

# PARK BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

## MAY 27, 2013

A Regular Park Board Committee meeting was held on Monday, May 13, 2013, 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

ABSENT: Commissioner Sarah Blyth

Commissioner John Coupar

GENERAL MANAGER'S Malcolm Bromley, General Manager

OFFICE: Peter Kuran, Deputy General Manager

RECORDER: Barinder Lalli

#### STAFF REPORTS

# 1. Stanley Park 125<sup>th</sup> Celebration

The Deputy General Manager, Peter Kuran, and Stanley Park 125 Celebration Project Manager, Hilary Davis, presented the report and responded to questions.

The Board heard from one speaker who was in favour of the recommendation.

MOVED by Commissioner Jasper SECONDED by Commissioner Barnes

- A. THAT the Board approve the plans for Celebrate! Stanley Park to commemorate the park's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary on August 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> in Stanley Park, with all arrangements to the satisfaction of the General Manager.
- B. THAT the Board grant permission for Special Occasion Licenses totaling a maximum capacity of 1,500 persons, in conjunction with Celebrate! Stanley Park.
- C. THAT the Board contribute \$50,000 from the Corporate Sponsorship Reserve for the artistic and production costs of Celebrate! Stanley Park.

### CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## 2. Special Events Approval - Summer 2013

The Director of Recreation, Thomas Soulliere, and the Special Events and Filming Coordinator presented the report and responded to questions.

MOVED by Commissioner Jasper SECONDED by Commissioner Barnes

- A. THAT the Board approve a request from the Coastal Jazz and Blues Society, organizers of the Vancouver International Jazz Festival, for a 750-person maximum capacity public special occasion license for the festival event being held at David Lam Park from June 29 to June 30, 2013
- B. THAT the Board approve a request from Lululemon for the Sea Wheeze Sunset Festival, a ticketed event for up to 15,000 people, including a public special occasion license with a maximum capacity of 3,000 to take place at Brockton Fields in Stanley Park on August 10, 2013 from 4:30pm to 10pm
- C. THAT the Board approve a request from Vancouver Urban Spaces Initiative, for ticketed events for up to 600 people at Portside (Crab) Park on June 29, July 27 and August 17, 2013 from 1pm 9pm

#### CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

\* \* \* \* \*

At this point in the proceedings the Committee agreed to vary the order of the agenda in order to accommodate registered speakers. For clarity, the minutes are recorded in chronological order.

#### MOTION

## 1. Vancouver Bird Friendly Strategy

MOVED by Commissioner Barnes SECONDED by Commissioner Jasper

## **WHEREAS**

- Metro Vancouver including Vancouver supports 407 identified bird species, most of which are migratory;
- 2. Birds, through their dependence on many habitats along their migrations, often feel the effects of changing habitats before many other species, making them key indicators for the environmental health and thus the health of residents;
- 3. Canada's science-based 'Important Bird Areas Program', an initiative to identify, conserve and monitor a network of sites that provide essential habitat for Canada's

bird population, has identified the Fraser River Delta adjacent to Vancouver as BC's most significant important bird area, supporting millions of birds annually;

- 4. Birding tourism accounted for \$35.7 billion in expenditures in the United States in 2009, the most recent year for which information is available. No comparable study exists in Canada, estimates of birding participation rates in western Canada for the same year are much higher than in the United States (30% vs 21%);
- 5. The Greenest City Action Plan recognizes that natural spaces need to be protected and well managed, and that the City should contribute to, and influence, the development of Metro Vancouver's Regional Biodiversity Strategy, which includes guidelines to create or re-establish wildlife corridors;
- 6. Many birds contribute to urban food production as pollinators and by eating destructive insects and other pests;
- 7. Since 2010 the City has partnered with the Vancouver Park Board, the Stanley Park Ecology Society, Bird Studies Canada, Nature Canada and other community partners to celebrate World Migratory Bird Day and this year Bird Week in Vancouver to provide a week of public education programming about birds and bird habitat;
- 8. The built form of the urban environment can pose particular challenges for birds, with over one million bird deaths in Toronto annually from bird/building collisions;
- 9. Toronto, Calgary, Chicago and several other North American cities have successfully established bird-friendly strategies, that include public education, habitat creation and protection, building guidelines and tourism strategies.

#### THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. Staff work with the Park Board's Bird Week partners to expand public education efforts for 2014;
- B. Staff report back on efforts underway to improve bird habitat;
- C. Staff report back on the feasibility of developing landscape design guidelines to enhance bird habitat values for landscapes across Vancouver.

The Board heard from three speakers, two in favour and one opposed to the recommendation.

Following the hearing of speakers, the motion was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

# 2. Hastings Park Governance

MOVED by Commissioner Jasper SECONDED by Commissioner Loke

#### **WHEREAS**

- 1. The transfer of ownership of the Pacific National Exhibition (PNE) to the City from the Province in 2004 necessitated a significant change in direction for the redevelopment of Hastings Park;
- 2. In 2004 and 2009 the Park Board requested that City Council place portions of restored park land at Hastings Park under the "custody, care and management" of the Park Board as permitted under sections 488.3 of the Vancouver Charter;
- 3. No portion of Hastings Park has been made a permanent or temporary park by City Council designation;
- 4. The Hastings Park / PNE Master Plan was adopted by City Council in December, 2010 with the aim of balancing the goals of increased park space, habitat and public access with an enhanced and sustainable PNE;
- 5. The Hastings Park / PNE Master Plan will result in a three-fold increase in publicly accessible green space and will help the city move closer to achieving several GCAP goals including better access to nature, green transportation and clean water;
- 6. New park space approved in the Hastings Park / PNE Master Plan will also help the Park Board achieve key objectives in the Vancouver Sports Strategy;
- 7. The City is conducting a governance review of Hastings Park and the PNE;
- 8. A Stakeholder Advisory Group comprised of local and city-wide stakeholders groups provided input on the Governance Review;
- 9. There Governance Review has included public consultation for the public to give input on the different governance options being considered;
- 10. The Governance Review has resulted in three options for governance, including the option of Park Board governing Hastings Park;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Park Board urges Council, when evaluating the recommendations in the Hastings Park Governance Report, to place key importance on:

- 1) Increased public access to green space and recreational use;
- 2) Transparency and accountability in decision-making;
- 3) Compliance with City and Park Board initiatives such as the Greenest City Action Plan, the Urban Forest Management Plan, Biodiversity Strategy and the Vancouver Sports Strategy;

4) Improved care and maintenance of all green space within Hastings Park.

#### amended

The Board heard from eight speakers who requested that the motion be amended to be more assertive.

MOVED by Commissioner Loke SECONDED by Jasper

That the Board suspend the City of Vancouver procedure by-law section 2.3(e) to allow the meeting to continue past 10pm.

#### **CARRIFD**

(Commissioner De Genova opposed)

AMENDMENT MOVED by Commissioner Jasper SECONDED by Commissioner Loke

That the following strike and replace the original motion:

Therefore be it resolved that Park Board urge council to support the Park Board Governance option as outlined in the Hastings Park Governance review because it is the best option to:

- 1) Increase public access to green space and recreational use;
- 2) Transparency and accountability in decision-making;
- 3) Compliance with City and Park Board initiatives such as the Greenest City Action Plan, the Urban Forest Management Plan, Biodiversity Strategy and the Vancouver Sports Strategy;
- 4) Improve care and maintenance of all green space within Hastings Park.

# CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

# 3. Kite Surfing Launch Area at Spanish Banks

MOVED by Commissioner Sharma SECONDED by Commissioner Barnes

#### WHEREAS

- 1. Kite surfing is gaining popularity worldwide;
- 2. The Squamish Wind Sports Society endorsed by the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club and the Jericho Sailing Association has asked if we could create a special launch zone to accommodate Kite Surfers at Spanish Banks;

3. The Park Board bylaw states: No Person shall use, carry or possess a surfboard, windsurfer, canoe or a boat in a park or a beach save in such areas as designated by the General Manager.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT staff look into the feasibility of creating a public area at Spanish Banks from which kite surfers could safely launch.

The Board heard from seven speakers all in favour of the recommendation.

Following the hearing of speakers the motion was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Committee adjourned at 10:43 pm

\* \* \* \* \*



# REGULAR BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION MEETING MINUTES

## MAY 13, 2013

A Regular Board meeting was held on Monday, May 13, 2013, at 10:55 pm, at the Park Board Office following the Park Board Committee meeting.

PRESENT: Commissioner Aaron Jasper, Vice-Chair

Commissioner Constance Barnes Commissioner Melissa De Genova

Commissioner Trevor Loke Commissioner Niki Sharma

ABSENT: Commissioner Sarah Blyth

Commissioner John Coupar

**GENERAL MANAGER'S** 

OFFICE: Malcolm Bromley, General Manager

Peter Kuran, Deputy General Manager

RECORDER: Barinder Lalli

MOVED by Commissioner Loke SECONDED by Jasper

That the Board suspend the City of Vancouver procedure by-law section 2.3(e) to allow the meeting to continue past 10:00 pm.

#### **CARRIED**

(Commissioner De Genova opposed)

## **IN-CAMERA**

MOVED by Commissioner Barnes SECONDED by Commissioner Sharma

THAT the Board will go into a meeting later this day, which is closed to the public, pursuant to Section 165.2(1) of the Vancouver Charter, to discuss matters related to paragraphs:

(k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of an activity, work or facility that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the Board, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the city if they were held in public.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

# 1. Committee Meeting - May 13, 2013

MOVED by Commissioner Loke SECONDED by Commissioner Barnes

THAT the foregoing Minutes be approved.

#### CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

# 2. Regular Board Meeting -May 13, 2013

MOVED by Commissioner Barnes SECONDED by Commissioner Loke

THAT the foregoing Minutes be approved.

#### CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

The General Manager reported that following would be heard at Council this week: 2013 Q1 Capital Budget Adjustments and Closeouts, Vancouver Sport Hosting Grant: 2013 Spring Intake Allocations and the Vancouver Bird-Friendly Strategy Motion.

#### REPORT OF THE PARK BOARD COMMITTEE

Report of the Park Board Committee May 27, 2013

MOVED by Commissioner Sharma SECONDED by Commissioner Barnes

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

## **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **ENQUIRIES**

- 1. A Board member asked when the responses to her enquiries from the previous Board meeting would be answered. Staff replied that the answers would be provided in the next two days.
- 2. A Board member asked for an update on her motion regarding discounted rates for personas with disabilities which was approved the previous year. Staff advised that this will be an issue that is addressed during negotiations with the Community Centre Associations.

The Board adjourned at 12:00 am

\* \* \* \* \*