Gardens as part of the Park Partners Program. The Board also celebrated new and expanded parks such as David Lam, Emery Barnes, Victory Square, Empire Bowl at Hastings Park, Thornton and Strathcona Parks.

Board members thanked staff for assisting the Board on demanding issues in their first year of office.

Moved by Commissioner Deal

THAT the Board receive the report for information.

- Carried Unanimously.

Appointment of Architect for Sunset Community Centre

Board members received copies of a staff report dated March 11, 2004 recommending that the Board award a contract for architectural and engineering services for the new Sunset Community Centre to Bing Thom Architects for a fixed fee for Phase One and that the fee for Phase Two be determined at the end of Phase One as detailed in the report.

Staff advised the Board that there was an open call for architects to submit their interest to design the new Sunset Community Centre. Twenty submissions were received and out of the six which were invited, three were interviewed by facility staff and community centre board members. The recommendation was to hire Bing Thom who has done a number of projects in the city.

Board members thanked staff on working so quickly on this project, the recommended architect is well known and they are confident that new Sunset Community Centre will be designed to effectively reflect the needs of the community.

Moved by Commissioner Poaps,

- A) **THAT the Board award a contract for architectural and engineering services for the new Sunset Community Centre to Bing Thom Architects, for a fixed fee for Phase One (Pre-Design Report) of \$102,000, plus GST and disbursements, and that the fee for Phase Two (design and construction review), be determined at the end of Phase One, as detailed in this report.**
- 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.

Enquiries, Other Matters And New Business

Eburne Lands - A meeting to discuss the Marpole / Eburne areas was held with the Honorable Stephen Owen, representing the Federal Government. Except for one member of the Board, the Chair nor the General Manager was aware of the meeting. A request was made to ensure that the Chair and General Manager were informed of meetings on issues related to the Park Board. The General Manager advised the Board that a meeting with the City Manager and TransLink was held to discuss the issue of a waterfront walkway and focused on TransLink's development application.

Wheels in Motion: Rick Hansen - Board members were asked if they would be interested in being a sponsor of this race in any way. This request was forwarded to staff to follow up with the organizers. Request of this nature should be discussed with staff and forwarded to the Culture and Recreation Committee meeting for follow up.

A member of the board advised that there will be a meeting for tennis players organized by Doug Taylor, Outdoor Sports Facility Coordinator, at Douglas Park Community Centre on Wednesday at 6:30p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Susan Mundick
General Manager

Commissioner Anita Romaniuk
Chair