

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD AT THE PARK BOARD OFFICE
ON MONDAY, APRIL 19, 2010**

PRESENT:	Chair	- Aaron Jasper
	Vice Chair	- Sarah Blyth
	Commissioners	- Constance Barnes
		- Raj Hundal
		- Stuart Mackinnon
		- Loretta Woodcock
	Acting General Manager	- Peter Kuran
	Director of Vancouver East District	- Liane McKenna
	Co-Acting Director of Stanley District	- Philip Josephs
	Co-Acting Director of Stanley District	- Thomas Soulliere
	Senior Business Analyst	- Meg Elliott
	Supervisor of Aquatics	- Sean Healy
	Manager of Communications	- Joyce Courtney
	Recorder	- Shala Hay

Commissioner Robertson was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Board held on Monday, March 22, 2010 and the special meeting of the Board held on March 29, 2010 were adopted as circulated.

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair reported on the Automated External Defibrillators launch at Park Board ice rinks on March 24, 2010 and annual Vaisakhi Parade hosted by the Sikh community on April 10, 2010.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

On the agenda of the last Planning and Environment Committee meeting were: Street Tree Issue – 46th Avenue and George Street; Report on the 'Ecology of Stanley Park'; Special Event Permits; Memorial South Park Tennis Courts; Southeast False Creek Community Centre partnership opportunity with Canadian Sport Centre Pacific; and Stanley Park Shuttle Operation. The next Planning and Environment Committee meeting will convene on Thursday, May 06, 2010.

The Services and Budgets Committee has not meet since the last Board meeting, the next meeting will convene on Tuesday, April 20, 2010. On the Agenda will be: March 2010 Operating Statement; and Theatre Under The Stars New Lease.

City Council Report

The Acting General Manager informed the Board that at its next regular meeting Council will receive a report on the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games - Cost Estimates, and at the next Standing Committee of Council on City Services and Budgets there will be a presentation on the 2009 Financial Report.

STAFF REPORTS

No-Smoking Policy for Vancouver Parks and Beaches

Board members received a staff report dated April 8, 2010 recommending that the Board instruct the General Manager to consult with the Director of Legal Services to seek amendments to the City of Vancouver Health Bylaw and Parks Control Bylaw to prohibit smoking in all parks and beaches.

Staff advised the Board that there are many health and environmental hazards caused by smoking and evidence support that outdoor smoke can be just as harmful as indoor. The results of an online survey conducted in the fall of 2009 show that the vast majority of park users are in favor of a “no-smoking” policy.

The initial stage of the bylaw implementation would focus on education and awareness, and the new policy will be communicated via local media, internet and signage. Staff further advised the Board that many jurisdictions across North America have successfully implemented similar policies with high levels of compliance and the few cases of non-compliance that is anticipated can be addressed by park rangers and bylaw officers.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Jack Boomer, Clean Air Coalition
- Chris Carlsten
- Ashley Duyker, Canadian Cancer Society
- Christina Tonella, Vancouver Coastal Health
- Ann-Marie Murphy
- Milan Khara, Tobacco Dependence Treatment Specialist, VCH Addiction Services
- Dr. Stuart Kreisman
- Eleanor Hadley
- Errol Povah, Air Space Action on Smoking and Health
- Sera Kirk
- Mike Tropp
- Edward Yetman

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

- The hope is to achieve a smoke free BC
- Many other municipalities are also enforcing similar policies

- The Clean Air Coalition will use its network system to support this enforcement, it would also utilize Facebook and Twitter to build awareness and educate the public
- For the most part, BC residents are law abiding and once this has been introduced the majority will comply
- The hope is that there will be a high level of compliance and little need to utilize resources for enforcement
- Just in case there are caveats about this policy, it is well established that there is no safe level of tobacco smoke
- There is no way to protect innocent bystanders in park settings from smoke exposure
- The trend in society is to ban smoking in public areas and this has helped smokers
- The willingness of Vancouverites to look at the evidence and support this sets the City apart
- The Canadian Cancer Society supports the prohibition of smoking in public places
- Tobacco remains the single most cause of death and illness from preventable diseases
- Secondhand smoke contains over 4000 chemicals including at least 50 known cancer causing substances and discarded cigarette butts on beaches are harmful to both humans and wildlife
- This policy will further serve to decrease negative role modeling for children and prevent wild fires
- Vancouver Coastal Health supports this policy that will serve to 'denormalize' smoking
- In Bridgewater where a no-smoking ban was introduced, a survey indicated that 12% of smokers are trying to quit as a result of the bylaw, there is also strong compliance and awareness
- Encourage the Board to ensure that signage and awareness is used to enforce the bylaw
- As someone diagnosed with Nasopharyngeal cancer, which was most likely caused by secondhand smoke, every attempt is made to avoid cigarette smoke which often results in having to risk being hit by oncoming traffic while crossing the street to escape the smoke
- Everyone should be free but not free to hurt others
- Cigarette kills approximately five million people each year around the world and most tobacco addiction occurs in childhood
- By 'denormalizing' smoking you prevent children from being exposed to the habit
- There is a very low percentage of the local population that smoke but in terms of available square feet of public space it is relatively high
- Solana Beach banned smoking in 2003 and did not have to issue a single ticket, and other cities that have done the same have not experienced any problems
- Children are easily influenced by peers and if they go to parks and see others smoking they will want to try it out of curiosity and unfortunately some of them will become addicted
- This new policy will prevent children from becoming addicted
- Cigarettes affect your body and your life
- Signage should prohibit the smoking of marijuana as well
- Smoking is not addictive but nicotine is and banning smoking does not prevent persons from feeding their nicotine addiction
- Would like to offer the Board the support of the Air Space Action on Smoking and Health in this initiative
- This would mean that cigarette butts would no longer be the main component in the Vancouver Aquarium Annual Coastal Clean Up
- Park users are often bullied out of their space by smokers who refuse to put out their cigarettes and the public should not have to be inconvenienced
- Everyone has a right to fresh smoke-free air
- This law will empower those who are affected by cigarette smoke but do not speak up

- Even though some may not abide with the law this should not be a reason for not implementing it
- Why was the survey only conducted online and how reliable is the results
- At Kits Beach there are lots of people inhaling vehicle exhaust while waiting for seats at cafes and they don't seem to have a problem with that
- "Everytime you write or create a new law you create a new class of criminal"
- People who are concerned about smoke should not drive either
- Main concern is about passing too many laws
- Some people who have health conditions are not as agile and are unable to relocate when they are being exposed to cigarette smoke
- Having two open-heart surgeries really puts you at risk when exposed to cigarette smoke and the public should not have to deal with this

The Board thanked the delegations for their comments.

Board members discussed the report. Board members thanked staff and all the external bodies that assisted in bringing this policy before the Board.

Moved by Commissioner Hundal,

THAT the Board instruct the General Manager to consult with the Director of Legal Services to seek amendments to the City of Vancouver Health Bylaw and Parks Control Bylaw to prohibit smoking in all parks and beaches.

- Carried Unanimously.

Watermark Restaurant - Assignment of Lease

Board members received copies of a staff report dated April 8, 2010 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to C.

Staff advised the Board that the operator of the Watermark Restaurant, Barnett Family Holdings Inc, requested that their lease be assigned to the Boathouse Restaurants of Canada Inc. Under the current agreement the tenant is allowed to assign the lease if approval is granted by the Board. This recommendation is brought before the Board after having evaluated the reputation of the Boathouse, the operation of it existing restaurants and potential benefits it can bring to the establishment.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Eleanor Hadley
- Brent Granby, COPE Park Board Caucus
- Kelly Gordon, The Boathouse Restaurants

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

- Concerned that the Board should not be getting involved in development of our beaches
- Concerned as to why the current lessee is not renewing the lease
- Thinks the Park Board is encouraging the sale of liquor on beaches to get a percentage, to pay for its existence

- The general public is not allowed to have a glass of wine or can of beer on the beach but they are allowed to purchase it from one of these restaurants on the beach
- Opposed to lavish facilities on the beaches
- Taxpayers are paying to maintain the beaches not to have restaurants on the them
- Thinks this is an opportune time for the Board to review its concession strategy and take a holistic approach to adding value in every area of operation, this approach should also apply when evaluating contractors who bid on projects
- Within the strategy that was reviewed in 2006 there is some contention with concession programs in terms of the organization strategies and the need to earn revenue
- Recommend that a multi-criteria analysis be looked into when reviewing the concession strategy
- The Boathouse Restaurants has been in operation for 29 years and has a good track record with six existing locations
- The restaurant specializes in primarily world class seafood and local BC seafood
- It won Georgia Straight 2010 Golden Plate Awards for Best Restaurant Patio, Best Restaurant to Hang Out in on a Sunny Day and was the second runner-up for Best Seafood
- Happy Hour specials provide affordable meal options and they would like to enhance the takeout menu to offer healthier options
- The Company has actually made improvements to the park at their Port Moody location
- There would be affordable meal options ranging from \$2 to \$11 including sandwiches at around \$6
- They also provide a kids' menu and is willing to look into a seniors' menu
- They are willing to work with the Board to facilitate group bookings, weddings and corporate events to capitalize on the opportunities created by the new Marketing Committee.

The Board thanked the delegations for their comments.

Board members discussed the report. Several Board members expressed satisfaction with the Boathouse's willingness to work with the Board to offer a good level of service. A Board member stated that they were not in favor of the recommendations as they support commercialization of public spaces.

Moved by Commissioner Blyth,

- A. THAT the Board approve the assignment of the lease at the Watermark Restaurant to the Boathouse Restaurants of Canada Inc.**
- B. THAT all legal documentation is to be in a form which is satisfactory to the Director of Legal Services for the City of Vancouver and the General Manager.**
- C. That the General Manager be authorized to execute and deliver such documentation on behalf of the Board.**

-Carried.

(Commissioner Mackinnon contrary)

Commissioner Mackinnon exited the meeting at this time.

Changes to Authority to Contract (“Standing Authorities”) and updated Procurement Policy

Board members received copies of a staff report dated April 01, 2010 recommending that the Board approve the Procurement Policy attached in Appendix I (including changes to the Standing Authorities) and that those changes take effect beginning April 20, 2010.

Staff advised the Board that the City recently updated its procurement policy and changes to delegated authority. The changes recommended in the report are parallel to the changes approved at the City level. There are four main changes that will affect the Board: Changes to Public Tender limits and requirements; Replacement of the Board’s Disposal of Surplus Assets Policy & Procedures; New Limits and Authorities for the Award of Contracts; and New limits and Authorities for the Delegated Authorities for Signing of Contracts.

Board members discussed the report and requested clarification on the new lines of authority. Staff explained that this is based on the contract amount and provided an overview of the authorization hierarchy.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

THAT the Board approve the Procurement Policy attached in Appendix I (including changes to the Standing Authorities) and that those changes take effect beginning April 20, 2010.

-Carried Unanimously.

First Tee Youth Golf – Host Facility Agreement

Board members received copies of a staff report dated April 8, 2010 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to C.

Staff advised the Board that the First Tee Youth Golf program is a means of introducing young people of all backgrounds to the game of golf and the life lessons it teaches. The program will be held at Fraserview Golf Course and the YMCA of Greater Vancouver and the Kids First Sport Foundation will be responsible for the program operation and fundraising. The program is scheduled to commence in early summer 2010.

Commissioner Blyth left the meeting at this time.

Board members discussed the report and expressed support for the program.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

- A. That the Board approve the Host Facility Agreement for the use of Fraserview Golf Course by the First Tee of Metro Vancouver/YMCA for the First Tee Youth Golf Program based on the terms identified in this report.**
- B. That all legal documentation is to be in a form which is satisfactory to the Director of Legal Services for the City of Vancouver and the General Manager and**
- C. That the General Manager be authorized to execute and deliver such documentation on behalf of the Board.**

- Carried Unanimously.

(Commissioner Blyth was absent for the vote)

Commissioner Blyth returned to the meeting.

Accomplishments Report 2009

Board members received copies of a staff report dated April 9, 2010 recommending that the Board receive this report for information.

Staff provided an overview of the Park Board's performance over 2009. The Board's key accomplishments were aligned with the directions of the Strategic Plan 2005-2010. Significant progress was made in all areas of operations and performance measures were used to evaluate each level of accomplishment.

Board members discussed the report and commended staff on their hard work during the previous year.

Moved by Commissioner Hundal,

THAT the Board receive this report for information.

-Carried Unanimously.

Administrative Report – Position Changes

Board members received copies of a staff report dated March 31, 2010 recommending that the Board approve the creation of 4 CUPE 15 regular full-time positions and 2 CUPE 15 regular part-time positions, with the source of funds as indicated in the body of this report. All positions being created are subject to classification by the General Manager of Human Resources.

Board members discussed the report.

Moved by Commissioner Barnes,

THAT the Board approve the creation of 4 CUPE 15 regular full-time positions and 2 CUPE 15 regular part-time positions, with the source of funds as indicated in the body of this report. All positions being created are subject to classification by the General Manager of Human Resources.

- Carried Unanimously.

Special Events Permits

Board members received copies of a staff report dated April 16, 2010 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to C.

Staff advised the Board of the three Special Events that require approval: Vancouver International Soccer Festival; 2010 KitsFest “Sports Daze”; and Trout Lake Farmer’s Market.

Board members discussed the report. A Board member asked what led to the decision to locate the Trout Lake Farmers’ Market to the north parking lot. Staff advised the Board that after discussions with the Society and evaluation of both the north and south lots it was decided that the north location is more appropriate as the south lot is much smaller and a lot busier during the summer. Staff will be monitoring the situation throughout the period and at the end of the season an evaluation will be done to determine what would be the best arrangement for next year.

Moved by Commissioner Barnes,

- A. THAT the Board grant permission for a 150 capacity Private Special Occasion License for the 2010 Vancouver International Soccer Festival on June 26 & 27 from 11:30a.m. to 9:00p.m.**
- B. THAT the Board grant permission for a 400 capacity Private Special Occasion License for the 2010 KitsFest “Sports Daze” on August 20 & August 22 from 12:00p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**
- C. THAT the Board grant permission for the temporary relocation of the Trout Lake Farmers’ Market to the north parking lot in John Hendry Park for 2010.**

– Carried Unanimously.

MOTIONS

Moved by Commissioner Barnes,

- A. WHEREAS at the regular Board meeting on Monday, July 20, 2009, the Board revised the list of members that was established on February 02, 2009 for two committees, Services and Budgets and Planning and Environment and appointed the new Chair and Vice Chair and Committee members;**

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board rescind the Planning and Environment Committee motion as approved at the July 20, 2009 meeting appointing the members for this Committee.

- B. THAT the Vancouver Park Board change the Planning and Environment Committee as follows:**

**Commissioner Sarah Blyth, Chair,
Commissioner Raj Hundal, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Stuart Mackinnon
Commissioner Ian Robertson**

- Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

WHEREAS on March 22, 2010 the Park Board approved the motion to support the City of Vancouver's declaration as a True Sport Community;

WHEREAS at the March 25, 2010 Standing Committee on City Services & Budgets, City Councillors unanimously supported the True Sport motion;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Vancouver Park Board declares itself a True Sport organization.

- Carried Unanimously.

Enquiries, Other Matters and New Business

A Board member acknowledged that updated equipment is needed to aide the hearing and visually impaired at Board meetings. Staff advised the Board that they are working on this. A member of the City attended the meeting to conduct an observational assessment and staff is currently working with City staff to select the best system for the Board.

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 pm.

Peter Kuran
Acting General Manager

Commissioner Aaron Jasper
Chair