

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD AT THE PARK BOARD OFFICE
ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 01, 2010**

PRESENT:	Chair	- Aaron Jasper
	Vice Chair	- Sarah Blyth
	Commissioners	- Constance Barnes
		- Raj Hundal
		- Ian Robertson
		- Loretta Woodcock
	Acting General Manager	- Peter Kuran
	Director of Vancouver East District	- Liane McKenna
	Director of Planning and Operations	- Piet Rutgers
	Co-Acting Director of Stanley District	- Philip Josephs
	Acting Director of Queen Elizabeth District	- Diane Murphy
	Manager of Golf and Park Operations	- Ron Caswell
	Manager of Communications	- Joyce Courtney
	Recorder	- Shala Hay

Commissioner Mackinnon was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Board held on Monday, January 18, 2010 were adopted as circulated.

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair reported on the inaugural lighting of the Canadian flag display at Lost Lagoon, Stanley Park, on Monday, January 25 and celebration of Black History during the month of February. Commissioner Barnes acknowledged the valuable contribution members of the Black community in BC have made and the legacies they have left us.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The last Services and Budgets Committee meeting was held on January 19, 2010. On the agenda was the Vancouver Open Golf Tournament. The next meeting will convene on March 16, 2010.

There has not been a Planning and Environment Committee meeting since the last Board meeting. The next meeting will convene on February 4, 2010. On the agenda is Synthetic Turf Site Selection.

City Council Report

The Acting General Manager reported that topics on the agenda for the next Regular Council meeting relating to the Park Board are: Gingerbread House Day Care -Renewal of Licences and Sub-License for Portions of Captain Cook School Site and Captain Cook Park Site; and a motion pertaining to the Interim Shelter Policy.

STAFF REPORTS

Fraser River Park Dog Off-leash Area

Board members received copies of a staff report dated January 14, 2010 recommending that the Board approve changes to the designated off-leash area at Fraser River Park.

Staff advised the Board that the park is naturally divided into two sections, east and west. The revised recommendation proposes making the western side of the park off-leash all day year round and the eastern side on-leash all day year round, thereby reducing the ambiguity of designated seasonal and daily hours. Signage indicating the changes will be posted at both parking lots and entry points.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Edna Bond
- Bevan Wilson
- Teresa Switzer
- Mike Brow
- Helen Hill
- Chris Switzer
- Margaret Watson
- Judy Williams, Fraser River Coalition

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

- The Board should reconsider the proposal of having the east side on-leash all year
- The east side should be off-leash at least during the winter months
- The recommendation ignores the petition signed by over 400 persons (including non-dog owners) in favour of having the entire park off-leash all year
- It seems like the recommendation is based on the wishes of non-users of the park
- Most non-dog owners would not even use the park if it is on-leash all year, but dog owners use the park on a daily basis all year round

- The west side is mainly water and swamp and is not attractive during the winter months
- Although the proposed western side seems larger most of it is unusable
- The paths are usually eroded during winter and pose a safety hazard
- Have not seen any notice regarding the public consultations
- City of Vancouver statistics show that there are over 50,000 dogs in Vancouver while 5 years ago there were only 10,000; this needs to be taken into consideration during the planning
- Often off-leash dogs at the park do not pose a threat to users
- Recommend designating a space exclusively for picnics and the rest of the area can be off-leash, this would make the majority of users very happy
- Have never witnessed any incidences involving dogs at the park
- For several months no picnickers have been observed at the park
- The western side of the park is furthest away from the wash rooms and freshwater which are important, especially for elderly dog-walkers
- Having dogs on or off-leash does not change whether dog faeces will be left behind and picnickers leave behind most of the garbage in the park
- Picnickers also drive through the park, which poses a much greater hazard than any dog-owner
- Prior to the petition to have the entire park off-leash, was any petitions raised to have the dogs on-leash all the time
- As the washrooms are closed during the winter, some park users use the bushes as washrooms as a last resort
- Fraser River Coalition opposes the extension of off-leash hours in the western side of the park to all day for the entire year
- Extending the dog off-leash designation to year round poses a threat to the sensitive mitigation marshes and developing salmonid in the riparian area
- If this recommendation is approved what will this do for the protection of the already endangered juvenile salmon
- Recommend that dogs be kept on-leash at the riparian marshes and signage be used to enforce this

Board members thanked the delegations for their comments.

Moved by Commissioner Barnes,

THAT the Board approve changes to the designated off-leash area at Fraser River Park as outlined in this report.

Board members discussed the motion. One member suggested that this issue be further investigated and additional information be included in the analysis before a decision is made by the Board.

Moved by Commissioner Barnes,

THAT the recommended changes to the designated off-leash area at Fraser River Park be referred to the Planning & Environment Committee for review before coming back to the Board.

-Defeated.

(Commissioner Barnes contrary).

A Board member suggested an amendment to the motion.

Moved by Commissioner Robertson,

THAT the Board approve all day dog on-leash hours at the designated east side of Fraser River Park for the period May 1st to September 30th and all day off-leash hours during the period October 1st to April 30th.

-Carried Unanimously.

A Board member suggested an additional amendment.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

THAT the outcome of these changes be brought back to the Board for review by the end of 2010.

Board members discussed the amendment. The Board advised staff that information for evaluation of the outcome should include: feedback from the community; reports to animal control; issues with the riparian area; and feedback on the designated boundaries. The impact on the salmon population should also be reviewed by an independent body.

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

The main motion as amended was put forward and it was Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Concept and Consultancy Award Grandview Park Upgrade

Board members received copies of a staff report dated January 21, 2010 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to E.

Staff advised the Board that the design of the park is being done in-house. The park is used intensively by a variety of groups and houses several community events. To date, there were 3 open houses to gather public feedback. Three design concepts were presented at the public consultation and the results indicate a preference for Concept B. The design includes a multi-use court that will allow spectators to view events in a natural amphitheatre setting, a new playground and a water playground. This concept will open up the park and create greater usage.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Lisa Moffatt
- Cara Fisher
- Craig Ollenberger, Grandview Woodland Area Council
- Chris York

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

- Concerned that concept B may limit the number of activities that go on in the park as the multi-use court will replace the existing 3 tennis courts
- On a good day there could be as much as 30 people using the park for bike polo
- They usually use the existing tennis courts and leave half of the space available for other users
- How much will be allocated in the consultant's budget for public consultation
- East Van Bike Polo club favours concept C as this will allow a larger space for a variety of users
- The current tennis courts are undesirable which may explain why a lot of respondents were not in favour of retaining them
- Concept B can work for bike polo but there is a concern that use of the court by one group would restrict other users from also utilizing part of the space
- As the space shrinks users will become more protective of it
- Signage is also recommended especially soliciting users to pickup after their dogs
- The space required for bike polo should be at least 120 x 70 feet
- Grandview Woodland Area Council (GWAC) is the unofficial voice of residents in the neighbourhood
- GWAC is very supportive of the plan
- Request that food bearing plants be favoured in the landscape
- Propose a design concept that would take advantage of the sloping terrain of the park, incorporating a tiered series of terraces
- This would allow the design to capitalize on the good view of downtown
- The various terraces can be artistically enhanced with street performers and artwork

Board members thanked the delegations for their comments.

Moved by Commissioner Blyth,

- A. THAT the Board approve the concept plan for the proposed upgrade of Grandview Park as described in this report and illustrated in Appendix A;**
- B. THAT subject to Recommendations B, C and D, the Board enter into a contract with van der Zalm + Associates Inc. in the amount of \$117,541 plus GST, for the upgrade of Grandview Park as detailed in this report;**
- C. 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;**
- D. 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;**
- E. 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.**

Board members discussed the motion. Board members requested that bike racks and water fountains that can facilitate the filling of water bottles be included in the design.

The motion was put forward and it was Carried Unanimously.

Vancouver Open Golf Tournament

Board members received copies of a staff report dated January 20, 2010 recommending that the Board approve the Vancouver Open Golf Tournament to be hosted at Vancouver's three municipal courses from 2010 to 2012.

Staff advised the Board that the Vancouver Open Golf Tournament is part of a series of tournaments in the Vancouver Golf Tour developed for local professional amateur golfers. This will be the second consecutive year that Park Board golf courses will be used in the tournament, this year's tournaments will be held on a Sunday, Monday and Tuesday from September 9 to 11. Participation in the tournament allows the Board

to provide a venue for showcasing and developing local golfing talent, and also generates revenue, media coverage and promotional opportunities.

The following delegation requested to speak to the Board:

- Fraser Mulholland, Vancouver Golf Tour

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

- The PGA tour aims to develop champions
- Hope to see more players as the tournament will be four days earlier
- There has been a huge increase in website membership from 60 in the first year to 200 last year
- Have also seen people travelling to Vancouver to participate in the tournaments
- As the tournament has been running 3 years in a row there may now be a greater opportunity for sponsorship
- Hope this year to gain some funding for inner city youth groups, geared towards teaching kids and giving them an opportunity to participate in golf

Moved by Commissioner Robertson,

THAT the Board approve the Vancouver Open Golf Tournament to be hosted at Vancouver's three municipal courses from 2010 to 2012.

-Carried Unanimously.

The Teahouse and Seasons in the Park – Rent Reviews

Board members received copies of a staff report dated January 21, 2010 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to F.

Staff informed the Board that the Sequoia Company of Restaurants, owner of the Teahouse and Seasons Restaurants, has held longstanding leases with the Park Board and maintained the properties to high standards. The rents were increased 5 years ago and are now on par or above market value. It is recommended that the current rent amounts be sustained and the leases extended for an additional 5 years.

Move by Commissioner Woodcock,

- A. THAT the rent for the Teahouse for the term January 1, 2010 – December 31, 2014 be set at 6% for the first \$3,500,000 of gross revenue (including liquor) and 4% for gross revenue beyond \$3,500,000;**

- B. THAT the rent for Seasons in the Park for the term March 1, 2010 – February 28, 2015 be set at 6% for the first \$4,500,000 of gross revenue (including liquor) and 4% for gross revenue beyond \$4,500,000;**
- C. THAT a payment in lieu of property taxes of \$6.21/sq ft (2009 rates) be set at both restaurants from the start of the new terms and the rate be reviewed each year to reflect any changes in property tax assessments for businesses in Vancouver;**
- D. THAT an additional five year option be given to the Sequoia Company of Restaurants for both restaurants;**
- E. THAT no legal rights shall arise and no consents, permissions or licences 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;**

-Carried Unanimously.

Approval of Concept and Consultancy Award: Norquay Park Upgrade

Board members received copies of a staff report dated January 21, 2010 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to E.

Staff recommended that the Board approve the concept plan for Norquay Park upgrade and award the consultancy to Durante Kreuk Ltd. Board members requested that bike racks and water fountains that can facilitate the filling of water bottles be incorporated in the design of all new parks and upgrades.

Moved by Commissioner Hundal,

- A. THAT the Board approve the concept plan for the proposed upgrade of Norquay Park as described in this report and as illustrated in Appendix 2;**
- B. THAT subject to Recommendations C,D and E, the Board enter into a contract with Durante Kreuk Ltd. in the amount of \$47,548, plus GST, for the upgrade of Norquay Park as detailed in this report;**
- C. 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;**

- D. 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;**
- E. 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.

Delegation of Contract Award Authority

Board members received copies of a staff report dated January 18, 2010 recommending that the Board delegates its authority to award contracts to the General Manager for the period February 02 to February 28, 2010, for projects which receive funding under the Federal Infrastructure Stimulus Fund and Recreation Infrastructure Canada Fund.

Staff advised the Board that as during the summer recess the Board transfers authority to the General Manager for awarding contracts, and since the next meeting of the Board will be on March 01, 2010, to ensure that deadlines for these specific projects are met, it is recommended that this authority be transferred to the General Manager during this period.

Moved by Commissioner Hundal,

THAT the Board delegates its authority to award contracts to the General Manager for the period of February 2nd to February 28, 2010 for projects which receive funding under the Federal Infrastructure

Board members discussed the motion. A Board member recommended that the motion be amended to include an additional line.

Moved by Commissioner Hundal,

THAT the General Manager report to the Chair on each contract that is awarded during this period.

-Carried Unanimously.

The main motion as amended was put forward and it was Carried Unanimously.

Riley Park Community Centre, Ice Rink and Curling Club Renewal: Construction Contract Award

Board members received copies of a staff report dated January 25, 2010 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to D.

Staff advised the Board that this project will commence after the Olympics to convert the Olympic/Paralympic Curling Venue at Hillcrest Park to accommodate the designated activities at Riley Park Community Centre, Ice Rink and Curling Club.

Moved by Commissioner Hundal,

- A. THAT, subject to Recommendations B, C and D, the Board enter into a fixed construction contract with Haebler Construction Projects Inc in the amount of \$9,315,595 , plus applicable GST and HST, for Riley Park Community Centre, Ice Rink and Curling Club Renewal 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.

Enquiries, Other Matters and New Business

A Board member inquired into the status of the Hollow Tree conservation project. Staff informed the Board that the project is complete and the Park Board has also concluded the work around the tree. An engineer's letter stating that the tree is stable was received.

A Board member stated that petitions were received from senior users of George Park requesting that washrooms be provided at the Park. The washrooms were destroyed by fire and following this, temporary toilets were provided by a private corporation, but

currently, there are no washroom facilities in the park. The Board member requested that staff find a solution to this problem, even if it means installing temporary washrooms until a permanent solution is developed.

In-camera Meeting

Moved by Commissioner Robertson,

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:

(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 Park Board if they were held in public.

-Carried Unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:11 p.m.

Peter Kuran
Acting General Manager

Commissioner Aaron Jasper
Chair