



PARK BOARD COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 21, 2013

A Regular Park Board Committee meeting was held on Monday, October 21, 2013, at 7:00 pm, at the Park Board Office.

PRESENT: Commissioner Niki Sharma, Chair
Commissioner Sarah Blyth
Commissioner John Coupar
Commissioner Melissa De Genova
Commissioner Aaron Jasper
Commissioner Trevor Loke

ABSENT: Commissioner Constance Barnes

GENERAL MANAGER'S OFFICE: Malcolm Bromley, General Manager
Huub Langeveld, Acting Deputy General Manager

RECORDERS: Cheryl Chan and Laura Goodman

CHAIR'S REPORT

Commissioner Blyth reported on the opening event of the Stanley Park's Hallowe'en Ghost Train on October 10, 2013, attended by Commissioners Blyth and De Genova, and noted this year the train's theme is *Monster Movie Mashup*.

General Manager, Malcolm Bromley introduced Dave Hutch, the new Manager of Forestry, Standards and Innovation at Park Board.

REFERRED ITEMS

1. Cherry Grove Memorial

At its meeting on October 7, 2013, Vancouver Park Board referred the above-noted motion to the Park Board Committee on October 21, 2013 in order to hear from speakers.

The following contains changes to the original motion which were accepted by the Committee.

MOVED by Commissioner Loke
SECONDED by Commissioner Jasper

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board

WHEREAS

1. In 1985, eight Cherry Trees were to be planted to commemorate victims of AIDS in Stanley Park.
2. On October 20, 1985, four Cherry Trees were actually planted in memory of the first four gay men known to have died from AIDS;
3. The Vancouver Park Board has maintained and protected the Cherry Trees since this time;
4. It has been 28 years since the Cherry Trees were planted and 30 years since the founding of Vancouver AIDS Society, an organization which was part of the planting of the trees;
5. HIV/AIDS is a silent epidemic, as those affected are silenced by stigma and discrimination and we are all working to end this silence;
6. The City of Vancouver is a leader in taking proactive steps to raise awareness and break the stereotypes and stigma around HIV/AIDS;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation officially recognize the Cherry Grove Memorial within Stanley Park and will work with Vancouver AIDS Society to develop, install and maintain a plaque or other commemorative symbol at the site telling the story of the Cherry Grove Memorial, the first AIDS Memorial in the world; and

FURTHER THAT public consultation with regard to the size, scope and the sighting of the plaque be at the discretion of the General Manager.

The Committee heard from one speaker who spoke in support of the Cherry Grove Memorial, and expressed concerns regarding public consultation and future public memorials in Stanley Park.

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MOVED by Commissioner De Genova
SECONDED by Commissioner Loke

THAT the Committee suspend the rules to permit questions to staff following delegations.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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The General Manager responded to a question.

Following discussion, the motion was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. Funding solutions to assist in securing funds to complete Killarney Seniors Centre

At its meeting on October 7, 2013, Vancouver Park Board referred the following motion to the Park Board Committee on October 21, 2013 in order to hear from speakers.

MOVED by Commissioner De Genova
SECONDED by Commissioner Coupar

WHEREAS

1. Over 17,000 Seniors live in the South Vancouver Neighbourhood;
2. Park Board and City Council have identified a site, adjacent to the Killarney Seniors Centre as appropriate for a Seniors Centre;
3. The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation currently has no specialized centre for Seniors on the East Side of Vancouver;
4. Studies have shown that opportunities for recreation and socialization is imperative to the health and well-being of Senior Citizens;
5. Senior Citizens helped to build the City of Vancouver;
6. The immense contributions of Senior Citizens should be recognized by providing a place for recreation specialized to for seniors and Vancouver's aging population;
7. The City of Vancouver passed a motion to contribute \$2.5 million dollars to a Seniors Centre in Killarney;
8. The estimated total cost of building the Killarney Seniors Centre to meet the need of the community is approximately \$10 Million;
9. The Provincial government granted the City of Vancouver \$1.2 Million towards the Killarney Seniors Centre;

10. There is still a shortfall of funds, preventing this very important project from moving forward;
11. Community Amenity Contributions (CAC) as is stated on the City of Vancouver website "address increased demand by adding and expanding City facilities including: Park space, Libraries , Childcare facilities, Community centres , Transportation services, Cultural facilities, Neighbourhood houses";
12. A Seniors Centre in Killarney would qualify, under the City of Vancouver definition for CAC;
13. There are current and future projects and developments where Community Amenity Contributions could assist the City and Park Board in meeting this shortfall and completing the Killarney Seniors Centre;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Vancouver Park Board Chair and Board write a letter to Mayor and Council asking for Community Amenity Contributions from current and/or future developments in the Killarney neighbourhood be recommended; pending extensive public consultation and community support, for the Killarney Seniors Centre.
- B. THAT Vancouver Park Board direct Park Board staff to inquire with the City of Vancouver as to possible current or future opportunities for Community Amenity Contributions for this project.
- C. THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to report back to the Board with an update as to the funding secured to date, possible funding solutions for any shortfall and a timeline for this project.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Commissioner Jasper
SECONDED by Commissioner Blyth

THAT the motion be amended by striking A, B, and C and replacing them with the following:

- A. THAT the Park Board Chair write the Federal and Provincial Governments and request that they fully match the \$2.5 million funding already committed by Vancouver City Council towards the construction of a Southeast Vancouver Seniors facility.
- B. THAT the Park Board encourage the City of Vancouver to also write the Federal and Provincial Governments and request that they fully match the \$2.5 million funding already committed by Vancouver City Council towards the construction of a Southeast Vancouver Seniors facility.

carried

The Committee heard from twelve speakers: six of whom spoke in support of the motion; and six of whom expressed concerns, including one speaker who noted they were not aware of the proposed amendment.

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MOVED by Commissioner Jasper
SECONDED by Commissioner De Genova

THAT the Committee suspend the rules to permit questions to staff following delegations.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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The General Manager responded to questions.

POSTPONEMENT MOVED by Commissioner De Genova
SECONDED by Commissioner Coupar

THAT this matter be postponed to allow time to review the proposed amendment.

LOST
(Commissioners Blyth, Jasper, Loke, and Sharma opposed)

The postponement having lost, the amendment was put and CARRIED, with Commissioners Coupar and DeGenova opposed.

The amendment having carried, the amended motion was put and CARRIED with Commissioners Coupar and De Genova opposed.

FINAL MOTION AS ADOPTED

WHEREAS

1. Over 17,000 Seniors live in the South Vancouver Neighbourhood;
2. Park Board and City Council have identified a site, adjacent to the Killarney Seniors Centre as appropriate for a Seniors Centre;
3. The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation currently has no specialized centre for Seniors on the East Side of Vancouver;
4. Studies have shown that opportunities for recreation and socialization is imperative to the health and well-being of Senior Citizens;
5. Senior Citizens helped to build the City of Vancouver;
6. The immense contributions of Senior Citizens should be recognized by providing a place for recreation specialized to for seniors and Vancouver's aging population;

7. The City of Vancouver passed a motion to contribute \$2.5 million dollars to a Seniors Centre in Killarney;
8. The estimated total cost of building the Killarney Seniors Centre to meet the need of the community is approximately \$10 Million;
9. The Provincial government granted the City of Vancouver \$1.2 Million towards the Killarney Seniors Centre;
10. There is still a shortfall of funds, preventing this very important project from moving forward;
11. Community Amenity Contributions (CAC) as is stated on the City of Vancouver website "address increased demand by adding and expanding City facilities including: Park space, Libraries , Childcare facilities, Community centres , Transportation services, Cultural facilities, Neighbourhood houses";
12. A Seniors Centre in Killarney would qualify, under the City of Vancouver definition for CAC;
13. There are current and future projects and developments where Community Amenity Contributions could assist the City and Park Board in meeting this shortfall and completing the Killarney Seniors Centre;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT the Park Board Chair write the Federal and Provincial Governments and request that they fully match the \$2.5 million funding already committed by Vancouver City Council towards the construction of a Southeast Vancouver Seniors facility.
- B. THAT the Park Board encourage the City of Vancouver to also write the Federal and Provincial Governments and request that they fully match the \$2.5 million funding already committed by Vancouver City Council towards the construction of a Southeast Vancouver Seniors facility.

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At 9:07 pm, the Committee recessed and reconvened at 9:15 pm with the same members present.

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3. Community Book Exchange

At its meeting on October 7, 2013, Vancouver Park Board referred the following motion to the Park Board Committee on October 21, 2013 in order to hear from speakers.

MOVED by Commissioner Blyth
SECONDED by Commissioner Loke

WHEREAS

1. There has been an increase in the popularity of community driven book exchanges in public spaces; and,
2. Literacy is very important to citizens in Vancouver;
3. There is an opportunity for the Vancouver School Board, Vancouver Public Library and the Vancouver Park Board work together to build more Book Exchanges for people to enjoy;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT Vancouver Park Board staff be directed to work with the Vancouver School Board and the Vancouver Public Library to explore opportunities to establish a new Park Board book exchange pilot program to be evaluated after one year operation.

carried

The Committee heard from Vancouver Public Library representative, Daphne Wood, Director of Planning and Development, who spoke in support of the Community Book Exchange and responded to questions.

REFERRAL MOVED by Commissioner De Genova
SECONDED by Commissioner Coupar

THAT this matter be referred to staff with a request to report back to the Board with projects details on staff hours and partnerships.

LOST
(Commissioners Blyth, Jasper, Loke, and Sharma opposed)

The referral having lost, the motion was put and CARRIED, with Commissioners De Genova and Coupar opposed.

The Committee adjourned at 9:32 pm.

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REGULAR BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 21, 2013

A Regular Board meeting was held on Monday, October 21, 2013, at 9:46 pm, at the Park Board Office following the Park Board Committee meeting.

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

ABSENT: Commissioner Constance Barnes

GENERAL MANAGER'S OFFICE: Malcolm Bromley, General Manager
Huub Langeveld, Acting Deputy General Manager

RECORDERS: Cheryl Chan and Laura Goodman

* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by Commissioner Sharma
SECONDED by Commissioner Loke

- A. THAT the minutes of the Park Board Committee October 7, 2013, meeting be approved with an amendment on page 2 to acknowledge the Chair of Canada One Athletic Foundation as also present.
- B. THAT the minutes of the Regular Park Board October 7, 2013, meeting be approved as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager, Malcolm Bromley noted that the City Manager, will provide a presentation to council this week regarding the Mayor's Task Force on Mental Health and Addiction.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Report of the Park Board Committee October 21, 2013

The Board considered the report containing recommendations and actions taken by the Park Board Committee. Its items of business included:

1. Cherry Grove Memorial
2. Funding Solutions to Assist in Securing Funds to Complete Killarney Seniors Centre
3. Community Book Exchange
4. Increasing Accessibility for the Public at Park Board meetings.

MOVED by Commissioner Jasper
SECONDED by Commissioner Loke

THAT the Board approve the recommendations and actions taken by the Park Board Committee at its meeting of October 21, 2013, as contained in items 1 to 4.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION ON NOTICE

1. Increasing Accessibility for the Public at Park Board Meetings

MOVED by Commissioner De Genova
SECONDED by Commissioner Coupar

WHEREAS:

1. Public Consultation is a critical and imperative component of decisions made by the Park Board at Regular, Special and Committee meetings of the Board.
2. The Park Board website has undergone many recent changes. In some cases the public has found it difficult to access information including staff recommendations, motions and directions for how to sign up to speak at meetings
3. People who sign up to speak to a particular issue often must wait hours to speak without any indication or estimate of when they might address the Board.
4. Despite a motion to live stream Park Board meetings, the meetings are currently still not available for viewing on the vancouver.ca website. However, Vancouver City Council meetings are accessible via the web.
5. Meeting procedures have changed twice during this Park Board term, without a clear or extensive communications plan to convey an explanation of new procedures to the public.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT the Board direct staff to investigate ways to make Park Board meetings more accessible to the public.
- B. THAT staff report back to the Board within two months with suggestions on how to make meetings more accessible including ways to sign up to speak at a meeting and communicating the issues the board will address in advance of meetings and investigate live streaming Park Board meetings via the web.
- C. THAT staff include in this report a comprehensive communication plan utilizing media, social media, the Park Board website and other tools to engage the public in Park Board meetings and issues.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ENQUIRIES

- 1. A Board member expressed her concern that misinformation had been presented to the Board, and requested the procedure for what to do when misinformation is presented.
- 2. A Board member suggested that a new rate (i.e. seniors' rate) be created for 'persons with disability' as the majority of persons who are disabled are in poverty.
- 3. A Board member queried as to when there will be a ceremony noting the Discovery Park being named 'Art Phillips Park'. A Board member informed everyone that Art Phillip's family specifically requested that there be no ceremony.
- 4. Board members discussed the amount of communications and any expenses that the Park Board has spent on launching the One-Card. It was noted that these types of expenses get funneled to staff.
- 5. A Board member requested an update on the progress of the Park Protection motion that was passed unanimously one year ago.

The Board adjourned at 10:30 pm.

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