

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD AT THE DR. SUN YAT-SEN GARDEN
ON MONDAY, JANUARY 29, 2007**

PRESENT:	Chair	- Ian Robertson
	Vice Chair	- Korina Houghton
	Commissioners	- Allan De Genova
		- Spencer Herbert
		- Heather Holden
		- Loretta Woodcock
		- Martin Zlotnik
	General Manager	- Susan Mundick
	Director of Planning and Operations	- Piet Rutgers
	Director of Stanley District	- Jim Lowden
	Director of Queen Elizabeth District	- Liane McKenna
	Manager of Operations – Stanley District	- Bill Manning
	Manager of Recreation Services – Queen Elizabeth District	- Diane Murphy
	Manager of Recreation Services – Vancouver East District	- Terry Walton
	Manager of Revenue Services	- Philip Josephs
	Coordinator of Rinks	- Bruce MacWilliam
	Manager of Communications	- Joyce Courtney
	Recorder	- Julie Casanova

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on Monday, January 15, 2007 were adopted as circulated.

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair thanked the Dr. Sun Yat Sen Garden Society for their hospitality and for hosting the Board meeting.

The Chair thanked Vice Chair Commissioner Korina Houghton for chairing the Board meeting on Monday, January 15, 2007 on short notice due to the passing of his mother. The Chair advised the Board that along with the General Manager, he personally met with crews from the four service yards to express the Board's appreciation for their hard work during the recent storm clean up. The Chair reported on the recent visits to Stanley Park by the Premier and Federal Government Ministers. The Federal

Government committed \$2 million for the restoration of Stanley Park and the Provincial Government provided \$1 million under the Local Motion program.

City Council Agenda

Council will be receiving a report on Stanley Park Restoration: City, Provincial and Federal Funding.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parks and Recreation Planning Committee: the committee received a presentation for an international Triathlon event in Vancouver.

Parks and Recreation Finance Committee: the committee discussed the fees for Burrard Marina and looked at future operations and maintenance, the fees for all community centres related to youth and seniors and the 2007 budget.

OPEN QUESTION PERIOD

Jack Chow, appeared before the Board and stated that the construction along Carrall Street is causing hardships to the merchants. The Dr. Sun Yat Sen Garden and Andy Livingstone Park are now inaccessible. Chinatown is slowly being destroyed.

The Chair advised Mr. Chow that the issue he refers to is not within the jurisdiction of the Park Board, however, staff could direct him to contact the appropriate department at city hall.

Joe Cvetkovich appeared before the Board and stated that he enjoys the Stanley Park seawall and would like to make a contribution to the Stanley Park restoration fund. Mr. Cvetkovich presented a \$1000 cheque to the Board towards the Stanley Park Restoration fund.

STAFF REPORTS

Arena Construction and Ice Reallocation

Board members received copies of a staff report dated January 17, 2007 recommending that the Board proceed with the construction of the Killarney and Trout Lake rinks at the earliest possible time and that the ice allocation to user groups be amended as documented in this report.

Staff advised the Board that the two rinks, Killarney and Trout Lake, are being rebuilt and will be used as practice facilities during the 2010 Winter Olympics. Constructing both the rinks at the same time is cost effective and will ensure the delivery of the rinks in time for the 2010 Winter Olympics. The City-wide Ice Allocation

Committee and the sub-committee have worked hard to develop a schedule to try and accommodate the ice needs for the different sports groups. This is a unique situation and it is hoped that with the cooperation from all groups this plan could be successful.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Gaye Collins
- Ian Hayward
- Bill Zuhasz
- Ben Collins
- Kevin Potvin
- Kim Hogan, Co-Chair Ice Allocation Committee
- Helsa Nothof
- Paul Faoro, President, CUPE Local 15

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

- detailed breakdown of cost increase is not available;
- ask users if they would pay premium to have construction staggered;
- core program component must be maintained;
- no option to use ice at UBC;
- basic entitlement of ice time will not be met with both rinks down;
- know that Board is under pressure, but cannot have kids practising at 4:30 am;
- there is not enough ice under normal circumstances, have had to reduce the number of teams and play in other municipalities;
- these legacies will become hollow buildings if there is no one to use them;
- legacy should be about children and not buildings;
- with limited ice time, will have to limit registration of returning players and no new players;
- should not close both rinks at the same time, find a creative solution;
- need ice-time to develop hockey skills to achieve an athletic scholarship;
- hockey builds character and helps to develop close friendships;
- consider the future of young players in your decision;
- there is a value in amateur sports, it keeps the kids off the streets;
- hundreds of families work hard to provide their kid with an opportunity to play hockey;
- amateur sport is being destroyed by a construction schedule;
- the Park Board was able to work with VANOC to come up with funding for new rinks;
- need to keep in mind that the rinks are not just for hockey;
- the ice allocation committee have worked hard to come up with a schedule to accommodate all groups;
- work on both facilities can be done simultaneously, short term pain for a long term gain;
- it is unfortunate that the projects have been delayed;
- the ice allocation is fair, there is a demand for ice;

- other ice users have worked together to come up with solutions;
- all minor sporting groups are in the same boat, there is not enough ice time;
- the figure skating kids are on the ice at 5:30 am;
- Vancouver has the lowest fee for ice in the Lower Mainland;
- ice user policy is not flawed, it is designed to give equitable ice use;
- endorsing that the Board go ahead with the construction of both rinks at the same time;
- will get through the difficulties if we work together;
- union representing the employees are disappointed with the Park Board;
- did not receive prior information about this report;
- the Board is obligated to follow the Collective Agreement;
- there is a clause in it that indicates any report of this nature should be communicated to the union;
- you have an obligation to the employees who will be losing work during the closure.

Moved by Commissioner Houghton,

THAT the Board proceed with the construction of the Killarney and Trout Lake rinks at the earliest possible time, and that the ice allocation to user groups be amended as documented in this report.

Board members discussed the importance of completing the construction on schedule and to allow time to address any deficiencies that may be encountered. It is hoped that staff will continue to work with the community to come up with solutions so that kids will not be subjected to 4:30 am ice times. A member of the Board stated that the possibility of not closing both rinks at the same should be explored. She is confident that construction of both rinks could be staggered and completed in time, there will be cost over runs, but it is not a lot of money. A member of the Board stated that although there is an obligation to have the rinks completed in 2009, delaying the construction of Trout Lake rink by six months will not cost a lot of money. An amendment to the motion was suggested.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

THAT staff report back to the Board on cost and construction implications, including support potentially from the Olympic fund and report back to the Board on February 12, to delay construction of Trout Lake from August 2007 to December 2007.

Board members discussed the amendment motion and a member of the Board indicated that staff have advised the Board that costs could increase by \$400,000.

The amendment motion was put and it was DEFEATED.
(Commissioners De Genova, Holden, Houghton, Robertson and Zlotnik contrary)

A member stated that she was concerned about having inactive citizens and the Board's fiscal responsibilities. An amendment motion was put forward.

Moved by Commissioner Holden,

THAT the Board proceed with the construction such that Killarney and Trout Lake rinks are not closed at the same time and that the ice allocation committee work with users to find a reasonable temporary fee increase to help cover potential cost over-runs.

Board members discussed the amendment and a member of the Board stated that although he supports the spirit of the motion, he does not agree with the fee increase.

The amendment motion was put forward and it was DEFEATED.
(Commissioners De Genova, Herbert, Houghton, Robertson, Woodcock and Zlotnik contrary)

A member of the Board stated that the Board needs to find a way to ensure that both rinks are not closed at the same time.

Moved by Commissioner Herbert,

THAT the Board proceed with the construction of the Killarney Ice Rink at the earliest possible and start construction of the Trout Lake Ice Rink in December 2007.

Board members discussed the amendment motion and a member of the Board stated that it would put the associations in a worse situation to find ice time for half a season. A member of the Board stated that the only group most inconvenienced is the Thunderbird Ice Hockey group because UBC is not providing any space for them. The immediacy of the problem is to find time for this group. UBC have agreed to provide 25 hours to the Board to assist us to make the situation better, this would cost us \$161,000 for one year as opposed to an approximate \$400,000 loss if construction of Trout Lake is delayed.

Moved by Commissioner Holden,

THAT the Trout Lake Rink construction begin in March 2008.

- DEFEATED.

(Commissioner De Genova, Herbert, Houghton, Robertson, Woodcock and Zlotnik contrary)

The amendment motion was put forward as follows:

Moved by Commissioner Herbert,

THAT the main motion be amended to read as follows:

THAT the Board proceed with the construction of the Killarney Ice Rink at the earliest possible and start construction of the Trout Lake Ice Rink in December 2007.

- Carried.

(Commissioners Robertson, Houghton and Zlotnik contrary)

Sustainable Seafood choices at Park Board Concessions and Golf Course Clubhouses

Board members received copies of a staff report dated January 15, 2007 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A and B.

Staff was directed by the Planning Committee to prepare a report to the Board recommending that the seafood purchases be in line with the Ocean Wise, Sea Choice, and Seafood Watch programs for the Board's concession and golf clubhouses. The Board's concessions and clubhouses are able to purchase sustainable seafood at this time without negatively impacting the quality, price or supply of its menu selections.

The Chair welcomed former Chair Eva Riccius to the meeting.

Eva Riccius, Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, congratulated the Board on moving towards the Sea Choice program. Vancouver will be the first municipality to support Sea Choice, a national program based on rigorous science that ranks seafood on sustainability criteria. She encouraged the Board to accept the report and to be proud about taking a stand on sustainability.

Moved by Commissioner Herbert,

- A. THAT the Board's Concessions and Golf Course Clubhouses purchase sustainable seafood choices over alternative seafood choices subject to the quality, price and availability being acceptable to the Board;
- B. THAT the Board sends a letter to their leased restaurants requesting that they continue to purchase sustainable seafood choices whenever possible.

Board members discussed the issue and commented that with global warming, this step could help in turning things around. A member of the Board stated that this was not a policy issue and the Board should not be making decision on food choices. Staff should be making these decisions. An amendment motion was put forward.

Moved by Commissioner Zlotnik,

THAT the Board support the principle of purchasing sustainable seafood and encourage its operations to reflect that principle; and, strike out recommendations A and B.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

THAT staff report back to the Board on an annual basis.

- DEFEATED.

(Commissioners Houghton, Holden, Robertson and Zlotnik contrary)

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

Nat Bailey Stadium – Long Term Lease

Board members received copies of a staff report dated January 26, 2007 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to C.

Staff provided the background on the 25 year lease of Nat Bailey Stadium to the Vancouver Professional Baseball Partnership with terms based on direction from the Board. Staff reviewed the key terms of the lease agreed to by the parties. With the conclusion of negotiations for this lease, an improved Nat Bailey Stadium will be part of the major leisure campus in Riley/Hillcrest.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Jeff Mooney
- Allan Buium
- Eric Dagenais

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

- Nat Bailey Stadium is a treasure in Vancouver;
- the people of Vancouver have a special relationship with the stadium;
- thanked the General Manager for her lead in the partnership;
- the current management have done a good job in keeping baseball alive in Vancouver;

- intention is to honour Nat Bailey and secure baseball for future generations;
- have concerns with the report which indicate that there might be a possibility for AAA ball;
- increased parking will have a negative impact on the neighbourhood;
- need clarification on who is responsible for the traffic management plan;
- neighbourhood density is increasing, the new recreation complex with the curling facility and aquatic centre at Hillcrest will increase parking demand;
- the number of parking spaces in the plan is not enough.

Moved by Commissioner De Genova,

THAT pursuant to Board direction, the terms identified in this report are recommended to form the basis for a long term lease with the Vancouver Professional Baseball Partnership for Nat Bailey Stadium;

THAT, subject to the form of the agreement being to the satisfaction of the Director of Legal Services, the General Manager be authorized to execute the document;

THAT no legal rights or obligations will be created by the Board's adoption of Recommendations A and B above unless and until the lease and any related legal agreements are executed by the General Manager.

Board members discussed the report and stated that they look forward to working with the new operator, and that baseball is an important sport and part of the culture of Vancouver. The stadium will receive much needed renovation and families will continue to enjoy an affordable ball game. A member of the Board indicated that she was pleased to see the preservation of heritage and integrity of the facility by maintaining the name, however, she is concerned that only 128 parking spaces are available for the pool and community facilities on game nights.

The motion was put forward and it was Carried Unanimously.

Sunset Community Centre and Pool

Board members received copies of a staff report dated January 17, 2007 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A and B.

Staff advised the Board that construction at the new Sunset Community Centre is progressing well. With the completion of the new centre the existing centre will need to be demolished which will include the closure of the pool. Staff will conduct a community consultation process around design options for redeveloping the site vacated by the pool and community centre.

Board members discussed the issue and were pleased with the concept to landscape the site. A member of the Board stated that the community sacrificed the pool, but would like the Board to continue to look at options to have an outdoor pool south of 49th Avenue.

Moved by Commissioner De Genova,

- A. THAT the Board approve the removal of the existing Sunset Community Centre and Pool at the later of the:**
 - (i) opening of the new Sunset Community Centre; or**
 - (ii) end of the 2007 outdoor pool season at Sunset.**

- B. THAT the Board instruct staff to consult with the community on the landscape plans for the space vacated by the Community Centre and Pool, and bring these plans back to the Board for approval.**

- Carried Unanimously.

False Creek Waterlot License

Board members received copies of a staff report dated January 17, 2007 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A and B.

Commissioner Holden left the room at this time.

Staff advised the Board that the City of Vancouver entered into an agreement with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans to use the False Creek Fisherman's Waterlot to access a portion of the Burrard Marina at a nominal fee. Staff were informed that the Department of Fisheries and Oceans has leased their interests in False Creek including the lot leased by the City to the False Creek Harbour Authority. A license agreement with the False Creek Harbour Authority based on the terms identified in the report is recommended.

Moved by Commissioner Houghton,

- A. THAT the Park Board enter into a license agreement with the False Creek Harbour Authority to permit use of the False Creek Fishermen's Waterlot – Plan 84-53 for entry and exit into a portion of Burrard Marina, based on the Terms identified in this report;**

- B. THAT the General Manager be authorized to execute this agreement subject to the terms being satisfactory to the Director of Legal Services.**

- Carried Unanimously.

(Commissioner Holden was not present at the time of the vote)

Stanley Park Restoration: City, Provincial, and Federal Funding

Board members received copies of a staff report dated January 23, 2007 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to E.

Staff advised the Board that three major windstorms struck Stanley Park in December 2006 and January 2007 causing significant destruction to the forest, damaging portions of the seawall between Prospect Point and Third Beach and destabilizing the escarpment above the seawall. The restoration work will take years to complete and is estimated to cost about \$9 million. About half of the estimated cost has already been raised through private and corporate donors at \$2.6 million and the Federal Government has contributed \$2 million. An additional \$4 million is being sought from the City and the Provincial Government through the "Local Motion" program. A report to Council to consider this request will be submitted to its next meeting.

Commissioner Holden returned to the meeting at this time.

Moved by Commissioner Herbert,

THAT the Board request Council:

- A. Allocate \$2 million in City funding to assist with restoration work in Stanley Park;**
- B. Endorse the submission of an application by the Vancouver Park Board to the Provincial Government's "Local Motion" program for \$1 million in 2007 and \$1 million in 2008 to assist with restoration work in Stanley Park;**
- C. Accept a donation of \$2 million from the Federal Government to assist with restoration work in Stanley Park;**
- D. Approve the establishment of the Stanley Park Restoration Reserve to hold the City's \$2 million contribution and all grants/donations for the Stanley Park Restoration Project, and that the reserve be an interest bearing account in order to maximize resources in support of the restoration work;**
- E. Delegate authority to the Park Board to approve expenditures from the Stanley Park Restoration Reserve, subject to an annual report back to Council on the progress of the restoration plan and financial position of the Reserve.**

- Carried Unanimously.

MOTIONS

Moved by Commissioner Herbert,

Whereas the Park Board uses art and recreation to bring communities together;

Whereas Park Board fitness centres provide a good fitness experience, but not necessarily a pleasurable aesthetic experience;

Whereas many community artists are looking for venues to feature their work;

Whereas there is an opportunity to integrate art and fitness in a way that benefits both interests;

Therefore be it resolved that the Park Board request arts staff to develop a small pilot project whereby community artists' work would be featured in a few fitness centres, with the further possibility of introducing the program to rinks, pools, and other park board facilities depending on the initial success of the pilot project.

Board members discussed the motion and a member of the Board stated that there is an artist in residence program and the active communities program integrates art and fitness. The Board should not be interfering with programs at community centres. A member of the Board stated that this was an idea to work in partnership and not to interfere, he had spoken with a few association presidents and they were open to the idea of a pilot project.

The motion was put forward and it was DEFEATED.
(Commissioners Holden, Houghton, Robertson and Zlotnik contrary)

Moved by Commissioner Houghton,

Whereas the Board established two committees at the Board meeting on January 16, 2006 and confirmed the Chair and membership of those committees;

Therefore be it resolved that the Vancouver Park Board, effective February 1, 2007 revise the committee(s) Chair and membership as follows:

- 1. Parks and Recreation Finance:
Commissioner Marty Zlotnik (Chair)
Commissioner Korina Houghton
Commissioner Loretta Woodcock**

- 2. Parks and Recreation Planning:
Commissioner Heather Holden (Chair)
Commissioner Allan De Genova
Commissioner Spencer Herbert**

- Carried Unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 p.m.

Susan Mundick
General Manager

Commissioner Ian Robertson
Chair