

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
HELD AT RAY-CAM CO-OPERATIVE CENTRE  
ON MONDAY, MAY 12, 2008**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>- Korina Houghton</b>
	<b>Commissioners</b>	<b>- Allan De Genova</b>
		<b>- Spencer Herbert</b>
		<b>- Loretta Woodcock</b>
		<b>- Martin Zlotnik</b>
	<b>General Manager</b>	<b>- Susan Mundick</b>
	<b>Director of Corporate Services</b>	<b>- Anita Ho</b>
	<b>Director of Planning &amp; Operations</b>	<b>- Piet Rutgers</b>
	<b>Acting Dir. of Queen Elizabeth District</b>	<b>- Diane Murphy</b>
	<b>Director of Stanley District</b>	<b>- Peter Kuran</b>
	<b>Director of Vancouver East District</b>	<b>- Liane McKenna</b>
	<b>Manager of Research &amp; Planning</b>	<b>- Mark Vulliamy</b>
	<b>Manager of Communications</b>	<b>- Joyce Courtney</b>
	<b>Recreation Co-ordinator, Van. E. District</b>	<b>- Jim McKenzie</b>
	<b>Recorder</b>	<b>- Linda Brindley</b>

**Commissioners Holden and Robertson were absent from the meeting.**

The Chair thanked the Board of Ray-Cam for their hospitality and for hosting the Park Board meeting.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A member of the Board referred to page 8 of the minutes with regard to contacting other groups with ideas for events in the park and stated that he would like to include the statement “and that a longer contract period be discussed” after “A member of the Board stated that he would like the fees to be reviewed as it seems to be at the lower end.” The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on Monday, April 28, 2008 were adopted as amended.

#### **CHAIR’S REPORT**

The Chair reported on the Board’s participation in various community events such as a Youth Week event held at the Skate Park under the Viaduct, the Park Partners Appreciation Breakfast held at Langara Golf Course, and the MoreSports party held at the Ray-Cam Co-operative Centre.

## **CITY COUNCIL REPORT**

Council will also be considering the report on Sport Strategy that is before the Park Board. They will be considering the allocation of community amenity contributions as it relates to the work at Oppenheimer Park and \$416,700 is being sought to complete the work. There is a request by the organizing group for the Canada Day fireworks for a \$10,000 grant and a further \$43,000 is being sought to support the security and traffic costs associated with the event. There is also a request for a \$500,000 contribution as a capital grant for the Nanook Daycare replacement. In addition, a Motion will be discussed regarding the Farmers Markets requesting that Park Board report back on multi year operational leases.

The Community Services & Budgets Committee will deal with the 2008 Park Board Capital Budget and Park Board Capital Plan Closeouts. Planning & Environment will hear a report relating to Code of Conduct for elected officials and staff and the second part of that report talks about lobbyists and the creation of a lobbyist association which will require an amendment to the Vancouver Charter. An administrative report will also be brought forward on a Whistle Blowing policy.

The Transportation Committee will receive a technical report for the expansion of bus bays and a left turn lane on Midlothian into Hillcrest Park. There is a request for \$380,000 to complete that work.

## **OPEN QUESTION PERIOD**

There were no speakers.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **Andy Livingstone Park Artificial Turf Replacement**

Board members received copies of a staff report dated May 1, 2008 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to D that the consultant contract for the design of the Andy Livingstone Park Artificial Turf Replacement project be awarded to Athletica Sport Design Inc. for the sum of \$45,000.00. Funds are available for this amount.

Staff advised the Board that the report authorizes the preparation of design drawings to replace the turf at Andy Livingstone Park. The present turf has shown signs of stress, as well as settlement problems resulting in deformation of both playfield surfaces. Over the past couple of weeks, concerns have been expressed about potential health issues associated with artificial fields. The concerns have related to the nature of the turf and the infill material, but none of the Vancouver fields have used the materials in question. It is anticipated that the work will begin in early fall and be resurfaced by the end of 2008.

Board members discussed the report and were happy that the project is moving forward.

Moved by Commissioner Zlotnik,

- A. **THAT subject to Recommendations B, C and D, the Board enters into a contract with Athletica Sport and Recreation Design Inc. in the amount of \$45,000.00 plus GST, for sports field design services for the replacement of the artificial turf at Andy Livingstone Park as detailed in this report.**
- B. **THAT the contract be on the terms and conditions outlined in this report and on such other terms and conditions as are approved by the General Manager of the Park Board in consultation with the Director of Legal Services.**
- C. **THAT upon approval of the contract by the General Manager of the Park Board in consultation with the Director of Legal Services, the General Manager of the Park Board be authorized to execute the contract on behalf of the Board.**
- D. **THAT no legal rights shall arise hereby, and none shall arise until execution of the contemplated contract, and the Board reserves the right to rescind this resolution at any time up to the execution and delivery of the contemplated contract by the General Manager of the Park Board.**

**- Carried Unanimously.**

### **Partnerships and Public Access to Vancouver Schools**

Board members received copies of a staff report dated April 10, 2008 recommending that the Board receive the report for information.

Staff stated that there is a growing demand by Vancouver residents for greater access to sports facilities. This trend is growing as governments and school boards are increasingly emphasizing the necessity for citizens to be more active and pursue healthier lifestyles. National statistics show that the public is responding and incorporating more activity into their lifestyles.

Staff looked at further partnering with the School Board and determined that the cost for outdoor space is comparable to Park Board charges, but while there is weekend availability of gymnasium space, there are high operating costs associated with opening a School Board facility on weekends.

Board members discussed the report and noted that although it is challenging because of the operating costs involved, there is a need for greater use of facilities.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

**THAT the Board receive the report for information.**

**- Carried Unanimously.**

### **Vancouver Sport Strategy**

Board members received copies of a staff report dated May 1, 2008 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A and B and approve the adoption of the Vancouver Sport Strategy and, subject to Council approval, direct staff to prepare and report back with an implementation plan.

Staff advised that the Vancouver Sport Strategy has active support from Vancouver Active Communities Network (VACnet), the Vancouver Sport Tourism Task Force, Canadian Sport Centre Pacific, Sport BC and many other organizations and individuals fostering sport and active living in Vancouver. It addresses existing needs and future needs at all levels for sports related initiatives. The Vancouver Sport Strategy is the proposed foundation of a new relationship between the City and its sports community. It has significant ramifications for the Park Board as a major provider of sport and active living services, amenities and programs. The next step, if approved, is to develop a plan that includes resource requirements, funding sources and a timeline in consultation with sport stakeholders and the broader public.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Mike Cotter, Manager, Jericho Sailing Centre
- Ajay Patel
- Sharon Urton, Co-Chair of Vancouver Active Network
- Dick Woldring, Co-ordinator, MoreSports
- Gayle Uthoff, Renfrew Park Community Centre Association
- Dwayne Geddes, Executive Director, Disabled Sailing Association of BC

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

- support the Vancouver Sport Strategy;
- would allow collaboration between organizations;
- hopes that Vancouver will be the first city in Canada to implement Sport for Life;

- thanks everyone for their contribution; need the Park Board to adopt the Sport Strategy and take the lead for the City of Vancouver;
- organized sports provides an anchor for children's lives;
- the segment of population with high levels of physical disability should be included;
- would like disabled sailing added to list of adaptive sports;

Board members discussed the report and thanked everyone for creating the document. It is commendable that the Park Board is leading the way, along with the community.

Moved by Commissioner Herbert,

- A. THAT the Board approved the adoption of "Vancouver Sport for Life," the Vancouver Sport Strategy (VSS) as a guide to the City's future initiatives and engagement with sport programs, facilities and events.**
- B. THAT, subject to Council approval of the Sport Strategy, staff be directed to conduct further consultations with sport stakeholders and the broad community, and report back later in 2008 with a detailed implementation plan, including Operating and Capital resource requirements, funding strategies and timeline.**

**- Carried Unanimously.**

### **AAA Horse & Carriage in Stanley Park Ltd. License Renewal**

Board members received copies of a staff report dated May 8, 2008 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to E to continue the license renewal for a further five years with AAA Horse & Carriage Ltd. (AAA).

Staff advised the Board that the term of the agreement to the license will be from May 1, 2008 to April 30, 2013. The agreement will include a provision that, if AAA wishes to discuss a renewal before its expiry in 2013, AAA will notify the Board of this fact by October 31, 2011 and, if the Board also wishes to renew, negotiations will then commence.

AAA will commit to spending a minimum of \$100,000 during the first two years of the five year term on capital improvements to its facilities in Stanley Park. Details have yet to be finalised, and will be subject to the approval of the General Manager and the purpose of the capital improvement investment is to improve the quality of the customer's experience and result in increased sales. It is also recommended to update the clauses in the agreement pertaining to audited revenue statements in order to be consistent with other stakeholder agreements paying the Board percentage rents.

The following delegation requested to speak to the Board:

- Gerry O'Neil

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

- like to spend the money at the departure location;
- plan to introduce a new larger ticket booth that will include staff washrooms and landscaping;

Board members discussed the report and are pleased to see that improvements will be made for customers and for the horses. They are satisfied that the gross numbers will increase over the next five years.

Moved by Commissioner DeGenova,

- A. THAT the license agreement with AAA Horse & Carriage Ltd to operate a horse drawn tour service in approved areas of Stanley Park be renewed for an additional 5 years, from May 1, 2008 to April 30, 2013, on the same terms as the existing license except for the changes noted in this report.**
- B. THAT the annual license fee paid to the Board by AAA for the period of the license agreement renewal be set at 6% of its gross revenues from its horse drawn operations and 10% of its gross revenues from the sale of other items.**
- C. THAT the licence granted to AAA to occupy a portion of the Stanley Park Service Yard, be renewed for an additional period of 5 years from May 1, 2008, to run concurrently with its license to operate the horse drawn tour service, subject to AAA making capital improvements of a minimum of \$100,000 during the first two years of the license term, as set out in this report.**
- D. THAT no legal rights shall arise and no consents, permissions or license are granted hereby and none shall arise or be granted hereafter unless and until all contemplated legal documentation has been executed and delivered by all parties.**
- E. THAT once the form of all legal documentation has been approved by the General Manager and Director of Legal Services for the City of Vancouver, that the General Manager be authorized to execute and deliver such documentation on behalf of the Board.**

**- Carried Unanimously.**

**MOTION**

Moved by Commissioner Herbert:

**WHEREAS: the Park Board removes on average 1100 diseased, dead and hazardous trees from parks and other public spaces every year;**

**AND WHEREAS: many of these trees are unique hardwoods valued by woodworkers;**

**AND WHEREAS: the majority of removed trees are now turned into woodchips, firewood, and sawdust;**

**AND WHEREAS: the Greater Vancouver Woodturners Guild, and the Pacific Woodworkers Guild have expressed support for a website that would enable the public to monitor information on fallen trees that could be used for wood working;**

**AND WHEREAS: a page or link on the Park Board website on accessing timber from removed and fallen trees would enable to the Park Board to alert the public in a fair, and timely manner about access to valuable wood;**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that staff develop a plan to ensure timely public access to wood from fallen trees through a page or link on the Park Board website;**

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that staff explore the feasibility of utilizing mobile milling technology to produce timber when the Park Board disposes of fallen, diseased and hazardous trees in parks and public spaces.**

Commissioner Herbert stated that the motion involves trees that come down in the parks every year to be used by woodturning and milling groups, rather than being made into wood chips, firewood or sawdust.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Tony Ditmars, Woodturner
- Dr. David Sweet, Delegate of Greater Vancouver Woodturners Guild
- Ivan Antoniw, Pacific Woodworker Guild
- Mike Bjelos, Enviro Tree Milling

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

- Supports the motion before the Board;

- Very wasteful to use trees for woodchips when there is a large demand for such wood;
- Suggests that a website be set up to alert the public of wood availability;
- Allows Vancouver to be a leader of urban forest resources;
- Exotic woods are not available locally;
- Encourages young people to become involved in woodturning;
- A small portable sawmill could be utilized at the location of the fallen trees allowing the wood to be carried away;

Board members discussed the motion and hope to see a plan developed with various organizations that could be cost neutral, or possibly financially beneficial to the Park Board. The proposal will add value to the downed trees.

Moved by Commissioner Zlotnik,  
(No Secunder for the Motion so Motion failed)

THAT the matter be referred back to staff for recommendations.

Board members further discussed the Motion and amendments were put forth to the Motion.

Moved by Commissioner Herbert,

That the following sentence be added after “*website*” in the first Be It Resolved, “and or other options for communicating public access”

and,

That the following sentence be added after “*spaces*” in the second Be It Resolved, “and, that staff report back to the Board in June”.

**- Carried.**

(Commissioner Zlotnik contrary)

The amended motion was put forward as follows:

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that staff develop a plan to ensure timely public access to wood from fallen trees through a page or link on the Park Board website; and or other options for communicating public access;**

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that staff explore the feasibility of utilizing mobile milling technology to produce timber when the Park Board disposes of fallen, diseased and hazardous trees in parks and public spaces and that staff report back to the Board in June.**



**- Carried.**

(Commissioner Zlotnik contrary)

### **Enquiries, Other Matters and New Business**

A member of the Board requested information about the extent of training the Recreation staff receives regarding working with the Transgendered and Intersex communities.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

---

Susan Mundick  
General Manager

---

Commissioner Korina Houghton  
Chair