



**PARK BOARD COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

APRIL 28, 2014

A Regular Park Board Committee meeting was held on Monday, April 28, 2014, at 7:03 pm, at the Park Board Office.

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

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

AGENDA ITEMS

1. REPORT: Trans* and Gender Variant Inclusion Working Group

Thomas Soulliere, Director of Recreation, gave an overview of the staff report and introduced the Working Group's Co-chairs and presenters of the report "Building a Path to Parks and Recreation for All".

Kai Scott and Metha Brown, presented the recommendations of the Trans* and Gender Variant Inclusion (TGVI) Working Group and suggested timelines for implementation. They also outlined definitions, context, public consultation, and the barriers individuals face when accessing recreation facilities.

They, along with the Director of Recreation and Malcolm Bromley, General Manager, responded to questions.

The Committee heard from 17 speakers, including three representatives from each of the respective City of Vancouver committees: Women's Advisory Committee, the Children, Youth and Families Advisory Committee, and the LGBTQ Advisory Committee, all of whom spoke in support of report recommendations. There were also: 12 other speakers who spoke in support of the recommendations and provided comments on accessibility issues, and one speaker who spoke in opposition to the recommendations, and one speaker who requested a broader consultation and title change.

MOVED by Commissioner Blyth
SECONDED by Commissioner Barnes

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board

THAT the Vancouver Park Board receive the attached report, entitled "Building a Path to Parks & Recreation for All", prepared by the Trans* and Gender Variant Inclusion (TGVI) Working Group and;

FURTHER THAT

- A. The Board direct staff to create a new "Trans* and Gender Variant Implementation Steering Committee" to assist staff with the implementation of actions recommended in the report;
- B. The Board direct staff to provide a status update on the progress of the implementation process and key outcomes, within one year.

Amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Commissioner Loke
SECONDED by Commissioner Barnes

THAT the motion be amended to insert the following paragraph as A and re-numbering the second and third paragraphs as B and C;

THAT the Trans* and Gendered-Variant Inclusion Working Group remain in place until December 1, 2014, to assist with the implementation of Quick Start Recommendations;

And to insert the phrase "starting on December 1, 2014" in the new "B".

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

FINAL MOTION AS AMENDED

THAT the Vancouver Park Board receive the report, entitled "Building a Path to Parks & Recreation for All", prepared by the Trans* and Gender Variant Inclusion (TGVI) Working Group and;

FURTHER THAT

- A. THAT the Trans* & Gendered-Variant Inclusion Working Group remain in place until December 1, 2014 to assist with the implementation of Quick Start Recommendations;
- B. The Vancouver Park Board direct staff to create a new "Trans* and Gender Variant Implementation Steering Committee", starting on December 1, 2014, to assist staff with the implementation of actions recommended in the report;
- C. The Board direct staff to provide a status update on the progress of the implementation process and key outcomes, within one year.

The Board acknowledged the work done and the report of the TGVI Working Group.

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At 9:49 pm, the Committee recessed and reconvened at 9:55 pm with four Commissioners present.

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MOVED by Commissioner Loke
SECONDED by Commissioner De Genova

THAT the rule be suspended to extend the meeting past 10:00 pm, for an hour or less.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Commissioners Barnes, Blyth, and Jasper absent for the vote)*

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

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

Comr. Sharma introduced the motion and, along with Malcolm Bromley, General Manager, responded to questions.

The Committee heard from two speakers who spoke in support of the motion and expressed concern about ecosystems and permit boundaries, consultation, and the feedback received from the public.

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.

CARRIED
(Commissioners Coupar and De Genova opposed)

The Committee adjourned at 10:36 pm.

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REGULAR BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 28, 2014

A Regular Board meeting was held on Monday, April 28, 2014, at 10:40 pm, at the Park Board Office following the Park Board Committee meeting.

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

GENERAL MANAGER'S OFFICE: Malcolm Bromley, General Manager
Huub Langeveld, Deputy General Manager
Pat Boomhower, Meeting Clerk

*Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

IN CAMERA

MOVED by Commissioner Blyth
SECONDED by Commissioner Barnes

THAT the Board will go into a meeting on May 12, 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

Park Board - March 31, 2014

MOVED by Commissioner Coupar
SECONDED by Commissioner Blyth

THAT the Minutes of the following Park Board meetings be approved:

- a) Park Board Committee - March 31, 2014
- b) Regular Board Meeting - March 31, 2014.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Park Board - April 14, 2014

MOVED by Commissioner Coupar
SECONDED by Commissioner Barnes

THAT the Minutes of the following Park Board meetings be approved:

- a) Park Board Committee - April 14, 2014
- b) Regular Board Meeting - April 14, 2014.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Malcolm Bromley, General Manager, advised that Park Board related items at Council meetings this week includes a Proclamation for Emergency Preparedness Week and the City of Vancouver's 2013 Annual Financial Report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Report of the Park Board Committee April 28, 2014

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

1. REPORT: Trans and Gender Variant Inclusion Working Group
2. MOTION: Supporting BC's Network of Parks: Opposition to the Provincial *Park Amendment Act*

MOVED by Commissioner Barnes
SECONDED by Commissioner Sharma

THAT the Board approve the recommendations and actions taken by the Park Board Committee at its meeting of April 28, 2014, as contained in items 1 and 2.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTIONS

Motions on Notice

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At 10:45 pm, Commissioner Coupar declared a conflict of interest due to his work representing a company which deals with the Vancouver Aquarium. Commissioner Coupar then left the room and did not return until after the vote.

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1. A Review of the Practice of Keeping Captive Cetaceans in Stanley Park

The Chair advised that a number of requests to speak on this matter had been received.

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At 10:46 pm Commissioner Jasper stepped down from the chair to present the Motion on Notice, and Commissioner Barnes, as Vice-Chair, assumed the chair.

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MOVED by Commissioner Jasper
SECONDED by Commissioner Blyth

WHEREAS:

1. The Vancouver Park Board has a long-term lease with the Vancouver Aquarium to operate within Stanley Park (expiry date December 31, 2029);
2. The Vancouver Aquarium provides exceptional research and education related to oceans and marine wildlife;
3. The Vancouver Aquarium provides rehabilitation for injured marine mammals and, in instances where they cannot be released into the wild, provides care for them;
4. The Vancouver Aquarium does not acquire cetaceans from the wild, only through those who have been injured and cannot be released, or who were born in captivity;
5. The issue of keeping cetaceans in captivity is increasingly becoming an issue of heightened public interest;

6. The Vancouver Park Board, through its bylaws, has it within its authority to enable or prevent the use of cetaceans in captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. Staff prepare a report to the Vancouver Park Board by July 2014 on the Vancouver Aquarium's current operations that pertain to cetaceans and review the operations of other comparable Aquariums that may or may not have captive cetaceans;
- B. Staff provide a public memo with an overview of the current agreements and relationship between the Vancouver Park Board and the Vancouver Aquarium, and post it on the Vancouver Park Board website;
- C. Staff invite the Vancouver Aquarium to present to the Park Board on their programming, education and rehabilitation related to cetaceans, as well as their work with other aquariums.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Commissioner Jasper
SECONDED by Commissioner Blyth

THAT the motion be amended by adding the following to the Resolved as paragraph D:

Staff ensure that the public is given a full and timely opportunity to review the report, provide comments, and speak to the report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Commissioners Coupar absent for the vote)

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At 10:56 pm it was

*MOVED by Commissioner Loke
SECONDED by Commission Blyth*

THAT the rule be suspended to extend the meeting by an hour.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Commissioner Coupar absent for the vote)*

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During discussion, the General Manager, Park Board, responded to questions.

FINAL MOTION AS AMENDED

MOVED by Commissioner Jasper
SECONDED by Commissioner Blyth

WHEREAS:

1. The Vancouver Park Board has a long-term lease with the Vancouver Aquarium to operate within Stanley Park (expiry date December 31, 2029);
2. The Vancouver Aquarium provides exceptional research and education related to oceans and marine wildlife;
3. The Vancouver Aquarium provides rehabilitation for injured marine mammals and, in instances where they cannot be released into the wild, provides care for them;
4. The Vancouver Aquarium does not acquire cetaceans from the wild, only through those who have been injured and cannot be released, or who were born in captivity;
5. The issue of keeping cetaceans in captivity is increasingly becoming an issue of heightened public interest;
6. The Vancouver Park Board, through its bylaws, has it within its authority to enable or prevent the use of cetaceans in captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. Staff prepare a report to the Vancouver Park Board by July 2014 on the Vancouver Aquarium's current operations that pertain to cetaceans and review the operations of other comparable Aquariums that may or may not have captive cetaceans;
- B. Staff provide a public memo with an overview of the current agreements and relationship between the Vancouver Park Board and the Vancouver Aquarium, and post it on the Vancouver Park Board website;
- C. Staff invite the Vancouver Aquarium to present to the Park Board on their programming, education and rehabilitation related to cetaceans, as well as their work with other aquariums.
- D. Staff ensure that the public is given a full and timely opportunity to review the report, provide comments, and speak to the report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Commissioner Coupar absent for the vote)

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Following the vote, the Board took a brief recess and reconvened at 11:26 pm with all members present.

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2. Temporary Expansion of Fenced, Off-leash Dog Area at Hinge Park

The Chair advised no requests to speak had been received with regard to the off-leash dog park in this area.

Commissioner Coupar introduced the following and noted a change from the previous motion, to include "Real Estate Services" in the last line.

MOVED by Commissioner Coupar
SECONDED by Commissioner De Genova

WHEREAS:

1. Many Vancouverites value the opportunity to take dogs to parks for exercise and socialization, a healthy activity for both dogs and dog owners;
2. Dog owners are some of the city's most frequent park users, often using parks at off-peak hours and providing valuable 'eyes' in our parks;
3. The Vancouver Park Board provides 36 designated "off-leash areas", four of which are fenced including Hinge Park;
4. The Park Board has received many comments about off-leash areas, including concerns that current off-leash area locations and hours are not satisfying demand.
5. The new development at the Village on False Creek and the surrounding area appear to have a greater concentration and number of dogs than was previously anticipated;
6. The Vancouver Park Board is currently exploring ways to improve the City's off-leash area network;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Vancouver Park Board, subject to conducting a suitable public consultation similar to that of the recently-approved temporary community garden located on City-owned land to the east of the Village on False creek, support a temporary expansion of the fenced, off-leash area for dogs on City-owned land on the west side of Hinge Park, with all details to the satisfaction of the General Manager of the Park Board and Real Estate Services.

referred

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At 11:27 pm it was

*MOVED by Commissioner Loke
SECONDED by Commission Blyth*

THAT the rules be suspended to permit questions to staff on the motion.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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Malcolm Bromley, General Manager, and Bill Harding, Director of Parks, responded to questions.

REFERRAL MOVED by Commissioner De Genova
SECONDED by Commissioner Coupar

THAT the matter be referred to Park Board Committee.

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

REFERRAL MOVED by Commissioner Coupar
SECONDED by Commissioner De Genova

THAT this matter be referred to staff.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

Commissioner Blyth gave notice of motion titled "Blue Flag" and distributed a brochure from Environment Defence on Blue Flag Beach criteria.

Commissioner De Genova gave notice of motion regarding cost analysis and budget for the Southeast Seniors Centre.

ENQUIRIES

1. A Board member requested that, with regard to SE Vancouver Seniors Centre, the letters of appreciation to government reflect the new amounts. The General Manager provided an update on the letters.
2. A Board member asked, on behalf of a Community Association, who would operate the Seniors Centre. The General Manager advised that each Community Centre Association should consult directly with the other.

3. A Board member noted Killarney Community Centre was interested in being a pilot for WiFi in community centres. Staff will follow up on feasibility.
4. A Board member enquired whether the Marpole Community Centre location has been set. The General Manager provided an update.
5. A Board member noted that signage at Champlain Heights is faded and needs to be replaced. The General Manager agreed.
6. A Board member asked about tall trees at New Brighton Park, as well as whether the new fruit trees which are dead, could be replaced. Staff will check into the history and follow up.
7. The Board member enquired when the fenced off area in Leaside Park be open again following the fire. Staff will follow up.
8. A Board member asked when would the Board receive written replies to past enquiries and noted the previous process. The General Manager and Manager, Administrative Services, provided an update on the process being developed.
9. A Board member requested that future event notifications be shared with all Commissioners.

The Board adjourned at 11:53 pm.

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