MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION HELD AT THE PARK BOARD OFFICE ON MONDAY, JULY 05, 2004

PRESENT: Chair - Anita Romaniuk

Vice-Chair - Loretta Woodcock
Commissioners - Suzanne Anton
- Allan De Genova

- Lyndsay Poaps

General Manager - Susan Mundick Deputy Fire Chief - Scott Henderson

Director of Queen Elizabeth District

Director of Vancouver East District

Director of Planning and Operations

Manager of Revenue Services

- Liane McKenna

- Lori MacKay

- Piet Rutgers

- Philip Josephs

Child and Youth Services Coordinator
Arts and Multiculturalism Coordinator
Recreation Services Coordinator
Supervisor of Stanley Park
Manager of Communications
- Booth Palmer
- Susan Gordon
- Cindy Crapper
- Eric Meagher
- Joyce Courtney

Recorder - Julie Casanova

Commissioners Deal and Riccius were absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board held on Monday, June 21, 2004 were adopted as circulated.

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair reported that the Mayor proclaimed July 17 as Canada Parks Day. Some of the members of the Board participated in the following events:

- Canada Day Celebrations;
- Opening of Chinese Cultural Festival;
- Killarney Skateboard Opening;
- Inter Tidal Art Project at Spanish Banks.

Finance Committee - next meeting will be on July 12 at 6:30 p.m. and the committee will be discussing ethical purchasing and the operating budget for the first 6 months of the year.

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Planning and Environment Committee - will be meting on July 6, items for discussion are track and field, cell tower at Fraserview and Community Gardens.

Culture and Recreation Committee - will have their final meeting before the summer on July 7 at Killarney Community Centre. The committee will be discussing a horizontal climbing wall and donation of art from the Chilean Consulate.

Council Report

Council will be receiving a report on Wildland Fire Preparedness and Rick Hansen Availability Award to Community Services Group and the Vancouver Park Board. The City Services and Budgets Committee will receive a report on Olympic Youth Legacy for Physical Activity, Sport, Culture and the Arts. The Planning and Environment Committee will discuss the Green Building Strategy where the city will seek a minimum Silver Leed for its buildings. Council will also receive the Civic Youth Strategy Annual Progress Report.

Olympic Youth Legacy

Board members received copies of a staff report dated June 25, 2004 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A and B.

Staff advised the Board that there will be a report to Council for funding the Olympic Youth Legacy for Sport and the Arts. Staff are developing initiatives and programs for youth and researching on methods to evaluate and measure success by working closely with community association partners.

Karen Cooke appeared before the Board with a request to consider a rubber running track in Vancouver as part of the Olympic Youth Legacy. Runners are underrepresented and the Park Board should build at least one track where people can run safely.

Board members discussed the issue and stated that this was an excellent framework where staff will listen and work directly with young people. The Culture and Recreation Committee recommends acceptance of this report. The delegation was advised that the Planning and Environment Committee will be discussing the issue of a running track at their meeting on Tuesday, July 6, 2004.

Moved by Commissioner Poaps,

A. THAT the Board approve the Olympic Youth Legacy Framework and Action Plans for 2004-2005, as outlined in the attached Council Report.

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B. THAT the Board encourage its partners in local sport and cultural activity to embrace the Olympic Youth Legacy Framework and Action Plans.

- Carried Unanimously.

Changes to Bus Parking Charges in 2005

Board members received copies of a staff report dated June 25, 2004 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A and B.

Staff advised the Board that this report was reviewed and approved by the Finance Committee.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Jim Storie, Vancouver Trolley
- Brian Veitch, Grayline of Vancouver

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

- bus companies were not consulted;
- should not have to pay for a parking pass for bus that does not park in the parking lot;
- visitors are taking advantage of alternate transportation rather than bringing their car into the park;
- there is reduction in emission and the need for parking spaces;
- do not mind to pay for use, but need to know in advance so can be included in the budget;
- the 2005 fees have already been set;
- user fee is ok but do it fairly.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

- A. THAT the Board approve increases to the bus parking rates in Stanley Park and Queen Elizabeth Park as set out in this report, effective January 1, 2005
- B. THAT the Board approve a requirement for companies which offer "hop on, hop off" style bus tours which stop in Stanley Park to purchase bus parking passes, effective January 1, 2005

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Board members discussed the issue and a member of the Board suggested that the delegations be given an opportunity to meet with the Finance Committee.

Moved by Commissioner Anton,

THAT motion B be referred to the Finance Committee.

- Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

THAT motion A be referred to the Finance Committee.

- Carried Unanimously.

Wildland Fire Preparedness

Board members received copies of a staff report dated June 16, 2004 recommending that the Board receive the information report advising both Council and the Park Board of the fire preparedness initiatives taken by Vancouver Fire and Rescue and Park Board staff.

Staff advised the Board that the wildfire last summer prompted them to initiate a plan and public education program with regard to fire preparedness. Deputy Fire Chief Scott Henderson was an integral part of the team.

Board members thanked staff for their initiative.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

THAT the Board receive the information report to advise both Council and the Park Board of the fire preparedness initiatives taken by Vancouver Fire and Rescue and Park Board staff.

- Carried Unanimously.

Proposal to Extend Dog Off Leash Hours

Board members received copies of a staff report dated June 24, 2004 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to C.

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Staff reviewed the feedback from the community for each of the sites and the rationale for the recommendations.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Megan Carvell Davis
- Cheryl Sirrs. Vancouver Dog Owners Association
- Lecia Pringle
- Margaret Newton, VANDOG
- Betty Malough
- Doug Anderson
- Marjorie Brownson
- Daryl Wheatcroft
- J. M. Taylor
- Celena Benndorf
- Randy Puder
- Gerry Eckford
- Paige Gibson
- Colette Parsons
- Erik Whiteway
- June Pierson
- Sandra Titus

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

- dogs off-leash areas are as important as people's need for swimming beaches:
- congratulate staff for their courage to recommend seasonal hours at Vanier Park;
- hope Park Board will follow the covenance of Mr. Hadden in future planning;
- cricket at Balaclava should be scheduled only during off-leash hours;
- Vanier Park is a natural off-leash area;
- sunbathers and swimmers have Kits Beach;
- allow by-law enforcement an opportunity to do their job;
- do not extend off-leash hours until dog owners are obeying the bylaws;
- dog owners can only be responsible if they have enough space;
- there should be more off-leash parks;
- provide fencing to separate off-leash areas;
- have off-leash areas in every neighbourhood park;
- Vanier Park was a favourite retreat spot, swimming and picnic with friends:
- have endured insults when asking people to leash their dogs;
- signs should be more prominent;
- would like increase in off-leash hours at Balaclava Park;

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- safety issue for single women using the park during winter evenings;
- significant increase of dogs over the years at Vanier Park;
- dogs barking constantly is invasive and intolerable;
- Vanier Park is no longer a park but a collection area for dogs;
- need more dog friendly park facilities;
- put some one in charge to create more dog friendly parks;
- limited hours are inconvenient;
- post signs for dog owners and non dog owners;
- commend Bill Manning for patrolling the beach on the weekend;
- would like to know how many tickets were issued;
- do not change the bylaw to accommodate dog owners;
- opposed to increasing off-leash hours to reward dog owners;
- dog owners should comply with the bylaws;
- there has been a shift in how parks are used;
- glad to see Quilchena Park will be 24 hour off-leash;
- have concerns about extending off-leash areas;
- would like to see a master plan for the entire area of Vanier Park;
- would like Vanier Park to be a full time off-leash park;
- this secluded beach has a potential for drugs and alcohol use without the dogs;
- against extending off-leash hours at Musqueam Park;
- Musqueam Park has recently renovated 2 soccer fields and restored a salmon stream;
- children will be intimidated and will not be able to use the park.

Board members thanked the delegations for their input and stated that staff will consider the many ideas put forward to make this program successful. However, it is important for dog owners to be responsible and enforcement of the bylaw is crucial.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

- A. THAT the Board confirm 6am to 10pm dog off-leash hours on a year round basis at 37th & Oak Park, Sunset Park, Locarno Park, Quilchena Park and Musqueam Park.
- B. THAT the Board retain the existing hours for dog off-leash use at Balaclava Park. (7 am 10am and 5pm 10pm)
- C. THAT the Board confirm existing off-leash hours from May 1 to September 30 and extended hours (6am to 10pm) for dog off-leash use from October 1st to April 30th at Vanier Park.

- Carried Unanimously.

Ticket Prices and Price Structure at the Hallowe'en Ghost Train and Bright Nights in Stanley Park

Board members received copies of a staff report dated June 24, 2004 with a recommendation from the Finance Committee that the Board approve the proposed ticket prices and price structure for the Ghost Train and Bright Nights events at the Miniature Railway as set out in the report.

Moved by Commissioner Anton,

THAT the Board approve the proposed ticket prices and price structure for the Ghost Train and Bright Nights events at the Miniature Railway as set out in this report

- Carried Unanimously.

Kingcrest Park Upgrade Concept Plan

Board members received copies of a staff report dated June 24, 2004 recommending that the Board approve the concept plan for the proposed upgrade of Kingcrest Park.

Staff reviewed the concept plan for the upgrade of Kingcrest Park.

William Lim a resident from the Kingcrest Park area requested that the Board consider adding washroom facilities in the upgrade for Kingcrest Park. The park is well used by families and seniors. Mr. Lim also suggested that local art be incorporated into the plans for the park.

Moved by Commissioner Poaps,

THAT the Board approve the concept plan for the proposed upgrade of Kingcrest Park as described in this report and illustrated in Appendix 1.

- Carried Unanimously.

In-Camera Meeting

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

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: (d) the security of property of the city.

- Carried Unanimously.

In-Camera Session

Motions

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

THAT the Board approve \$1,500, for Commissioner Poaps to attend the Road to Vancouver 2006 Youth and Local Government tour as a representative of the Vancouver Park Board,

and

THAT Commissioner Poaps report to the Board on her learnings.

- Carried Unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 12:25 a.m.

Susan Mundick Commissioner Anita Romaniuk
General Manager Chair