

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD AT THE PARK BOARD OFFICE
ON MONDAY, MAY 29, 2006**

PRESENT:	Chair	- Heather Holden
	Vice Chair	- Ian Robertson
	Commissioners	- Allan De Genova
		- Spencer Herbert
		- Korina Houghton
		- Loretta Woodcock
		- Martin Zlotnik
	General Manager	- Susan Mundick
	Director of Planning and Operations	- Piet Rutgers
	Director of Queen Elizabeth District	- Liane McKenna
	Director of Vancouver East District	- Lori MacKay
	Research Planner	- Michel Desrochers
	Child & Youth Services Coordinator	- Booth Palmer
	Manager of Communications	- Joyce Courtney
	Recorder	- Julie Casanova

Moved by Commissioner Robertson,

THAT the Board 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 paragraphs:

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

- (k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of an activity, work or facility that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the Board, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the city if they were held in public.**

- Carried Unanimously.

In-Camera Session

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on Monday, May 15, 2006 were adopted as circulated.

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair recognised former Commissioners Anita Romaniuk and Laura McDiarmid.

City Council Report

The General Manager advised the Board that Council will be receiving a report on municipal ticket information. The 2006 Park Board Capital Budget and the Park Board Pre 2000, 2000-2002, 2003-2005 Capital Plan Close Outs reports were approved at the City Services and Budget Committee. Council's Planning and Environment Committee will be receiving a report on Active and Safe Trips to School – Pilot Program.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parks and Recreation Planning Committee: The Planning Committee discussed the master plan for John Hendry Park, dogs off-leash task force terms of reference and sport hosting. The Planning Committee also received a presentation by the Aquarium regarding their proposal. As the Chair has requested that issues regarding the Aquarium not be discussed while she is in the Chair, details of this proposal will not be reported but are available in the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee.

Parks and Recreation Finance Committee: The Finance Committee discussed the amendments to the ethical purchasing policy and the first quarter update on the operating budget.

STAFF REPORTS

Burrard View Park – Harbourview Daycare Redevelopment

Board members received copies of a staff report dated May 19, 2006 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A and B.

Staff, along with the architect for the Harbourview Daycare Redevelopment project, Paula Grossman, reviewed the concept plan. The concept selected by the proponents is a two storey permanent building, funding for this is yet to be finalised. The plan reflects the input provided by the neighbours and will be sensitive to the park and views.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Cherie McLaughlin, Kiwassa Hastings Townsite Society
- Carol Wood, Kiwassa Hastings Townsite Society
- Jim-me Yoon
- Rory O'Donnell

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

- welcome the opportunity to improve the facility for the children;
- conscious that green space is valuable;
- Hastings Townsite endorses a two storey structure;
- capital fund raising is a work in progress;
- residents are supportive of the daycare;
- need to know the exact location of the building;
- architect must consult the residents regarding exact height of the building;
- a daycare is not an appropriate use of parkland;
- daycare is needed in the area, however a park is a public space;
- need to minimize impact to the park, cannot give up the quality of life;
- would like to be part of the process.

Board members discussed the plans for the Harbourview Daycare Redevelopment and thanked staff for working with the community to develop a plan which would satisfy most of the daycare needs and mitigate the impact to the neighbourhood.

Moved by Commissioner De Genova,

- A. THAT the Board approve the concept plan described as Option B as outlined in this staff report and illustrated in Appendix 1 for a two-storey, 4,700 square foot permanent licensed daycare facility to replace the childcare portable on Burrard View Park at no cost to the Park Board, provided that the project proponents secure funds to complete the project, and,**
- B. THAT a report with detailed schematic design plans and secured revenue sources be submitted to the Board prior to development permit application.**

- Carried Unanimously.

Dog Strategy Task Force Terms of Reference

Board members received copies of a staff report dated May 18, 2006 recommending that the Board approve the Terms of Reference for the Dog Strategy Task Force and funding of \$40,000 for the work of the Task Force.

Staff reviewed the background on how the dog strategy task force came about. Staff advised the Board on the terms of reference, task force structure and the membership. The task force will be a citizen panel with no representation from Commissioners or staff and will report directly to the Board. Funds for the task force will be reallocated from a previous dog off-leash program.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Eleanor Hadley
- Celena Benndorf
- Elizabeth Wilkinson
- Megan Carvell Davis
- Margaret Newton

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

- the Board is spending too much money on dogs;
- none of the dogs off leash parks are working because there is no enforcement;
- problems will continue regardless of the task force;
- enough information is available, no need for a task force;
- need greater enforcement of the by-law;
- a new task force is a way to not implement the new by-law;
- if a task force is established would like to see improved reports on data;
- need to consider safety issues for children;
- population is doubling, but park land is not;
- non dog owners' rights are not addressed;
- important to have a psychologist to look at people's behaviour on the task force;
- need someone with urban planning experience;
- question on who is choosing the members of the task force;
- need an educational psychologist to effect behaviour change in individuals;
- design a public consultation process with more neighbourhood level events;
- according to the strategy there will be no dog parks;
- need to educate people to be more responsible;
- dog owners need parks, provide it in a way so that they will not use other parks.

Moved by Commissioner Robertson,

That the Park Board approve:

1. The Terms of Reference for the Dog Strategy Task Force attached as Appendix 1;
2. Funding of \$40,000 for the work of the Task Force, including \$30,000 reallocated from a previous approval for the Dog Off-Leash Program and \$10,000 from the 2006-2008 Capital Plan for planning studies.

Board members discussed the issue and recognised that a responsible dog owner can contribute to a healthy lifestyle, conflicts are the result of abuse of use of dog off leash areas. The issue of enforcement was discussed and staff advised the Board that animal control staff will work with us to target areas of concern. A member of the Board commented that the Board should ask Council to consider an increase in animal control officers in the 2007 operating budget and an amendment to the motion was suggested.

Moved by Commissioner Herbert,

THAT an item 3 be added as follows:

That Park Board staff prepare a report outlining issues that the Park Board faces around animal control, provide that report to Council and advocate for a 2007 budget increase for animal control officers.

Board members discussed the motion and a member of the Board commented that the task force may have a number of recommendations and one of them could be enforcement. It would be more efficient to bring a whole package of recommendations to Council rather than piecemeal. A member of the Board stated budgets are done in the fall and as the recommendations are not expected till after the budget is finalised, timing is important.

The amendment motion was put forward and it was Carried Unanimously.

The main motion was put forward as follows:

Moved by Commissioner Robertson,

That the Park Board approve:

1. **The Terms of Reference for the Dog Strategy Task Force attached as Appendix 1;**
2. **Funding of \$40,000 for the work of the Task Force, including \$30,000 reallocated from a previous approval for the Dog Off-Leash Program and \$10,000 from the 2006-2008 Capital Plan for planning studies.**

3. **That Park Board staff prepare a report outlining issues that Park Board faces around animal control, provide that report to Council and advocate for a 2007 budget increase for animal control officers.**

- Carried Unanimously.

John Hendry Park Master Plan – Phase 1: new Trout Lake Community Centre and Ice Rink

Board members received copies of a staff report dated May 19, 2006 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A and B.

Staff advised the Board that several public meetings were held to develop the first phase of the master plan for John Hendry Park which focused on the siting of the new community centre and rink. Design factors were scaled as high, medium or low priority. The public consultation process also dealt with the siting of the new Trout Lake Community Centre and Ice Rink.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Kate Perkins, VP, Grandview Community Centre Association
- Gary Shilling
- Ron Clark
- Barbara Wagner, Co-Chair Ice Allocation Committee
- Jay Hamburger
- Nicole Figuerido

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

- thanked staff for a transparent and constructive process;
- the public meetings were very well attended;
- support bringing both locations for consideration;
- shocked to see staff recommendation, seems that decision has already been made;
- if the public consultation was for two sites, then both should be put forward for the architect to come up with two designs;
- found the process for site selection frustrating;
- community was under the impression that the third meeting was to choose a site;
- tax-payers voted for a new rink, now the community centre and rink are bundled together;
- community has been misled, focus should be on the rink;
- put the building where it does not intrude in the park or obstruct the view from Victoria Drive;

- put the ice rink as low in the ground as possible;
- do not want to lose the tennis courts;
- if site A is chosen there will be no continuity of service;
- lost hours will not be accommodated, cannot have two rinks down at the same time;
- ask Board to secure ice time in other municipalities to alleviate the time lost during the rink construction;
- questions raised regarding losing trees and green space and the farmers market;
- are there enough funds for a rink and community centre?
- the view factor was really emphasized during the public consultation;
- no one goes to use a community centre for the view;
- the new structure should complement the surroundings;
- need to be sensitive to the lake;
- want a new rink that does not intrude but complement the park.

Moved by Commissioner Houghton,

- A. THAT the Board endorse the high priority design factors, the medium priority design factors, and the non-design factors listed in Appendix A as considerations to be incorporated into the upcoming conceptual design work for the new Trout Lake Community Centre and Ice Rink;
- B. THAT the Board endorse the south-west portion of John Hendry Park, as shown in Appendix B, as the site for the new Trout Lake Community Centre and Ice Rink

Board members thanked staff and the community for the good work in working through the issues. A member of the Board stated that the community's comment to have the architect develop a design for more than one site was a fair request. An amendment to the motion was put forward.

Moved by Commissioner Robertson,

**THAT the following be added to recommendation B:
“and that the architect be instructed to develop options for site A,
site B and a combination thereof”.**

- Carried Unanimously.

The main motion as amended was put forward as follows:

Moved by Commissioner Houghton,

- A. THAT the Board endorse the high priority design factors, the medium priority design factors, and the non-design factors listed in Appendix A as considerations to be incorporated into the upcoming conceptual design work for the new Trout Lake Community Centre and Ice Rink;**
- B. THAT the Board endorse the south-west portion of John Hendry Park, as shown in Appendix B, as the site for the new Trout Lake Community Centre and Ice Rink and that the architect be instructed to develop options for site A, site B and a combination thereof.**

- Carried Unanimously.

Synthetic Turf Field at Vancouver Technical School

Board members received copies of a staff report dated May 18, 2006 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A and B.

Staff advised the Board that the Vancouver Technical School site was one of the highest rated sites for a synthetic field installation. The location is also ideal for the distribution of services to the east side of Vancouver.

Randy Brophy, Point Grey Soccer, appeared before the Board and stated that the registration for youth soccer is highest in Vancouver and urged the Board to approve the recommendation in the staff report.

Moved by Commissioner Herbert,

- A. THAT the Board approve the development of a synthetic turf, sports field for Park uses on a portion of the grounds of the Vancouver Technical Secondary School ("VTSS"), by license agreement with the Vancouver School Board, in a form satisfactory to the City's Director of Legal Services, acquiring the right to use a portion of the grounds of the VTSS for that purpose and on City Council resolving that the City's rights to use those lands for that purpose are to be in the custody, care and management of the Board for the term of the license agreement, with all details of these arrangements to be to the satisfaction of the General Manager of Parks and Recreation;**

- B. THAT the source of funds for the construction of the Vancouver Technical field will be the City Wide Park DCL funds allocated for this purpose in the 2003 – 2005 Capital Plan, supplemented by up to \$400,000 previously committed by the Dunbar, Point Grey and Kerrisdale Soccer Clubs (the Clubs).**

- Carried Unanimously.

MOTIONS

Vancouver Aquarium

Commissioner Heather Holden declared a conflict of interest and left the room at this time as she is an employee of the Vancouver Aquarium.

Commissioner Robertson chaired the meeting from this point.

Moved by Commissioner Zlotnik,

Whereas the Vancouver Aquarium has a lease until the year 2015;

Whereas the Vancouver Aquarium has been in business for 50 years and now feels it necessary to upgrade and expand their facilities and will be so requesting;

Whereas any request for expansion will require the full and appropriate public discussion of all interested citizens and stakeholders prior to any approval;

Whereas any such request and investment by the Vancouver Aquarium requires certainty for their operations until the year 2015;

Be It Resolved that the following two resolutions passed by previous Boards be rescinded:

“THAT any request by the Vancouver Aquarium for an expansion of the area currently occupied by the Vancouver Aquarium under its lease with the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation be referred to a public referendum to be held during the next general civic election.

FURTHER, THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation defer consideration of any such request for expansion until such time as the

public of Vancouver have voted in favour of such expansion in a public referendum.”

“Be It Resolved that the Park Board recommend to City Council that a city wide plebiscite be held during the 2008 civic election on the question of whales and dolphins being kept in captivity in Stanley Park, with a goal of testing public opinion in the interests of long term planning for the next lease renewal with the Vancouver Aquarium, in 2015;

Be It Further Resolved that the plebiscite ask the following yes or no question, “Are you in favour of phasing out the containment of whales and dolphins in Stanley Park?””

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board regarding the Vancouver Aquarium rescinding motion:

1. Anthony Marr
2. Kelly Bunting, Coalition for No Whales in Captivity
3. Janos Mate, Whale Friends
4. Anita Romaniuk
5. Lea Johnson
6. Robert Light
7. Brunella Battista
8. Keith Edwards
9. Isabel Minty
10. Stuart Mackinnon, Green Party of Vancouver
11. Joan Reekie
12. Laura McDiarmid
13. Jamie Lee Hamilton
14. Ron Rothwell
15. Janet Landucci, Chair, Vancouver Aquarium
16. Stephen Thompson
17. Clint Wright, VP Operations and Animal Care, Vancouver Aquarium
18. Tom Mayenknecht
19. Martin Haulena, Veterinarian, Vancouver Aquarium
20. Penny Hentzel, Volunteer, Vancouver Aquarium
21. Eleanor Hadley
22. Brooke Wade, Board Director, Vancouver Aquarium
23. Jim Varah, Volunteer, Vancouver Aquarium
24. Carolyne Varah, Volunteer, Vancouver Aquarium
25. John Nightingale, Executive Director, Vancouver Aquarium

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

- concerned with wildlife preservation;

- expanding the Aquarium means increase in the number of dolphins;
- Vancouver Park Board should be preserving parks;
- a referendum is necessary to preserve the park land;
- ridiculous to allow the Aquarium to conduct their own public consultation;
- the Aquarium has a blatant disregard for the public and the Board;
- rescinding the motion is anti-democratic;
- why is the Aquarium afraid of a plebiscite?
- not appropriate to keep dolphins and whales in captivity;
- this is an ethical and moral issue;
- the Aquarium is on public land, need to think about what citizens want;
- only way to know what the public thinks is a plebiscite;
- Board's mandate is to be an advocate for parks;
- citizens should have a say whether whales and dolphins should be kept at the Aquarium;
- the Aquarium is becoming a theme park;
- should not be about money, stay the course and hold a referendum;
- those who oppose a referendum know that they will lose;
- the Aquarium says they are a great organization, yet they oppose a referendum;
- need real education for children regarding conservation;
- allow the public to decide on the use of Stanley Park;
- the Aquarium went against the by-law by bringing in dolphins from Japan;
- the Aquarium has gone through several expansions, taking up more park space, there does not seem to be an end to the expansion;
- people who visits the Aquarium are international tourists, that is why they do not want a referendum;
- opposed to rescinding the motions, allow the citizens to give their opinion;
- the democratically elected Board is charged to act in the best interests of the citizens;
- Stanley Park is an oasis for the city, a place of refuge;
- should create a master plan for Stanley Park rather than this motion;
- Stanley Park is an urban forest;
- Aquarium knows this is their opportunity to expand because they have an employee on the Board;
- the previous Board went through a thorough public consultation process which resulted in the motion you are now rescinding;
- the motion exists to give the public a say on what happens in Stanley Park;
- citizens have a right to voice their concerns, put it to a public vote;
- Park Commissioners are trustees of the park, if you move a piece of park behind the fence, you are taking parkland away from the people;
- the issue must go back to the people, it is embarrassing that this is even on the table;

- the Aquarium knows the rules of the game, but they choose to ignore it;
- the Aquarium is 50 years old and is a part of the heritage of the park;
- the Aquarium has a good educational program for school children;
- this is a major attraction in Vancouver, a well run organization;
- the animals in the Aquarium have the best care;
- the infrastructure is old and needs to be replaced;
- the Aquarium is a community asset in Stanley Park;
- need to teach children the importance of conservation;
- the Aquarium does not pay taxes, they should move and pay their way;
- important to upgrade the Aquarium in preparation for visitors in 2010;
- opportunity to build exists now, there is no need for a referendum;
- people are fascinated with the aquatic world, there is adequate space for a good interpretive area;
- important for children to learn about marine mammals;
- willing to go to a public consultation;
- timing is the issue, believe funding is available now which will not be available after 2010;
- children cannot vote but they can respond to a community public consultation.

Board members discussed the motion and a member of the Board stated that the Board was elected to make decisions. The Aquarium is entitled to be heard in a timely manner, by rescinding the motion the plan can be brought forward for discussion and sent to public consultation. A member of the Board stated that the Commissioners were elected to find out what the public wants, a privately funded public consultation process for public land is not acceptable. Stanley Park is everyone's park, the Board should do their best to provide the people with a referendum.

The motion was put forward and it was Carried.
(Commissioner Herbert and Woodcock contrary)

Commissioner Holden returned to the room at this point of the meeting.

Nanook Child Care Centre

Moved by Commissioner De Genova,

WHEREAS the YMCA of Greater Vancouver (YMCA) has operated the Nanook Child Care Centre in South China Creek Park for over 27 years, and;

WHEREAS there continues to be a high demand for services geared to a population considered at-risk due to socio-economic factors, and/or with children vulnerable to developmental delays in this

northern area of Mount Pleasant (as indicated in City of Vancouver reports and community research projects), and;

WHEREAS the YMCA is committed to raising the funds required to replace the existing Nanook Child Care portable in South China Creek Park with a permanent structure, and;

WHEREAS the YMCA proposes to extend services from the current program for 25 children by providing additional space for twelve children under the age of three and by providing an additional multi-use space for family programs to be operated in collaboration with community partners, within a one-storey model, and;

WHEREAS the YMCA, on further investigation of capital costs and the most effective way to serve high-needs families (determined to be in a one-storey building with two licenses), and;

WHEREAS the YMCA is cognizant of park space and has reduced from the June 21, 2004 motion the outdoor play space due to the program location within the park, and;

WHEREAS a one-storey model eliminates the need for stairwells, elevators, vestibules and further provides space efficiencies through shared use of spaces and further space reductions in the multi-use space, and;

WHEREAS a one-storey building is more consistent with the character of the neighbourhood and fits within the building area of South China Creek Park established by the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation (Park Board), and;

WHEREAS the Park Board supported the construction of a permanent structure with two licenses and a shared community room, and;

WHEREAS attached documents outline the YMCA's request for an additional 103.9 square metres (1,118 square feet), the amount needed to build the proposed one-storey model which has been placed one metre east of the approved two-storey site envelope;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Park Board amend its June 21, 2004 motion by deleting the following paragraph under item B which said:

“ a two-storey, 550 sq metre permanent facility for the purposes of licensed childcare and for a shared community room, and 520 square metres of fenced outdoor licensed childcare play yard;”

And replace it with the following paragraph:

“ a one-storey, 465 sq metre permanent facility for the purposes of licensed childcare and for a shared community room, and 390 square metres of fenced outdoor licensed childcare play yard;”

- Carried Unanimously.

Procedure By-Law Amendment

Moved by Commissioner Houghton,

THAT the Board change section 2 of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation Procedure By-Law as follows:

- (2) If this By-Law does not address a procedure, then**
- a) the Procedure By-Law of the city, except for Section 7, is to apply to proceedings of the Board in respect of that procedure; or**
 - b) if the Procedure By-Law of the city does not address a procedure, the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order is to apply to proceedings of the Board in respect of that procedure.**

-Carried Unanimously.

Enquiries, Other Matters and New Business

Budget Efficiency

A member of the Board requested information on the impacts of the realignment of hours for staff at community centres. Staff advised the Board that a letter was received from the Killarney Community Association Board and a response will be sent to indicate that the strategy to achieve the budget was reduced hours and not reduced service. Information on the impacts on all three Districts will be provided to the Board through the Finance Committee.

Insurance and Indemnification

A briefing on insurance and indemnification of Community Associations was requested. This issue will be placed on the next Finance Committee agenda.

Andy Livingstone Park

A member of the Board enquired about the status of the field at Andy Livingstone Park. Staff advised the Board that there were still some technical issues to sort through and results should be available by mid July.

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 pm.

Susan Mundick
General Manager

Commissioner Heather Holden
Chair