



**PARK BOARD COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

**MAY 28, 2012**

A Regular Park Board Committee meeting was held on Monday, May 28, 2012, at 7:00 pm, at the Park Board Office.

**PRESENT:** Commissioner Sarah Blyth, Chair  
Commissioner Niki Sharma, Vice-Chair  
Commissioner Constance Barnes  
Commissioner John Coupar  
Commissioner Melissa De Genova  
Commissioner Aaron Jasper

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Trevor Loke

**GENERAL MANAGER'S  
OFFICE:** Malcolm Bromley, General Manager  
Peter Kuran, Deputy General Manager

**RECORDER:** Kevin Tuerlings

**ROLL CALL**

**MATTERS ADOPTED ON CONSENT**

MOVED by Commissioner Sharma  
SECONDED by Commissioner Coupar

THAT the Board adopt the following report on consent:

1. Vancouver Racquet Club - Patio Endorsement

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**STAFF REPORTS**

1. Park Board Strategic Plan - Approval of Park Board Strategic Framework Objectives

The Deputy General Manager, along with two consultants, presented the report and responded to questions.

The Committee heard from one speaker who was opposed to the recommendation.

MOVED by Commissioner Sharma  
SECONDED by Commissioner Barnes

THAT the Board endorse the strategic framework objectives as outlined in the attached Board Report.

Following discussion, the motion was put and it was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

## MOTIONS

### 2. Local Food Assets Task Force

MOVED by Commissioner Jasper

SECONDED by Commissioner Sharma

#### WHEREAS

1. Vancouver's parks and recreation system includes over 200 hundred parks and 24 community centres;
2. The Park Board is responsible for the planting and maintenance of over 138,000 boulevard trees lining the City's streets;
3. There are 14 community gardens operated by local community groups on parkland across the city;
4. The Park Board, in partnership with local school groups, has planted 3 fruit orchards across the city in the past three years;
5. The Greenest City 2020 Action Plan lists examples of "Food Assets" such as:
  - neighbourhood food hubs that are centres for education and skill building
  - community kitchens
  - farmers markets
  - community produce stands
  - food scraps composting facilities and programs
  - community garden plots
  - urban orchards
  - urban farms
6. The Greenest City 2020 Action Plan sets a goal of increasing city-wide and neighbourhood food assets by a minimum of 50% over 2010 levels;
7. The City of Vancouver's Food Policy Council's mandate is to support the development of a food system where food is:
  1. safe, nutritious and culturally appropriate;
  2. affordable, available and accessible to all; and

3. produced, processed, marketed, consumed and waste products reused or managed in a manner that is financially viable, protects the health and dignity of people and has minimum impact on the environment;
8. As part of the Park Board's 2012-2017 Strategic Plan, supporting local food systems was identified as one of the objectives under the "Healthy Ecosystems" goal;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Board direct staff to create a "Local Food Assets Task Force" to make policy recommendations and identify opportunities that would increase and integrate local food assets into the Park Board's parks and recreation system.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the "Local Food Assets Task Force" membership be comprised of two Park Board Commissioners, Park Board staff, City staff, representation from the Food Policy Council, representation from Neighbourhood Food Networks (NFN's) and other community groups as required.

The Committee heard from five speakers who were in support of the motion.

AMENDMENT MOVED BY Commissioner De Genova  
SECONDED by Commissioner Coupar

THAT the Board defer the motion until a budget associated with the Task Force can be created.

DEFEATED  
(Commissioners Barnes, Blyth, Jasper, Sharma opposed)

The amendment having failed, the motion was put and it was CARRIED.  
(Commissioner De Genova opposed)

### **3. Improved Pedestrian and Cyclist Safety on Vancouver's Seawall**

MOVED by Commissioner Jasper  
SECONDED by Commissioner Sharma

WHEREAS

1. The seawall is a 26km walking, jogging, cycling and inline skating path that lines Vancouver's waterfront from the convention centre on Burrard Inlet, around Stanley Park and False Creek, past Granville Island and ending at Kitsilano Beach Park;
2. The seawall passes through sixteen parks, past four community centres and nine concessions;
3. The seawall is the most popular recreational facility in Vancouver;
4. The Park Board is committed to the safety of all those that use the seawall;

5. Park Board data shows that approximately 50% of pedestrians and cyclists experience conflicts with each other with some regularity on the Stanley Park portion of the seawall;
6. The Park Board's Strategic Plan includes "Well Managed Infrastructure" as one of its high level goals;
7. The Park Board is currently developing a "Cycling Plan" for Stanley Park to in part to reduce conflict between cyclists and pedestrians;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board direct staff to work with Engineering Services to develop strategies to minimize conflict in high volume pedestrian and cyclist interface areas along the seawall;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Vancouver's Active Transportation Policy Council has the opportunity to give feedback on staff's recommendations prior to the Board's consideration.

The Committee heard from four speakers, three in support and one opposed to the motion.

Following discussion, the motion was put and it was CARRIED.  
(Commissioners Coupar and De Genova opposed)

#### **4. Closure of the Canadian Coast Guard Station in Kitsilano**

MOVED by Commissioner Coupar  
SECONDED by Commissioner De Genova

WHEREAS

1. The Vancouver Park Board is responsible for 24 kilometres of waterfront along Burrard Inlet, English Bay and False Creek including marinas, beaches and parks;
2. The Park Board recognises that it could be impacted by this closure;
3. Waterborne activities and the safe, enjoyable use of our waterways are integral components of Vancouver's recreational lifestyle;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Vancouver Park Board request a staff report on the potential impacts of the closure of the Kitsilano Coast Guard Station to Vancouver beaches and waterways and that staff include recommended actions the Park Board can take to ensure the continued safe enjoyment of our beaches and waterways.

amended

The Committee heard from one speaker who was in support of the motion.

AMENDMENT MOVED by Commissioner Jasper  
SECONDED by Commissioner Barnes

THAT the resolution be struck and replaced with:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. The Park Board Chair, on behalf of the Park Board, write to the Provincial and Federal Government expressing the Park Board's opposition to these closures, and urge the Federal Government to reverse them.
- B. The Park Board staff represent the Park Board's concerns about water safety for residents and visitors, by participating in a City wide working group tasked with assessing the impact of the closures to City services.

CARRIED

(Commissioners Coupar and De Genova opposed)

AMENDMENT MOVED by Commissioner De Genova

SECONDED by Commissioner Coupar

THAT the amended motion be amended as follows:

Replace "opposition" after the phrase "expressing the Park Board's" with "concern".

DEFEATED

(Commissioners Barnes, Blyth, Jasper, Sharma opposed)

The amendment having failed, the amended motion was put and CARRIED.

(Commissioners Coupar, De Genova opposed)

FINAL MOTION:

WHEREAS

1. The Vancouver Park Board is responsible for 24 kilometres of waterfront along Burrard Inlet, English Bay and False Creek including marinas, beaches and parks;
2. The Park Board recognises that it could be impacted by this closure;
3. Waterborne activities and the safe, enjoyable use of our waterways are integral components of Vancouver's recreational lifestyle;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. The Park Board Chair, on behalf of the Park Board, write to the Provincial and Federal Government expressing the Park Board's opposition to these closures, and urge the Federal Government to reverse them.
- B. The Park Board staff represent the Park Board's concerns about water safety for residents and visitors, by participating in a City wide working group tasked with assessing the

impact of the closures to City services.

The Committee adjourned at 9:48 pm

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**REGULAR BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
MEETING MINUTES**

**MAY 28, 2012**

A Regular Board meeting was held on Monday, May 28, 2012, at 9:51 pm, at the Park Board Office following the Park Board Committee meeting.

**PRESENT:** Commissioner Constance Barnes, Chair  
Commissioner Aaron Jasper, Vice-Chair  
Commissioner John Coupar  
Commissioner Melissa De Genova  
Commissioner Niki Sharma

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Sarah Blyth  
Commissioner Trevor Loke

**GENERAL MANAGER'S  
OFFICE:** Malcolm Bromley, General Manager  
Peter Kuran, Deputy General Manager

**RECORDER:** Kevin Tuerlings

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**1. Committee Meeting - May 14, 2012**

MOVED by Commissioner Jasper  
SECONDED by Commissioner Sharma

THAT the foregoing Minutes be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**2. Regular Board Meeting - May 14, 2012**

MOVED by Commissioner Jasper  
SECONDED by Commissioner Sharma

THAT the foregoing Minutes be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**CHAIR'S REPORT**

The Chair reported on the recent opening of the Roundhouse Turntable Plaza and the showing of the film "Kanata - An Irish Story".

## **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

The General Manager reported that the first two of four wide-area lawnmowers will be arriving this week as part of the Parks division's new fleet.

## **REPORT OF THE PARK BOARD COMMITTEE**

Report of the Park Board Committee  
May 28, 2012

MOVED by Commissioner Sharma  
SECONDED by Commissioner Jasper

THAT the Board approve the recommendations of the Park Board Committee.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **NOTICES OF MOTION**

Commissioner De Genova submitted the following notices of motion:

### **1. Discontinuing Catered Staff Briefings at Park Board**

MOVER: Commissioner De Genova  
SECONDER:

#### **WHEREAS**

1. The Park Board is struggling with budget issues and has had to make significant cuts to facilities and operations;
2. The Park Board is cutting 900 staff hours from community centres in Vancouver;
3. The Park Board has a responsibility to manage its finances to maximize opportunities for Parks and Recreation in Vancouver;
4. The cost of catering food and beverages at a staff briefing is an expense to the Park Board;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board direct staff to immediately cease the practice of ordering food and beverages for staff briefings.

### **2. Restoring Staff Hours to Community Centres**

MOVER: Commissioner De Genova  
SECONDER:



## WHEREAS

1. Our community centres are the heart of our communities and offer sports, recreation and leisure opportunities to the citizens of Vancouver. And furthermore, some community centres act as a safe and nurturing environment for youth-at-risk;
2. Staff are vital to the success of our community centres and cutting staff hours will force some community centres to close their doors for entire days;
3. Community centres that are forced to reduce their hours of operation or close for entire days will be vulnerable to losses of revenue;
4. Especially youth and youth-at-risk who rely on community centres as a safe place will suffer from reduction of staff hours, community centre hours, and closures;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board direct staff to find efficiencies and redirect funds from other areas and restore the 900 hours of staff hours to community centres across Vancouver.

## ENQUIRIES

Staff advised that they would provide Commissioners with responses to the following enquiries:

1. A Board member asked staff for an update on the policy behind charging for accessible parking spaces and people with lower income at the Aquatic Centre.
2. A Board member asked for an update on the status of the East Fraserlands Park.
3. A Board member requested a breakdown of the financial cost to the Park Board for the creation of the Strategic Plan through hiring outside consultants.
4. A Board member requested an update on who received the tickets to the Davis Cup that were provided by the City, and what the process is for choosing who the tickets go to.

The Board adjourned at 10:08 pm

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