



**PARK BOARD COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

**OCTOBER 15, 2012**

A Regular Park Board Committee meeting was held on Monday, October 15, 2012, at 7:00 pm, at the Park Board Office.

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

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

**RECORDER:** Barinder Lalli

**CHAIR'S REPORT**

The Chair reported on several events in the community including Pride Parade, Templeton Pool Mural, Power to Be, Glitter and Green Bloom Gala, Geyser for Hillcrest Park, Voices in the Park, Aberthau Mansion 100 year anniversary, Dunbar Harvest Festival, Dunbar Community Centre plaza and bench opening ceremony, Jericho Arts Centre Plaque, BC Police and Peace Officers' Memorial, Tap and Barrel official opening and Queen Elizabeth Park Tree re-dedication.

**STAFF REPORTS**

**1. Stanley Park Cycling Plan Implementation Strategy**

The Park Board Environmental Planner presented the report and responded to questions.

The Board heard from four speakers. Two speakers were opposed to the report while another two expressed concerns regarding conflict and enforcement.

MOVED by Commissioner Jasper  
SECONDED by Commissioner Blyth

- A. That the Stanley Park Cycling Plan be adopted to provide direction for further cycling improvements;

- B. That the Implementation Strategy for the Stanley Park Cycling Plan, generally as laid out in Appendix A to this report, be approved; and
- C. That staff report back on projects requiring further study or further capital funding.

**CARRIED**

(Commissioners Coupar and De Genova opposed)

**MOTIONS**

**1. Urban Forest Action Plan and Protection for Mature Trees**

MOVED by Commissioner Sharma

SECONDED by Commissioner Barnes

**WHEREAS**

1. Trees play an important role in mitigating and adapting to climate change, managing stormwater, supporting native biodiversity and access to nature, and providing food;
2. Vancouver's trees are a significant financial asset having an assessed value, using standards of the International Society of Arboriculture (2004, Farr), of over \$500 million;
3. the Park Board is committed to implementing the Greenest City Action Plan and its goals of planting 150,000 new trees;
4. the Park Board is currently developing a food asset plan to promote and enhance local food security in the parks and recreational system;
5. the Greenest City Action Plan commits the Park Board City to develop an Urban Forest Management Plan in conjunction with City of Vancouver;
6. there are policy gaps that need to be addressed to provide the Urban Forest Management Plan with clear direction and a higher chance of success in meeting the goals of mitigating and adapting to climate change, supporting native biodiversity, protecting existing trees, improving access to nature and food production;
7. Mature trees provide greater social and environmental benefits to neighbourhoods but the existing Protection of Trees Bylaw does not distinguish between mature and younger trees in allowing the removal of one healthy tree on a property;
8. An Urban Forest Management Plan should include full life cycle management as wood waste is costly for the city to manage while at the same time there is a high demand from artisans for a local supply of hardwood

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Urban Forest Action Plan be completed by September 2013, and include the following:

- Recognize the desire for considerably more food-bearing and native trees while maintaining the goals of mitigating climate change, promoting biodiversity and increasing access to nature, and taking into account public health issues such as allergies to specific tree species
- include a community engagement process to consider input from the public regarding the management of local trees
- include comprehensive life-cycle management of existing and new trees
- Include soil quantity requirements that use the Toronto's Green Development Standard  
<http://www.toronto.ca/planning/greendevlopment.htm> as a minimum for trees on private and public land to ensure the myriad health, ecological and economic benefits that urban trees can provide, including the significant stormwater management benefits;
- Provide options for the Board to consider regarding making wood from trees that must be removed available to local artisans or put to other sustainable uses

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT staff report back to the Board with options for protecting healthy mature trees;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Park Board work with the City to establish a Landmark Tree Program to celebrate trees of particular significance.

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

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

## **2. Protection of Vancouver's Public Parks and Green Spaces**

MOVED by Commissioner Coupar

SECONDED by Commissioner De Genova

WHEREAS

1. The Vancouver Park Board is responsible for over 200 parks and 24 community centres, as well as beaches and green spaces;
2. The Park Board understands the importance of all these assets to Vancouver's healthy and active lifestyle;
3. The 2020 Greenest city Action Plan recognizes on page 41 "green spaces have been shown to benefit our physical and emotional health by reducing blood pressure, cholesterol, and stress";
4. That presently Parks and Green Spaces in Vancouver can be repurposed or removed from our Park system with a 2/3 affirmative vote by City Council and Park Board.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board direct staff to consult with the City of Vancouver legal services to develop a report back to the Board identifying strategies and legal means to ensure that Parks and Green Spaces are protected in perpetuity;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the public be fully informed on a regular basis on progress and that staff report back to the Board on such progress every 6 months.

The Committee heard from six speakers who were in support of the motion, two of whom expressed concerns about the work 'perpetuity' in the motion.

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

The Committee adjourned at 9:40 pm

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Malcolm Bromley  
General Manager

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Commissioner Niki Sharma  
Chair



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

**OCTOBER 15, 2012**

A Regular Board meeting was held on Monday, October 1, 2012, at 9:41 pm, at the Park Board Office following the Park Board Committee meeting.

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

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

**RECORDER:** Barinder Lalli

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**1. Committee Meeting - October 1, 2012**

MOVED by Commissioner Jasper  
SECONDED by Commissioner Sharma

THAT the foregoing Minutes be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**2. Regular Board Meeting - October 1, 2012**

MOVED by Commissioner Loke  
SECONDED by Commissioner Barnes

THAT the foregoing Minutes be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

The General Manager reported that on October 29 the Park Board would be awarded the Architecture Canada Architecture Advocacy Award for 2012.

The Board adjourned at 9:47 pm

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Malcolm Bromley  
General Manager

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Commissioner Sarah Blyth  
Chair