

City Council Report

Council will be receiving reports on the South East False Community Centre Design and 2006-2008 Capital Plan Priorities Expo Deck/ Trillium/ Dog Care.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parks and Recreation Planning Committee: no update.

Parks and Recreation Finance Committee: no update.

OPEN QUESTION PERIOD

A member of the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club in Stanley Park questioned why the trees from the seawall have not been removed. He would like the trees removed and seawall opened for the summer. Board members advised him that there were several issues which must be addressed such as the stabilization of the cliff face before the seawall can be repaired and opened for public use. Staff is working on this project and we will open the seawall as soon as it is safe to do.

STAFF REPORTS

Parks Control By-law Amendment Regarding Cetaceans

Board members received copies of a staff report dated May 31, 2007 recommending that the Board implement the attached amendment to the Parks Control By-law as outlined in Appendix 1 of this report by the procedure for bylaw approval.

The General Manager advised the Board that the current Parks Control By-law regarding whales and dolphins has been in place for ten years and there have been questions on how effective by-law section 9(e) clause iv was regarding the interpretation of the words in this section. During the public consultation process conducted by Kirk and Co. last year, the public was asked for their views on the importation and display of cetaceans at the Aquarium. The results of the public consultation process indicated that respondents supported retaining stranded or wounded cetaceans after their rehabilitation.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Robert Light, No Whales in Captivity
- Peter Hamilton, Lifeforce
- Eleanor Hadley
- Lea Johnson
- Jenna Hunt

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

- the amendment mentions distress, who will judge the distress;
- the by-law provides a loop hole for the importation of a whale;
- whales and dolphins should be left out in the ocean where they belong;
- the resolution is about making money and should make the people of Vancouver angry;
- it is time to boycott the sponsors of the Aquarium and lobby Ottawa to deny tax incentives for donations to the Aquarium;
- Aquarium consultation process did not provide all the background information;
- the proposed Aquarium expansion may not even proceed because it is subject to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act;
- since the Aquarium buildings are a National Historic Site, any proposed replacement and demolition is also under review;
- Lifeforce would like to propose amendments to the bylaw to phase out the captivity of dolphins;
- there should be a by-law prohibiting the Aquarium to have river otters, beavers and others that the public voted against;
- all Aquarium motions are out of order, it conflicts with the mandate of Stanley Park which is to be kept for the enjoyment of the citizens of Vancouver;
- the Aquarium is not environmentally friendly and is a private company in the guise of a non-profit society;
- the Board is responsible for giving away Stanley Park freely to the Aquarium;
- the Aquarium will continue to support the intention of the by-law to phase out the import of cetaceans in the park;
- the Aquarium should not be allowed to expand beyond its present footprint;
- frequent visitor to the Aquarium but cannot support the amendment;
- the consultation report had a higher percentage of response to release the dolphins back into the wild;
- is there a criteria on how these animals are injured?
- captive dolphins have a higher death rate;
- in favour of rehabilitating dolphins but with the intent to release them back to the wild;
- in Britain dolphins are not allowed to be kept in captivity.

Moved by Commissioner Houghton,

THAT the Board implement the attached amendment to the Parks Control By-law as outlined in Appendix 1 of this report by the procedure for bylaw approval.

Board members discussed the by-law amendment and a member of the Board requested an amendment to the motion by changing the word implement to delete as it appears that the Board does not want to know how the dolphins are captured.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

THAT the word ‘implement’ be replaced with ‘delete’.

- DEFEATED.

(Commissioners De Genova, Holden, Houghton, Robertson and Zlotnik contrary)

The main motion was put forward as follows:

THAT the Board implement the attached amendment to the Parks Control By-law as outlined in Appendix 1 of this report by the procedure for bylaw approval.

- Carried.

(Commissioners Herbert and Woodcock contrary)

Parks Control By-law Amendment Regarding Cetaceans

Moved by Commissioner Houghton,

THAT the by-law to amend the Parks Control By-law regarding Cetaceans be given first reading.

1. The Park Board repeals section 9 e) (iv) of the Parks Control By-law, and substitutes:

“(iv) an animal that has been injured or is otherwise in distress, and in need of assistance to survive or rehabilitation, whether or not the intention is to release it back into its natural wild habitat.”

2. This By-law is to come into force and take effect on the date of its enactment.

- Carried.

(Commissioners Herbert and Woodcock contrary)

Board members discussed the reasons for the by-law amendment, some members were concerned that the amendment did not provide much clarity around the word distress and did not support the by-law amendment. A member of the Board expressed concerns that the Park Board no longer needs to be notified in advance of the arrival of a cetacean to the Aquarium.

Moved by Commissioner Houghton,

THAT the by-law to amend the Parks Control By-law regarding Cetaceans be given second and third readings.

- Carried.

(Commissioners Herbert and Woodcock contrary)

Administrative Report – Position Changes

Board members received copies of a staff report dated June 15, 2007 recommending that the Board approve the position changes listed in the report.

Staff advised the Board that staffing levels are reviewed periodically to ensure appropriate service levels are maintained in the organization. In a recent review a change of hours for three regular part-time and the creation of one regular full-time CUPE 15 position was recommended. The deletion and creation of one full time exempt position is recommended to pursue opportunities available to the Park Board such as maximizing current revenues, providing marketing expertise to front line staff and explore new business initiatives to generate additional income for the Board.

Moved by Commissioner Holden,

THAT the Board approve:

- A. a change in hours for three regular part-time CUPE 15 positions;
- B. the creation of one regular full-time CUPE 15 position; and
- C. the deletion of one regular full-time Exempt position and the creation of one regular full-time Exempt position;

with the source of funds as indicated in the body of this report.

Board members discussed the issue and a member of the Board expressed concern with recommendation C as she felt that the expectation of the position was too high. A member of the Board expressed concern on how the Board could protect itself should the employee not meet the expectations. Staff advised the Board that the terms of employment will specify the expectations and the incumbent will be subject to a performance review. A member of the Board stated that he would like to amend the motion as he supports the motion but would like staff to identify priorities of the position and report back to the Board.

Moved by Commissioner Zlotnik,

**THAT the following be added to recommendation C:
“and, that the position not be filled until the General Manager has
identified the priorities for this position and report back to the Board.**

- Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

THAT recommendation C be amended to add “and refer to the Finance
Committee for discussions”

- DEFEATED.

(Commissioners De Genova, Holden, Houghton, Robertson, Zlotnik contrary)

The amended main motion was put forward as follows:

THAT the Board approve:

- A. a change in hours for three regular part-time CUPE 15 positions;**
- B. the creation of one regular full-time CUPE 15 position; and**
- C. the deletion of one regular full-time Exempt position and the creation of one regular full-time Exempt position and, that the position not be filled until the General Manager has identified the priorities for this position and report back to the Board.**

with the source of funds as indicated in the body of this report.

- Carried.

(Commissioner Woodcock contrary)

Commissioner Zlotnik left the meeting at this time – 8: 27 p.m.

Financial Reports as of April 30, 2007

Board members received copies of a staff report dated June 7, 2007 recommending that the Board receive the report for information.

Staff reviewed the financial reports for three areas with the Board. The 2007 Operating Statement, a statement on the Stanley Park Restoration Project and a statement on Donations. The financial report was reviewed with the Finance Committee which recommended that they be forwarded to the Board for information.

Eleanor Hadley appeared before the Board and stated that she would like the Board to ensure that tax dollars are not spent unnecessarily. She was interested to know the amount of money spent on the restoration of Stanley Park and do not want to see the Board hiring more staff than necessary.

Moved by Commissioner Herbert,

THAT the Board receive the report for information.

- Carried Unanimously.

South East False Creek Community Centre Design Approval

Board members received copies of a staff report dated June 14, 2007 recommending that the Board approve the design for the new Southeast False Creek Community and Boating Centre, as detailed in this report and illustrated in Appendix A.

Staff advised the Board that the conceptual design for the community centre received a positive response from the community and unanimous approval from the Urban Design Panel. The architects for the project are Walter Francl Architecture and Nick Milkovich Architects Inc + Arthur Erickson and will be built by Millennium SEFC Developments. The facility received Development Permit Board approval and will be completed by Fall 2009. VANOC will use the building until spring 2010. Walter Francl and Nick Milkovich reviewed the design package for the community centre and stated that they were working towards a LEED platinum certification.

The following delegations requested to speak the Board:

- Jordan Dobrikin
- Patrick Couling, Past President, False Creek Community Association and East Bay Boathouse Society

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

- the conceptual plan for the building looks good;
- what are the plans to move boat and people to other ancillary docks;
- would like to see the plans for the layout of the docks;
- the East Bay Boathouse Society was set up to plan for non-powered boats;
- this is a marvellous space, there are some issues such as small change rooms, but it will do;

- there is a lot of potential for public recreation on False Creek;
- the community centre building will be jewel in the system;
- boating will be part of the whole program offered at the centre.

Board members discussed the report and recognised staff for their hard work in putting this project together. The Board looks forward to the start of this exciting project. A member of the Board expressed concern that the programming and operation of the boating centre may be contracted out. The Chair requested staff to bring information back on the operation of the boating centre to a planning committee.

Moved by Commissioner Houghton,

THAT the Board approve the design for the new Southeast False Creek Community and Boating Centre, as detailed in this report and illustrated in Appendix 1.

- Carried Unanimously.

Council Report: 2006-2007 Capital Plan Priorities

Board members received copies of a staff report dated June 20, 2007 recommending that the Board endorse the recommendations in the attached report to Council which proposes a funding strategy for the Trillium park site development and for the Expo Deck replacement in Creekside Park.

Staff advised the Board that the report outlined the funding strategy the City Manager has developed for the Trillium site development and for the replacement of the Expo Deck and City Dog Pound facility.

Jeff Malmgren, Vancouver Sports Field Federation, appeared before the Board and stated that he was pleased to see that the Trillium site is being considered by Council. Mr. Malmgren referred to the financials detailed in the staff report and stated that he does not support the reallocation of Park Board funds for projects related to the Olympics.

Board members discussed the issue and was pleased to see that staff at the city and Park Board staff have worked out an agreement regarding the Trillium site. A member of the Board stated that he was surprised to see the replacement of the Expo Deck and would like to have more information regarding this project. A member of the Board stated that she was concerned that the Expo Deck is being replaced in time for the Olympics and VANOC has not offered any assistance.

Moved by Commissioner Houghton,

THAT the Board endorse the recommendations of the attached Council Report, which proposes funding strategies for Trillium park site development and for the Expo Deck replacement in Creekside Park.

- Carried.

(Commissioner Herbert contrary)

Aquatic Program Review

Board members received copies of a staff report dated June 13, 2007 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A and B.

Staff advised the Board that the Aquatic Program Review focuses on how the pools are operated and programmed in ways that increase attendance and operational efficiencies and effectiveness. It is important to market and program the facilities in the best possible manner to increase and sustain pool usage.

Gayle Uthoff appeared before the Board and thanked staff and members of the Aquatic Services Task Force for their hard work in putting together this review. Ms. Uthoff stated that it was important to look at the future direction of aquatics and to provide leadership training for staff. Pool use by youth and teens have dropped and a strategy need to be developed to bring this user group back.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

A. THAT the Board accept the Aquatic Program Review – Task Force Report (Appendix A) and instruct staff to implement the various program, financial and operational changes outlined in the Report;

B. THAT the Board approve the following Pool Allocation – Priority for Use Policy:

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|-----------------|---|
| First Priority | Public Swim Sessions and Instructional Programs |
| Second Priority | Minor Sport and Children/Youth Clubs |
| Third Priority | Adult Sport Groups |
| Fourth Priority | Commercial Groups |

Board members thanked staff for an extensive and detailed report and a member of the Board requested that staff bring a report back after one year on the impact of the recommended pool allocation.

Moved by Commissioner Houghton,

THAT the following sentence be added after the word 'Allocation' in recommendation B:

For a one year period and report back to the Board on its impact.

Board member discussed the amendment motion and a member of the Board requested to amend the amendment motion. The amendment to the amendment motion was to add a recommendation C to ask for a report back to the Board on the impact on the pool allocation on a yearly basis as it would need more than one year to see if the program works.

Moved by Commissioner Herbert,

THAT a recommendation C be added to the motion as follows:

C THAT staff report back to the Board on the impact on the pool allocation on a yearly basis.

- Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Houghton,

THAT the amendment motion be withdrawn.

- Carried Unanimously.

The amended main motion was put forward as follows:

A. THAT the Board accept the Aquatic Program Review – Task Force Report (Appendix A) and instruct staff to implement the various program, financial and operational changes outlined in the Report;

B. THAT the Board approve the following Pool Allocation – Priority for Use Policy:

First Priority	Public Swim Sessions and Instructional Programs
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Second Priority	Minor Sport and Children/Youth Clubs
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Third Priority	Adult Sport Groups
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Fourth Priority	Commercial Groups
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C THAT staff report back to the Board on the impact on the pool allocation on a yearly basis

- Carried Unanimously.

The Board took a five minute break at 10:06 p.m.

MOTION

Moved by Commissioner Herbert,

Whereas since 1999 San Francisco has required events with over 2000 people in attendance to provide a free bike valet service;

Whereas bike theft is a problem in Vancouver, and has been cited as a deterrent for cycling to events;

Whereas cycling is a healthy and environmentally friendly way to travel throughout Vancouver;

Whereas Vancouver parks are sites of many major events and celebrations;

Whereas the Vancouver Canadians at Nat Bailey Stadium, and the Vancouver Folk Music Festival in Jericho Park are currently providing this service, which has proven to be a successful and popular parking option;

Whereas the Vancouver Park Board is committed to decreasing automobile dependence, while promoting other forms of transportation including cycling;

Therefore be it resolved that staff be directed to investigate San Francisco's bylaw and report back to the Planning Committee on the feasibility of instituting a similar bike valet requirement for special events and activities in Vancouver parks.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Margaret Mahon, Executive Director, BEST
- Kari Hewitt, Bicycle Advisory Committee
- Eleanor Hadley

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

- support the motion, started bike valet service and has been successful;
- there is a demand for this service and is actively pursuing this as a business model;
- will be helpful for people running festivals to know that this service is available;
- explore secure bicycle parking options for smaller sized events;
- upset that motion was put forward without discussions;
- who will pay for the free valet service;
- cyclists with their custom made bikes and designer outfits do not need a free service.

Board members discussed the motion and a member of the Board stated that the bike valet service is a good concept, however, the motion would put the Board in an awkward position and undermine entrepreneurship. An amendment to the motion was suggested.

Moved by Commissioner Holden,

THAT the last paragraph of the motion be deleted and replaced with the following:

THAT events staff inform each event applicant that they have permission to offer bike valet services in our parks and with the incentive of higher probability of approval of event.

Board members discussed the amendment and a member of the Board stated that the amendment seems to encourage the use of bike valet services only, but more research on the history and discussion on this should be done to provide better service. A member of the Board stated that environmental groups are looking for Board support and free bike valet services should be one of the criteria for special events,

A vote was taken on the amendment motion and it was Carried.
(Commissioners Herbert and Woodcock contrary)

Matters Adopted on Consent

Vancouver Technical School Artificial Turf Project: Construction Project Award

Board members received copies of a staff report dated June 13, 2007 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to D.

Moved by Commissioner Holden,

- A. THAT, subject to the conditions set out in Recommendations B, C and D, the General Manager of Parks and Recreation be authorized to enter into a contract with Wilco Landscape Contractors Ltd. for \$1,436,000 plus GST, with funding to be provided from the Capital Budget;**
- B. THAT the General Manager of Parks and Recreation be authorized to execute and deliver on behalf of the Park Board all legal documents required to implement Recommendation A;**

- C. THAT all such legal documents be on terms and conditions satisfactory to the General Manager of Parks and Recreation in consultation with the Director of Legal Services;**
- D. THAT no legal rights or obligations will be created or arise by the Board's adoption of Recommendations A, B and C above unless and until such legal documents are executed.**

- Carried Unanimously.

Oak and 37th Park Site: Contract Award

Board members received copies of a staff report dated May 31, 2007 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to D.

Moved by Commissioner Holden,

- A. THAT, subject to the conditions set out in Recommendations B, C and D, the General Manager of Parks and Recreation be authorized to enter into a contract with C.A.P. Ventures Ltd. for \$696,050, plus GST, with funding to be provided from the Conseil Scolaire Francophone School and the Capital Budget;**
- B. THAT the General Manager of Parks and Recreation be authorized to execute and deliver on behalf of the Park Board all legal documents required to implement Recommendation A;**
- C. THAT all such legal documents be on terms and conditions satisfactory to the General Manager of Parks and Recreation in consultation with the Director of Legal Services;**
- D. THAT no legal rights or obligations will be created or arise by the Board's adoption of Recommendations A, B and C above unless and until such legal documents are executed.**

- Carried Unanimously.

Stanley Park Restoration: Contract Award for Recovery Operation

Board members received copies of a staff report dated June 20, 2007 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A and B.

Moved by Commissioner Holden,

- A. THAT the Board award the contract to Bryan Peterson Contracting Ltd. for the Stanley Park Restoration – Recovery Operation, at a price not to exceed \$500,000;**
- B. THAT no legal rights shall arise hereby, and none shall arise until the execution of the contemplated contract. The Board may rescind this resolution at any time up to the execution of the contemplated contract.**

- Carried Unanimously.

Stanley Park Restoration: Contract Awards for Forest Prescriptions, Fire Preparedness and Ecological Monitoring

Board members received copies of a staff report dated June 25, 2007 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to C.

Moved by Commissioner Holden,

- A. THAT the Board award the contract to B.A. Blackwell and Associates Ltd. for the Stanley Park Restoration – Forest Prescriptions and Fire Preparedness, at a price not to exceed \$80,000;**
- B. THAT the Board award the contract to Ecologic Consulting for the Stanley Park Restoration – Ecological Monitoring, at a price not to exceed \$70,000;**
- C. THAT no legal rights shall arise hereby, and none shall arise until the execution of the contemplated contracts. The Board may rescind this resolution at any time up to the execution of the contemplated contracts.**

- Carried Unanimously.

Oppenheimer Park and Field House Upgrade: Consultant Contract

Board members received copies of a staff report June 13, 2007 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to D.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

- A. THAT, subject to the conditions set out in Recommendations B, C and D, the General Manager of Parks and Recreation be authorized to enter into a contract with Space2place for the sum of \$179,300 (fees and disbursements) for the Oppenheimer Park and Field House Upgrade on the basis of a renovated field house with funding to be provided from the Capital Budget;**
- B. THAT the General Manager of Parks and Recreation be authorized to execute and deliver on behalf of the Park Board all legal documents required to implement Recommendation A;**
- C. THAT all such legal documents be on terms and conditions satisfactory to the General Manager of Parks and Recreation in consultation with the Director of Legal Services;**
- D. THAT no legal rights or obligations will be created or arise by the Board's adoption of Recommendations A, B and C above unless and until such legal documents are executed.**

- Carried Unanimously.

Enquiries, Other Matters and New Business

A member of the Board requested a staff briefing on a comprehensive staff engagement survey.

A member of the Board requested information on the financial arrangements with VANOC for their use of the South East False Creek Community Centre.

A member of the Board questioned the possibility of applying local improvement taxes as a means of funding buildings and or improving parks and recreation facilities.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 p.m.

Susan Mundick
General Manager

Commissioner Ian Robertson
Chair