

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
HELD AT THE KILLARNEY COMMUNITY CENTRE  
ON MONDAY, JULY 7, 2008**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>- Korina Houghton</b>
	<b>Commissioners</b>	<b>- Allan De Genova</b>
		<b>- Heather Holden</b>
		<b>- Ian Robertson</b>
		<b>- Loretta Woodcock</b>
	<b>General Manager</b>	<b>- Martin Zlotnik</b>
	<b>Director of Planning and Operations</b>	<b>- Susan Mundick</b>
	<b>Director of Special Projects</b>	<b>- Piet Rutgers</b>
	<b>Director of Stanley District</b>	<b>- Jim Lowden</b>
	<b>Acting Dir. of Queen Elizabeth District</b>	<b>- Peter Kuran</b>
	<b>Supervisor of Queen Elizabeth Park</b>	<b>- Diane Murphy</b>
	<b>Manager of Operations, Stanley District</b>	<b>- Alex Downie</b>
	<b>Manager of Revenue Services</b>	<b>- Bill Manning</b>
	<b>Manager of Communications</b>	<b>- Philip Josephs</b>
	<b>Recorder</b>	<b>- Joyce Courtney</b>
		<b>- Linda Brindley</b>

**Commissioner Herbert was absent from the meeting.**

The Chair thanked the Killarney Community Centre Association for their hospitality and for hosting the Park Board meeting.

Commissioner Holden announced that Commissioner Zlotnik had recently been named as the recipient of the College Division Donor of the Year at the annual meeting of The National Association of Athletic Development Directors.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on Monday, June 23, 2008 were adopted as circulated.

#### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

The Chair reported on the opening of the new Yaletown Park on June 28 and stated it was a joint project between the Park Board/City of Vancouver and the developer.

## **CITY COUNCIL REPORT**

The General Manager advised that Council will be receiving the 2008 Operating Budget to May for information. Council will also be awarding the contract for the Hinge Park Construction in South East False Creek and City Services and Budgets will be receiving a report on Green House Gas Reduction which is a report back on Phase 2 of the Park Board Energy Performance Contract.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **MOTION**

Commissioner Zlotnik stated that he would like to bring forward an item of New Business for the Board to consider concerning the Hollow Tree. The Chair sought agreement from the Board to adjust the Agenda to hear this Motion.

Moved by Commissioner Zlotnik,

**WHEREAS there has been concern about the Hollow Tree being taken down in Stanley Park; and**

**WHEREAS the Vancouver Park Board has previously voted to have the Hollow Tree taken down; and**

**WHEREAS the Vancouver Park Board needs an engineering report confirming that the Hollow Tree can be stabilized and made safe in an upright position on its current site;**

**THEREFORE be it resolved that the Board delay taking down the tree for 150 days to allow for a committee chaired by Lorne Whitehead to obtain from an independent engineering firm a suitable answer to maintain the Hollow Tree in its current location in an upright position within 90 days, and the committee has a further 60 days to raise funds required to implement an approved plan; and**

**Be it further resolved that the Board will not provide any funds for the retention of the Hollow Tree in its present position.**

**- Carried.**

(Commissioner Houghton contrary)

## **OPEN QUESTION PERIOD**

Lorna Gibbs stated she is the Chair of the Seniors Group trying to get a seniors centre built in their area. She is asking the Park Board for \$2 million with the hope that the Provincial and Federal Governments would match the funds.

Rick Evans stated that he is before the Board to speak about the designated off-leash fields at Killarney. Since the fields are in very rough shape, it is an appropriate use to retain the fields for off-leash. He would not support either a bike park or volleyball courts at the site.

Michael McCreachen stated that he belongs to the Riley Park Community Centre and has a pass, but is unable to use the pass at the Killarney or Sunset Fitness Centres. The General Manager stated that it is a challenge, as the Associations are the operators of those fitness centres. Perhaps the Associations could work with the Park Board to resolve the problem. The Chair suggested Mr. McCreachen write a letter to the Association Presidents. Mr. McCreachen also expressed concern that the indoor pool was closed for repairs before the outdoor pool was opened.

Keith Jacobson stated he wanted to welcome the Park Board Commissioners and staff to Killarney Community Centre. He supports Ms. Gibbs' comments regarding the need for a seniors centre. The General Manager stated that City Council is planning a public meeting during the second week of September to discuss the Capital Plan and she will advise the Community Centre Presidents once the dates are finalized.

Frederick Jacobson stated that he is opposed to the hiring of an engineering firm to further examine the Hollow Tree. His suggestion is to cut it down to 7 or 8 feet and then plant sprouts inside the shell of the tree.

Michael Kay stated he is speaking on behalf of Carlton Park and would like to thank the Park Board for including it in the 2009-2011 Capital Plan. His children use the park and since it is in very bad shape, he is concerned about injuries.

The Chair stated that the review of the Capital Plan will take place in September. She also requested that staff be asked to visit the park to check for safety concerns.

## **COMMITTEE REPORT**

Commissioner Zlotnik stated there was no Committee report, and advised the next Committee meeting is scheduled for July 14.

## STAFF REPORTS

### English Bay Bistro

Board members received copies of a staff report dated June 26, 2008 recommending that the Board approve the redevelopment of the existing English Bay (Denman Street) concession and requesting staff to seek a Development Permit.

Staff advised the Board that this is the continuation of the overall plan to redevelop Park Board concession food services. The goal is to offer a higher level of service and food quality at new tenant built and operated food services. At its meeting of April 10, 2008, the Board approved the design of a replacement for the English Bay concession to go to public consultation. This included placing a project page on the Park Board website with a request for comments via email, seven articles appeared in local newspapers and was discussed on local radio, a pre-advertised public open house was held at the Park Board office, as well as a pre-advertised open house on the beach site was held. The results indicate that 73% of the respondents were in favour of the proposal.

The next step will be the filing of a development permit application and upon receiving a development permit, issue a request for proposals for a development partner/operator. Staff recommend that the project proceed.

In response to questions from the Board, staff replied that the components of applying for a development permit usually entail a public meeting, the submission of a model, detailed drawings, as well as a written rationale including the history and impacts to the surrounding area. The design implications in the appendix will be included in the submission for a Development Permit and the operational issues will likely be included in a Good Neighbour Contract and referenced in the operator's lease.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Eleanor Hadley
- Aaron Jasper on behalf of West End Residents Association
- Anne Gregory

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

- strongly opposed to having a liquor licensed bistro at English Bay
- unacceptable to drink on beaches and in City parks
- concerned about affordability for the neighbourhood
- like the idea of a 'Good Neighbour Contract'
- happy that the public had the opportunity to comment on the project
- opposed to a two level restaurant with 229 seats at that location
- already many restaurants in the area
- concerned about increase in traffic
- prefer that existing building be renovated

Board members thanked the delegations for their input and stated they are pleased the project is moving along and fully support the staff recommendation as it will shift the risk of operating restaurants from the taxpayer to the restaurant operators.

Moved by Commissioner Holden,

**THAT the Board approve the redevelopment of the existing English Bay (Denman Street) concession and request staff to seek a development permit.**

**- Carried Unanimously.**

### **Jericho Marginal Wharf: Concept Plan Approval**

Board members received copies of a staff report dated June 18, 2008 recommending that the Board approve Concept Plan (1-C) for the Jericho Marginal Wharf.

Staff explained that on June 16 the Committee considered options for the Jericho Marginal Wharf and it was agreed that Concept Plan (1-C) be brought before the Board. A number of studies have been done over the years, but the most recent study has shown that something has to be done to ensure public safety due to deterioration of the wharf structure. The options that were considered by the Committee included the complete demolition of the wharf at a cost of \$1.9 million (Concept 1-A), demolition but with the addition of a seawall to the beach at a cost of \$2 million (Concept 1B), retention of a portion of the east side of the original wharf (Concept 2), or the retention and repair of the entire wharf at a cost of \$1.1 million, with an additional cost of \$500,000 to \$1 million for maintenance every 6 to 10 years (Concept 3).

A survey was placed on the Park Board website for two months outlining options and generated a total of 546 responses including those from the public meeting. 50% were in favour of the complete demolition of the wharf. Staff is recommending a slight variation of Concept 1, known as Concept 1-C, and involves the demolition of the wharf while retaining a portion of the deck and railings on the east side of the deck.

The Chair acknowledged receipt of a petition to retain the wharf as submitted to the Board.

The following delegations spoke to the Board:

- Joan Bunn
- Gary Wedeking
- Mike Cotter, Jericho Sailing Centre Association
- Gail Owen

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

- like to see wharf retained
- asking Board to defer making a decision because the public process was flawed
- there is already sufficient beach front for Vancouver residents
- wharf could be put to better use for markets and as a picnic area
- wharf is well-used by seniors in the area as a destination walk
- supports the staff recommendation for retention of a small portion of the wharf

The Board was recessed from 8:20 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Board members discussed the report and feel it is a good plan and are in support of the staff recommendation. There are concerns about the safety aspect of the wharf and the risk to Park Board if nothing is done with the wharf. The information received from Heritage Vancouver has been considered, however, the structure has not been included on the Heritage Registry.

Commissioner Woodcock stated that she would like to put forward an amended motion as follows:

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

THAT the Board defers the item until fall 2008 to allow for further public consultation.

The amended motion failed.  
(Commissioners Zlotnik, Holden, Houghton, Robertson, DeGenova opposed)

Moved by Commissioner Robertson,

**THAT the Board approve the Concept Plan (1-C) for the Jericho Marginal Wharf as described in this report and illustrated in Appendix 1.**

**- Carried**

(Commissioner Woodcock contrary)

### **Queen Elizabeth Park Tree Management Plan**

Board members received copies of a staff report dated June 20, 2008 recommending that the Board endorse the Queen Elizabeth Park Tree Management Plan.

Staff advised that the objectives of the plan are to restore view corridors by removing obstructing trees. In 1990, the City designated five view corridors in order to protect selected public views. The plan calls for restoration of three view corridors

through the removal of approximately 70 trees, as well as pruning the lateral branches of 8 trees commencing in early summer 2008, except for those with nests which will be removed after the nesting season is over. The trees will be replaced on a two-for-one basis resulting in a future net increase in tree cover. All of the trees to be removed are species that are well-represented in local public parks and gardens, none are commemorative trees and some of the trees are in poor health. A public process which included a public meeting, web-based and media information as well as a telephone poll were undertaken to obtain public views on the plan. The results ranged from 52% to 76% in support of the plan. Staff is asking the Board to approve the Queen Elizabeth Park Tree Management Plan.

The following delegations spoke to the Board in opposition to the proposal:

- Adrien Grant-Duff, Vancouver Natural History Society
- Mary Ann Code
- Ned Jacobs
- Michael Barkusky
- Teresa Waclawik
- Allan Buium
- Jeremy McCall
- John Brnklaue
- Vanessa Wiebel
- Elsa Foli
- Norman Duley
- Christel Nierobisch
- Simone Blais
- Mary Hartlieb
- Korky Day
- Terry Slack
- Randy Chatterjee
- Frederick Jacobson
- Tezie Smith

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

- recommends that Park Board focuses on area within the park, not on views
- 80 species of birds are present in the park and require ongoing habitat
- request that a low viewing platform be built
- concerned process was not open and that there was insufficient public consultation
- expressed concern about future consequences caused by the tree removal
- concerned about increased pollution
- worried about the viability of new trees
- suspects economic interests are driving the decision
- urges Park Board to reconsider
- concerned about electro-magnetic radiation

The following delegations spoke to the Board in support of the proposal:

- Art Cowie
- Mike Bjelos
- Joe MacEachern
- Corinne Sanderson
- Donna Lam

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

- supports the proposal and not sure everyone has read entire report
- views are of considerable value
- congratulates Board staff on having courage to put report forward
- many of the trees are diseased, but would like trees to be used rather than being made into woodchips
- polled neighbours and they all support the report
- Queen Elizabeth Park is man-made, not natural like Stanley Park
- ongoing maintenance is required to keep the park beautiful

The Board members support the recommendation and believe it is important to appropriately manage the urban forest and improve the enjoyment of the park.

Commissioner Woodcock stated that she would like to put forward an amended motion as follows:

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

THAT the Board endorse re-establishing View #3 as indicated in the Queen Elizabeth Park Tree Management Plan.

The amended motion failed.  
(Commissioners Zlotnik, Holden, Houghton, Robertson opposed)

Moved by Commissioner Holden,

**THAT the Board endorse the Queen Elizabeth Park Tree Management Plan**

**- Carried**

(Commissioners De Genova and Woodcock contrary)

**Commissioner Robertson assumed the position as Chair of the meeting.**



## **Stanley Park Seawall Repair Project**

Board members received copies of a staff report dated July 4, 2008 recommending that the Board approve Recommendations A to D.

Staff explained that this is the last of the major Capital Projects related to the Stanley Park Restoration. Only one bidder has come forward from the seven parties interested in the project. That bid has come in on budget and staff is recommending the Board award the contract for Seawall Repair Project to Matcon Excavation and Shoring Ltd.

Board members discussed the report and are pleased the work will be done soon and support the project.

Moved by Commissioner Zlotnik,

- A. THAT, subject to Recommendations B, C and D, the Board enters into a contract with Matcon Excavation and Shoring Ltd. in the amount of \$1,063,005.00 plus GST, for the Seawall Repair Project 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.**

## **Green House Gas Reduction - Park Board - Update**

Board members received copies of a staff report dated June 25, 2008 recommending that the Board receive the attached Council report dated June 24, 2008 for information.

Staff explained the implementation of the Green House Gas Reduction project is going well and the price of natural gas has gone up by 19% since the Board approved the project which means that the payback period will be reduced substantially.

Board members stated they are pleased with the report and thanked staff for leading this important initiative.

Moved by Commissioner Zlotnik,

**THAT the Board receive the attached Council report dated June 24, 2008 for information.**

**- Carried Unanimously.**

### **In Camera Meeting**

Moved by Commissioner Holden,

**THAT the Board later this evening go into a meeting which is closed to the public, pursuant to Section 165.2 (1) of the *Vancouver Charter*, to discuss matters related to paragraph;**

**(g) litigation or potential litigation affecting the City**

**- Carried Unanimously.**

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

A Commissioner inquired about the plans for Crab Park wharf. The General Manager stated she will have staff prepare an update.

Commissioner De Genova stated he would like to put forward a Motion under New Business.

Moved by Commissioner De Genova,

**WHEREAS a motion to approve the 2008 Operating Budget was put forward by Commissioner Zlotnik on February 25, 2008, and it was defeated on a tie vote;**

**and on April 28, 2008 Commissioner Zlotnik put forward a motion to reconsider the decision regarding the budget made on February 25, and that motion to reconsider was passed;**

**and on April 28, 2008 Commissioner Zlotnik then put forward the budget motion again and it passed;**

**WHEREAS CUPE Local 15 has brought a judicial review application in Supreme Court challenging the validity of the reconsideration and the passing of the budget motion on April 28, 2008 on the basis that the procedure was technically improper in that one of the Commissioners who voted against the original motion ought to have brought it forward for reconsideration;**

**WHEREAS the applicable Procedure By-laws are silent on how a motion defeated on a tie vote may be reconsidered; and it will be very costly, and time consuming, to defend the judicial review application through a hearing in Supreme Court; and we are already 6 months into the budget in issue;**

**WHEREAS this matter should be resolved quickly and efficiently; and a practical and cost effective solution is to treat the reconsideration and passing of the budget motion on April 28 as being null and void, and for a Commissioner who voted against the motion on February 25, 2008 to bring the matter on for reconsideration again at this time.**

**THEREFORE be it resolved that the Board treat the reconsideration and passing of the budget motion on April 28, 2008 as being null and void, and reconsider the decision regarding the 2008 Operating Budget made on February 25, 2008.**

**- Carried.**

(Commissioner Woodcock contrary)

Moved by Commissioner Zlotnik,

**THAT the Board approve the proposed 2008 Park Board Global Budget of \$59,339,100, including the \$58,598,500 Basic Budget, \$444,600 for Added Basic costs and the \$296,000 for New and Non-Recurring cost.**

**- Carried.**

(Commissioner Woodcock contrary)

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 p.m.

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Susan Mundick  
General Manager

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Commissioner Korina Houghton  
Chair