

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD AT THE PARK BOARD OFFICE
ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2011**

PRESENT:	Chair	- Aaron Jasper
	Vice Chair	- Constance Barnes
	Commissioners	- Sarah Blyth
		- Raj Hundal
		- Stuart Mackinnon
		- Ian Robertson
	General Manager	- Malcolm Bromley
	Deputy General Manager	- Peter Kuran
	Acting Director of Planning and Operations	- Danica Djurkovic
	Acting Director of Corporate Services	- Meg Elliott
	Manager of Recreation Services	- Thomas Soulliere
	- Stanley District	
	Manager of Revenue Services	- Gordon Barber
	Manager of Communications	- Joyce Courtney
	Arts and Culture Coordinator	- jil weaving
	Recorder	- Barinder Lalli

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Board held on Monday, January 31, 2011 were adopted as circulated.

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair reported on several community events that had taken place during the last month: Chinese New Year, the Inukshuk unveiling ceremony, Outgames fundraising event, International Mother Language Day, Association of BC Forest Professionals' Annual Conference and Black History Month. On a personal note, the Chair announced the arrival of his daughter Simran Elizabeth Randhawa Jasper who was born on February 2nd, 2011.

COMMITTEE REPORT

The last Services and Budgets Committee was cancelled. The next meeting will convene on March 22, 2011.

The last Planning and Environment Committee meeting was held on February 10, 2011. On the agenda were Federal Infrastructure Projects Update, 2011 Special Events and the Komagata Maru memorial. The next meeting will convene on March 3, 2011.

City Council Report

The General Manager advised the Board that at the next City Services and Budgets Committee meeting a report will be going forward that recommends an amendment to the code of conduct which will ensure that all employees work in a harassment free environment. The General Manager also advised that the Park Board will formally enter into a contract with a consultant to lead the process for the Strategic Plan this week.

STAFF REPORTS

A Board member called a notice of motion for two items on the agenda: Komagata Maru Project-Harbour Green Park and Village Kitchen at Creekside Community Recreation Centre –Award of Contract. The Board member advised that the procedural by-laws dictate that a member's motion must be posted by the City Clerk by 5pm on the Monday before the meeting which was not done for these two items. The Board member expressed concern that the Commissioners and the public were not given enough time to review the reports. The Board member stated that he was mindful that there were delegations that had signed up to speak to these items and would therefore withdraw the notice of motion.

Komagata Maru Project –Harbour Green Park

Board members received copies of a staff report dated February 16, 2011 recommending that the Board accept the donation of a monument to the Komagata Maru Incident to be installed in Harbour Green Park with all arrangements to the satisfaction of the General Manager.

Staff advised that two locations were short listed for the site of the monument, one at Stanley Park and the other at Harbour Green Park. After community consultation Harbour Green Park was selected as the recommended location. Both locations received the same level of support however the location at Stanley Park would require an extended process to complete.

The next step for this project will be a detailed design stage which will address issues such as safety and crime prevention. Staff introduced Eric Lees and Lydia Mynott from Eric Lees + Associates to answer questions from the Board.

A Board member inquired about the results from the community consultation. Staff replied that the main issues people had with this project were in regards to the planting, safety, prevention of anti-social behaviour and historical accuracy. In total there were 19 responses that were unresponsive of the monument in general.

A Board member asked what role the Public Art Committee played in this project. Staff replied that the Public Art Committee is a Committee that is convened by the City of Vancouver and there is an agreement that all proposals for donations for monuments,

memorials and public art be taken to them for review of aesthetics. It is made up of artists, curators and landscape architects and one general member of the public. The Public Art Committee felt that this monument was appropriate to the occasion and important for Vancouver.

A Board member inquired what the size of the monument will be in relation to the park. Staff replied that the dimensions are not set yet however at maximum it will be 9 metres long within the shrub bed which is 50 metres long and 2.7 metres high. The trees that surround this monument will be higher than the monument itself and are currently between 9-12 metres high. A Board member inquired how much of the greenery would be preserved. The delegation replied that there will be a net gain of 5% of the shrub bed.

A Board member asked where this project was advertised. Staff replied that it was put in the courier and that it was mentioned on CBC radio, OMNI press and a number of newspapers.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Eleanor Hadley
- Maggie
- Ranjit Hayer, Khalsa Diwan Society
- Kesar Bhatti, Khalsa Diwan Society
- Gerry Sievens

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

- Canadian citizens do not know about this memorial;
- The public has not been consulted enough;
- The staff reports do not say how large this memorial will be;
- This is another insult to Canadians;
- In favour of commemorating a tragedy like this but would like to ensure that the greenery of the park is preserved;
- Informed that the dimensions will be a maximum of nine feet in height and twenty feet in width and that is too obstructive;
- The design itself will invite climbing and it is dangerous;
- Stanley Park would be a better location for this type of monument;
- This type of design will invite people to put graffiti on it;
- Extremely happy that the Harper Government is recognizing this event;
- Have worked closely with Park Board staff and the consultant;
- This monument will be educational;
- Every effort has been made to add to the greenery of the park;
- Would like to keep the park a park;
- In favour of recognizing this event but want to ensure that no more large monuments will be placed in this small park;
- Concerned about the height of the monument;
- Would like to ensure that there is mitigation so that no views are lost.

The Board discussed the motion. A Board member thanked staff and Eric Lees + Associates for their hard work on this project. A Board member stated that this monument will bring history to life and that this could be a place where people can learn, share and grow. A Board member felt that it was commendable that Vancouverites are in a position to education people on its past and learn from the mistakes made.

Moved by Commissioner Hundal,

THAT the Board accept the donation of a monument to the Komagata Maru Incident to be installed in Harbour Green Park with all arrangements to the satisfaction of the General Manager.

-Carried Unanimously

The chair called a short recess at 8:05pm.

The meeting reconvened at 8:13pm.

Village Kitchen at Creekside Community Recreation Centre –Award of Contract

Board members received copies of a staff report dated February 17, 2011 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to E.

Staff advised that the restaurant, Village Kitchen, will be operated by Daniel Hospitality Group which already has a number agreements with the Vancouver Park Board. This restaurant will be outdoor oriented and will have a focus on casual dining. It will be locally owned and operated with sustainable practices and local ingredients.

Staff introduced Daniel Frankel from Daniel Hospitality Group to answer questions from the Board.

A Board member inquired what the price points on the menu will be. The delegate replied that the price points will consider a 30-33% food cost. Entrees will be under \$20.

A Board member inquired what type of food items will be on the menu and whether there will be a children's menu. The delegate replied that the menu will have comfort food items and that there will be a children's menu in the \$5-6 price range.

A Board member asked what the risk to taxpayers would be if the restaurant does not do well. Staff replied that there would be options to lease to other restaurants and/or the incumbent could assign the lease to someone else.

A Board member inquired about the accessibility of the building. The delegate replied that it is a state of the art building and that there is an elevator available at all levels including in the parkade. Staff added that there is ramp access on three sides and that the sidewalk entrance is at ground level.

A Board member inquired if there will be take-out service. The delegate replied that there will be take-out available in compostable and biodegradable containers.

A Board member inquired whether Daniel Hospitality works with different youth organisations. The delegate replied that they have various programs including first placement jobs and working with ex-convicts.

A Board member inquired about the sliding scale terms of the lease and what would happen if the restaurant becomes successful right away. Staff replied that the lease considers that the first five years will be the years that are associated with the most risk. After the first 5 years, the terms of the lease are in line with what is done with other Park Board restaurant agreements.

The following delegate requested to speak to the Board:

- Simon Litherland

The following is a summary of comments made by the foregoing delegate:

- Happy to hear that there will be a kids menu and the pricing of the products;
- Hopes to see that the revenue generated will be brought back to this Community Centre and those that use it;
- Think the 'Clubhouse' would be a good name for the restaurant.

The Board discussed the motion. A few Board members expressed confidence in Daniel Hospitality Group as a result of their existing partnership with the Park Board.

Moved by Commissioner Blyth,

- A. THAT the Board approve a 5-year lease with up to two additional 5-year extension terms for the Daniel Hospitality Group to construct and operate a restaurant in the designated commercial retail unit at the Creekside Community Recreation Centre**
- B. THAT the rent structure will be at a tiered percentage of revenue rate for the initial 5-year term and at a rate of 6% of revenue for the following two 5-year extension terms as per this report.**
- C. 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 of the Park Board.**

D. THAT the General Manager be authorized to execute and deliver such documentation on behalf of the Board.

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

2011 Budget Implementation Plan

Board members received copies of a staff report dated February 22, 2011 recommending that the Board defer up to \$130,000 of the 2011 reserve contribution for the Langara golf course drainage project to fund the \$100,000 operating budget gap and up to \$30,000 for the cost of a homeless shower program.

Staff advised that they were asked to clarify part of the 2011 Budget approval process. On December 16th 2010, \$730 000 was approved as a budget reduction and part of that was a \$100 000 budget gap as well as the cost of a shower program. On January 17th, 2011 there was a recommendation to use \$130 000 from the Langara Drainage reserve to fund the budget gap. There is a plan to do a slip drainage project at the golf course this fall but there is enough money in the reserve for that work.

This is meant to be a short term solution and staff are confident that the money will be found later this year to return to the reserve.

A Board member asked what would happen if the project for the slip drainage which is estimated at 1.2 million comes in at a higher price and the money to be deferred to the operating budget gap is required. Staff replied that a slip drainage project can be scaled.

A Board member asked where the money will come from in the future to fund the budget gap. Staff replied that some savings will be created through the Strategic Plan.

A Board member inquired when details of the Shower Plan will come back to the Board. Staff replied that it will be presented at the April 4th 2011 Board meeting. A Board member asked what would happen if the \$30 000 allocated for the program is not enough money to fund it. Staff replied that they are confident that the program will run within that budget and that it could be scaled back to 2 locations instead of 3.

The Board discussed the motion. A few Board members expressed support for the program and that it would help provide a solution to the problem of homelessness in Vancouver. A few Board members did not support taking money from the reserve to fund an operating budget gap.

Moved by Commissioner Blyth,

THAT the Board defer up to \$130,000 of the 2011 reserve contribution for the Langara golf course drainage project to fund the \$100,000 operating budget gap and up to \$30,000 for the cost of a homeless shower program.

-Carried

(Commissioner Mackinnon and Commissioner Robertson opposed)

Enquiries, Other Matters and New Business

A Board member drew attention to Commissioner Woodcock experiencing the recent earthquake in Christchurch New Zealand and asked staff to look into whether Park Board buildings were seismically prepared. Staff replied that this is also an issue on the Corporate Management team agenda and that the Park Board is part of that review as well.

A Board member inquired where the Park Board is in the bid for the Women's World Cup and Homeless World Cup. Staff replied that the bid for the Women's World Cup was made by Fifa about two weeks ago and that the Park Board should have an answer by the end of March. Staff have also made contact with the organizers of the Homeless World Cup.

A Board member inquired what the timeline will be for the Capital Plan discussion. Staff replied that the submissions are currently being reviewed internally and that a workshop with Commissioners will begin in March. The submissions will be made public sometime in the summer. Staff added that the City is changing its Capital Plan process.

A Board member asked what the effects of park maintenance budget cuts will have on our regular staff and the people that use our parks and when the public will be notified of the changes. Staff replied that they do not see the report that was tabled on December 16th 2010 changing and that neighbourhoods will only be informed if they will see significant changes to their parks.

A Board member asked for an update on the Strathcona Community Garden. Staff replied that there were a couple of crime issues and that some trees were cut by the Park Board to have better site lines without consulting the Community Garden Society. Policies have now been put in place to ensure that that incident does not happen again.

A Board member inquired about a hazardous bike lane going through a linear park on Hawk and Prior and whether staff were aware of it and if anything will be done to change it. Staff replied that they will look into it.

In-Camera

Moved by Commissioner Barnes,

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:35pm.

Malcolm Bromley
General Manager

Commissioner Aaron Jasper
Chair