



PARK BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 14, 2014

A Regular Park Board Committee meeting was held on Monday, April 14, 2014, at 7:00 pm, at the Park Board Office.

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

ABSENT Commissioner Aaron Jasper

**GENERAL MANAGER'S
OFFICE:** Malcolm Bromley, General Manager
Huub Langeveld, Deputy General Manager
Pat Boomhower and Cheryl Chan, Recorders

CHAIR'S REPORT

Commissioner Barnes reported on the annual Sakura Days event held at VanDusen Botanical Garden, showcasing Japanese cultural and performing arts, and as part of the Cherry Blossom Festival. She also noted the launch of Vancouver's first City Bird competition, which took place at Stanley Park, and the opportunity for residents to vote for their favourite year-round bird.

PRESENTATION - BC Professional Fire Fighters' Burn Fund Cheque

On behalf of the Vancouver Park Board, Ken Maguire, Supervisor, Business Services, presented a cheque for \$119,469 to the BC Professional Fire Fighters' Burn Fund; its share of the Bright Nights in Stanley Park train admission revenues. Mr. Maguire noted 2013 was the 16th year the Park Board partnered with the Fund to organize the popular seasonal light show, and introduced the Fire Fighters present to accept the cheque on behalf of the Burn Fund Centre.

Ray Boucher and Grant Smith highlighted the success of Bright Nights in helping burn survivors and families and noted the number of children treated for burns each year in British Columbia. A video about the planned Burn Fund Centre was shown.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Postal Delivery Change Impacts on Vancouver Residents

At its meeting on March 31, 2014, the Park Board referred the following motion to the April 14, 2014, Committee meeting in order to hear from speakers.

The Committee heard from one speaker who spoke in support of the motion and expressed concerns about use of public space, services downloading to local governments, and accessibility for residents with mobility issues.

MOVED by Commissioner Barnes
SECONDED by Commissioner Blyth

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board

WHEREAS:

1. Canada Post has announced to cease home delivery to single family dwellings in Vancouver;
2. Many citizens of Vancouver including seniors and persons with disabilities will be greatly affected/impacted by this change;
3. Issues of concern for the City of Vancouver related to the placement of the new community mail boxes may include but not be limited to: access for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities, the location of the boxes, traffic, parking, land use policy, street lighting, littering, snow and ice clearance, theft and vandalism;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT the Chair write a letter to the Mayor indicating the Park Board's concerns with Canada Post's plan; and
- B. THAT the Board refuses to allow the installation of community mailboxes on parkland and green spaces under the jurisdiction of the Board.
- C. THAT staff report back to Commissioners on potential options to mitigate the impacts of this new Canada Post Policy, in order to ensure the most positive outcome possible for the residents of Vancouver.
- D. THAT staff report back to Commissioners on what form of consultation process the Vancouver Park Board/City of Vancouver can expect with Canada Post.

CARRIED
(Commissioners Coupar and De Genova opposed)

The Committee adjourned at 7:31 pm.

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REGULAR BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 14, 2014

A Regular Board meeting was held on Monday, April 14, 2014, at 7:31 pm, at the Park Board Office following the Park Board Committee meeting.

PRESENT: Commissioner Constance Barnes, Acting Chair
Commissioner Sarah Blyth
Commissioner John Coupar
Commissioner Melissa De Genova
Commissioner Trevor Loke
Commissioner Niki Sharma

ABSENT: Commissioner Aaron Jasper, Chair

GENERAL MANAGER'S OFFICE: Malcolm Bromley, General Manager
Huub Langeveld, Deputy General Manager
Bill Harding, Director of Parks
Pat Boomhower, Meeting Clerk

IN CAMERA

MOVED by Commissioner Blyth
SECONDED by Commissioner Loke

THAT the Board will go into a meeting on April 28, 2014, at 6:00 pm, which is closed to the public, pursuant to Section 165.2(1) of the Vancouver Charter, to discuss matters related to paragraphs:

- (g) litigation or potential litigation affecting the city and park board;
- (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 and Park Board if they were held in public.

CARRIED
(Commissioners Coupar and De Genova opposed)

Note from Clerk: The In Camera meeting of April 28, 2014, was subsequently cancelled.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED by Commissioner Loke
SECONDED by Commissioner Blyth

THAT the Minutes of the Park Board meetings of February 17, 2014, be approved.

- a) Park Board Committee - February 17, 2014, 2014;
- b) Regular Board Meeting - February 17, 2014, 2014.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Minutes approval for March 31, 2014 meetings were postponed to the next meeting.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Malcolm Bromley, General Manager, highlighted the following Park Board related items at Council and Committee this week. He encouraged the public to attend for the Urban Forest Strategy update, and also noted a proposed Protection of Trees Bylaw amendment, a Pollinator Project motion, and the City's Digital Strategy update.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Report of the Park Board Committee
April 14, 2014

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

1. MOTION: Postal Delivery Change Impacts on Vancouver Residents

MOVED by Commissioner Blyth
SECONDED by Commissioner Loke

THAT the Board approve the recommendations and actions taken by the Park Board Committee at its meeting of April 14, 2014, as contained in item 1.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTIONS

Motions on Notice

1. Public WIFI

The Chair advised that a request to speak had been received. Commissioner Loke introduced the following motion.

MOVED by Commissioner Loke
SECONDED by Commissioner Blyth

WHEREAS:

1. Technology and digital media play a critically important role in the Vancouver economy;
2. the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation has a mandate to provide services at parks and beaches for the public good;
3. the City of Vancouver Digital Strategy, approved in April 2013, calls for expanded digital access throughout the city;
4. free and public internet will provide an opportunity for Vancouverites and visitors to enjoy the public spaces of the City of Vancouver while being able to access the world wide web;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation, in cooperation with the City of Vancouver, direct the General Manager to work with the Chief Digital Officer of the City of Vancouver to develop a strategy with the goal of implementing free public WiFi internet access across the City of Vancouver, including parks, beaches and other spaces under the jurisdiction of the Vancouver Park Board;

AND FURTHER THAT the General Manager, working with the Chief Digital Officer of the City of Vancouver, report back to the Vancouver Park Board with a project outline that includes estimated costs and a timeline toward implementation.

carried

AMENDMENT MOVED by Commissioner De Genova
SECONDED by Commissioner De Genova

THAT the motion be amended by inserting the words:

- "feasibility for" before the phrase "parks, beaches and other spaces" in the first paragraph of the Resolved; and
- "feasibility" prior "estimated costs" and "potential" before the word "implementation" in the second paragraph of the Resolved,

to read:

THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation, in cooperation with the City of Vancouver, direct the General Manager to work with the Chief Digital Officer of the City of Vancouver to develop a strategy with the goal of implementing free public WiFi internet access across the City of Vancouver, including feasibility for parks, beaches and other spaces under the jurisdiction of the Vancouver Park Board;

AND FURTHER THAT the General Manager, working with the Chief Digital Officer of the City of Vancouver, report back to the Vancouver Park Board with a project outline that includes feasibility estimated costs and a timeline toward potential implementation.

LOST

(Commissioners Barnes, Blyth, Loke, and Sharma opposed)

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

2. Supporting BC's Network of Parks: Opposition to the Provincial *Park Amendment Act*

The Chair advised that requests to speak to the following motion had been received.

MOVED by Commissioner Sharma

SECONDED by Commissioner Blyth

WHEREAS:

1. The Provincial Government recently passed Bill 4: *The Park Amendment Act* to include the permitting of research for "feasibility studies" for the location, design, construction of, among other things, pipelines;
2. The *Park Amendment Act* erodes earlier protections under the *Park Act* that only allowed permits to be issued if the permitted use would not be detrimental to the recreational values of the park at issue;
3. The Vancouver Park Board has the mandate to provide, preserve, and advocate for parks to benefit all people, communities, and the environment;
4. British Columbia has approximately 14 per cent of its land mass protected in the provincial park system which is vital to our local species, ecosystem, well-being and natural heritage and must be protected from development.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Vancouver Park Board is opposed to the Park Amendment Act and directs staff to write to the Provincial Government to request a reversal of this legislation and to restore the original Park Act to provide better protection to British Columbia's vital network of park land.

referred

REFERRAL MOVED by Commissioner Sharma
SECONDED by Commissioner Blyth

THAT this motion be referred to the Park Board Committee meeting on April 28, 2014, in order to hear from speakers.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

Commissioner Blyth on behalf of Chair Jasper gave notice of motion regarding cetaceans in Stanley Park.

Commissioner Coupar gave notice of motion regarding an expanded fenced dog park near the Village on False Creek.

ENQUIRIES

1. A Board member enquired about the process for receiving invites to events noting the numbers seem to be declining and a recent event was missed.
2. A Board member enquired as to whether a Commissioner and CUPE 1004 member had participated in discussion or votes on the collective agreement for CUPE 1004.
3. A Board member noted Fraser River advocates would like to plant a willow tree on Earth Day in the new park at the base of Cambie Street, and asked whether the Park Board would be able to help with the cost.
4. A Board member asked if staff could follow up on Kits Beach Tennis Club's request for designated club times. Staff will channel the request through the approval process.
5. A Board member reminded the audience about Bird Week and to vote.
6. A Board member requested a report back on the information booth at Stanley Park as to the operation, cost, hours, and whether tickets to attractions are sold.

The Board adjourned at 8:01 pm.

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