

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD AT THE PARK BOARD OFFICE
ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2010**

PRESENT:	Chair	- Aaron Jasper
	Vice Chair	- Constance Barnes
	Commissioners	- Sarah Blyth
		- Raj Hundal
		- Stuart Mackinnon
		- Ian Robertson
		- Loretta Woodcock
	General Manager	- Malcolm Bromley
	Deputy General Manager	- Peter Kuran
	Acting Director of Planning and Operations	- Danica Djurkovic
	Acting Director of Corporate Services	- Meg Elliott
	Acting Director of Vancouver East District	- Terry Walton
	Acting Director of Queen Elizabeth District	- Diane Murphy
	Manager of Recreation Services	- Thomas Soulliere
	- Stanley District	
	Manager of Communications	- Joyce Courtney
	Recorder	- Barinder Lalli

STAFF REPORTS

2011 Operating Budget Initiatives

Board members received copies of a staff report deferred from the November 29, 2010 Board meeting dated November 24, 2010 recommending that the Board approve the proposed 2011 budget initiatives as outlined in the attached report.

The staff report was stricken and Board members received copies of a new staff report recommending that the Board approve 2011 budget reduction initiatives totalling \$730 000, as outlined in the table below.

Moved by Commissioner Barnes,

THAT the Board approve 2011 budget reduction initiatives totalling \$730, 000, as outlined in the table below.

Staff advised that the amendment is a result of the City Council meeting on Tuesday December 14, 2010 which reflects a \$300 000 reduction from the initial staff report that was tabled on November 29th 2010.

A Board member inquired whether the City Council recommendation to create three new shower programs for the homeless would require facilities to be built. Staff advised that the facilities exist but a procedure to support the shower program would have to be created.

A Board member inquired whether the public will have time to give input on the \$100 000 gap. Staff advised that there would be an opportunity for feedback in early January once staff identify different areas that can be targeted.

A Board member inquired whether any options for additional funding for Community based Board meetings have been explored. Staff replied that they have received several letters from interested proponents from which a partnership could be reached.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Colin Stark
- Jamie Lee Hamilton
- Kate Perkins, President, Trout Lake Community Association
- Paul Faoro, President, CUPE 15

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

- Have been a caretaker for the last 17 years for the Park Board and would like the Park Board to do a study of labour relations between caretakers and the Park Board
- Caretakers are the best and least expensive solution in 95% of the cases.
- The Park Board needs to tighten up and consult the public before making decisions on the budget.
- It is important to have Community Board Meetings as that is the Park Board's ability to be involved in different neighbourhoods.
- Does not understand why the Park Board cut caretakers.
- Find it odd that City Council would tell the Park Board where the additional money should go.
- There is a growing concern over the effectiveness of the Park Board and that there seems to be more direction from City Council for the Park Board than from Commissioners.
- It is unacceptable that 5 million dollars has been cut to this budget in this last term
- Surprised that the Park Board has not come to the Community Associations to ask for help in advocating for more funding.
- Thank-you for the advocacy that Commissioners did at City Council.
- It is a tough budget and it is a concern for our Union.
- There are concerns with the levels of exempt staff over the entire city but especially at the Park Board.
- There needs to be greater cooperation about the usage of public space between the three levels of government.
- The property tax increase was not high enough to pay for the existing level of service or to enhance it.

The Board thanked the delegations for their comments.

A Board member suggested that the motion be amended.

Moved by Commissioner Mackinnon,

THAT any efficiencies realised in 2011 be dedicated to park maintenance on a priority basis.

The Board discussed the amendment to the motion. A Board member advised that with the additional funding from City Council the largest reduction on the budget initiatives is on park maintenance. With an organisation restructure in the works there may be new efficiencies that may produce more funding and that funding should be prioritized to go back to park maintenance. A few Board members felt that the amendment was too prescriptive.

The amendment was put forward and it was DEFEATED (Commissioner Barnes, Commissioner Blyth, Commissioner Hundal, Commissioner Jasper, Commissioner Robertson and Commissioner Woodcock contrary)

Another Board member suggested an amendment to the main motion.

Moved by Commissioner Robertson,

THAT the Board restore \$60 000 in funding to restore children's summer recreation programs that were eliminated from the 2010 Operating Budget and that staff be directed to find the funding within the 2011 Operating Budget.

The Board discussed the amendment to the main motion. A Board member felt that this was an issue that the Park Board should have found an alternate source of funding for last year. A Board member stated that if funding were to come available in the future than the allocation of that money should be discussed when it happens.

The amendment was put forward and it was DEFEATED (Commissioner Barnes, Commissioner Blyth, Commissioner Hundal, Commissioner Jasper and Commissioner Woodcock contrary)

Another Board member suggested an amendment to the main motion.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

THAT the Board endeavour to restore \$60 000, or a portion of funding, to restore children's summer recreation programs that were eliminated from the 2010 Operating Budget and that staff be directed to find the funding within the 2011 Operating Budget.

The amendment was put forward and it was DEFEATED. (Commissioner Barnes, Commissioner Blyth, Commissioner Hundal and Commissioner Jasper contrary)

Board members discussed the report. A few Board members expressed concern that City Council was very prescriptive in their allocation of the additional \$300 000 to the Park Board and that the process in which the funding was allocated was flawed. A few Board members responded that the Board did have an opportunity to prioritize the initiatives already laid out and everyone had an opportunity to list their concerns. A Board member expressed concern that for the third time in a row, Park Board maintenance is taking the brunt of the cuts. Board members expressed gratitude to the Commissioners that went to City Hall and gained the additional funding for the Park Board.

The main motion was put forward and it was CARRIED.

(Commissioner Mackinnon and Commissioner Woodcock contrary)

(Commissioner Robertson abstained)

The Chair called a short recess at 8:17pm.

The meeting reconvened at 8:26pm.

Contract Award for Trillium Park Fieldhouse

Board members received copies of a staff report deferred from the December 13, 2010 Board meeting dated December 10, 2010 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to D.

Staff advised the Board that this project is partly funded by the Federal Infrastructure grant and has a deadline of March 31, 2011 which can be extended until October 31, 2011 if necessary. It is recommended that the contract be awarded to the bidder that best met the selection criteria, Rogad Construction Company.

Staff advised the Board that many of the materials used in this project will be from recycled parts from the old Mount Pleasant Community Centre.

The Board members discussed the report. A Board member expressed concern that the design for a flat roof would lead to people climbing it. Staff advised that the roof is three metres off the ground and is therefore not easily accessible.

A Board member inquired how the facility will be managed in terms of who would open and close it. Staff advised that the public washrooms would be open at all times but that the team washrooms would be opened and closed by the teams who would have keys to access them.

A Board member inquired whether this could be one of the three new locations for the shower program. Staff replied that as far as the facility goes it is one of the best options for this type of program.

A Board member inquired whether a concession stand would be added. Staff replied that a concession was not mentioned in any of the discussions for the Fieldhouse but vendors could be brought on-site on tournament days by field-users. The Board recommended that staff provide field-users a list of five or six approved vendors in advance of tournaments to help them choose a vendor.

Moved by Commissioner Robertson,

- A. THAT, subject to Recommendations B, C and D, the Board enter into a contract with Rogad Construction Company (2006) Ltd. in the amount of \$834,538.00, plus GST, for T2010-23 Trillium Park Fieldhouse 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

The meeting adjourned at 8:58pm.

Malcolm Bromley
General Manager

Commissioner Aaron Jasper
Chair