



**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MEETING MINUTES**

DECEMBER 14, 2015

The Regular Park Board meeting was held on Monday, December 14, 2015, at 9:07 pm, at the Park Board Office.

PRESENT: Commissioner John Coupar
Commissioner Casey Crawford
Commissioner Catherine Evans
Commissioner Sarah Kirby Yung, Chair
Commissioner Stuart Mackinnon
Commissioner Erin Shum, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Michael Wiebe

GENERAL MANAGER'S OFFICE: Malcolm Bromley, General Manager
Jonathan Snoek, Acting Deputy General Manager
Cheryl Chan, Business Support Lead/Manager Admin Services
Jessica Kulchyski, Recorder
Carol Lee, Meeting Clerk

ELECTION OF CHAIR

As set forth in the Park Board's Procedure By-law, the General Manager acting as Chair protem, called for nominations for Chair of the Board for December 2015 to December 2016.

Commissioner Coupar nominated Commissioner Kirby-Yung as Chair of the Board. Commissioner Wiebe nominated Commissioner Mackinnon as Chair of the Board. Commissioners Kirby-Yung and Mackinnon accepted the nominations.

MOVED by Commissioner Crawford
SECONDED by Commissioner Coupar

THAT the Board close nominations for the Chair of the Board for December 2015 to December 2016.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Ballots for the election of the Chair were distributed and counted by Park Board staff. The General Manager announced Commissioner Kirby-Yung elected as Chair of the Board.

MOVED by Commissioner Coupar
SECONDED by Commissioner Mackinnon

THAT the Board authorize the destruction of the ballots for the election of Chair of the Board.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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At this point in the proceedings, Commissioner Kirby-Yung assumed the Chair.

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Commissioner Kirby-Yung, on behalf of the Board, expressed gratitude for the dedication of the outgoing Chair, Commissioner Coupar, over the past year

ELECTION OF BOARD VICE-CHAIR

Commissioner Kirby-Yung nominated Commissioner Shum as Vice-Chair of the Board for December 2015 to December 2016. Commissioner Mackinnon nominated Commissioner Wiebe as Vice-Chair of the Board for December 2015 to December 2016. Commissioners Shum and Wiebe accepted the nominations.

Commissioner Kirby-Yung declared nominations for the Vice-Chair of the Board closed.

Ballots for the election of the Vice-Chair were distributed and counted by Park Board staff. The General Manager announced Commissioner Shum elected as Vice-Chair of the Board.

MOVED by Commissioner Coupar
SECONDED by Commissioner Wiebe

THAT the Board authorize the destruction of the ballots for the election of Vice-Chair of the Board.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIR

Commissioner Mackinnon nominated Commissioner Wiebe as Chair of the Committee for December 2015 to December 2016. Commissioner Coupar nominated Commissioner Crawford as Chair of the Committee for December 2015 to December 2016. Commissioners Wiebe and Crawford accepted the nominations.

Commissioner Kirby-Yung declared nominations for the Chair of the Committee closed.

Ballots for the election of the Chair of the Committee were distributed and counted by Park Board staff. Commissioner Kirby-Yung announced Commissioner Crawford elected as Chair of the Committee.

MOVED by Commissioner Wiebe
SECONDED by Commissioner Mackinnon

THAT the Board authorize the destruction of the ballots for the election of Chair of the Committee.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE VICE-CHAIR

Commissioner Crawford nominated Commissioner Coupar as Vice-Chair of the Committee for December 2015 to December 2016. Commissioner Wiebe nominated Commissioner Mackinnon as Vice-Chair of the Committee for December 2015 to December 2016. Commissioners Coupar and Mackinnon accepted the nominations.

Commissioner Kirby-Yung declared nominations for the Vice-Chair of the Committee closed.

Ballots for the election of the Vice-Chair of the Committee were distributed and counted by Park Board staff. Commissioner Kirby-Yung announced Commissioner Coupar elected as Vice-Chair of the Committee.

IN CAMERA: January 11, 2016 Meeting

MOVED by Commissioner Coupar
SECONDED by Commissioner Shum

THAT the Board will go into a meeting on January 11, 2016, 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 or Park Board;
- (i) the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;
- (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 UNANIMOUSLY

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: Regular Board Meeting - November 16, 2015

MOVED by Commissioner Mackinnon
SECONDED by Commissioner Evans

THAT the Park Board minutes of the November 16, 2015, meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COMMUNICATIONS

The Board was advised that there are no communications of note.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Report of the Park Board Committee - December 14, 2015

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

1. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT: Fish House Park Restaurant Contact Award
2. PRESENTATION: Urban Forest Strategy Update
3. REPORT BACK: Flowering Cherry Tree Grove Plantings
4. REPORT: TED2016 Evening Event at Olympic Village Square and Plaza.

MOVED by Commissioner Coupar

SECONDED by Commissioner Crawford

THAT the Board approve the recommendations and actions taken by the Park Board Committee at its meeting of December 14, 2015, as contained in items 1 through 4.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Malcolm Bromley, General Manager, Park Board, reported on items of interest on the agenda of the December 15, 2015 Council meeting:

- presentation on the Urban Forest Strategy and associated by-laws
- continuation of the December 9, 2015 Special Council meeting to consider the 2016 budget
- report on the Oakridge Transit Centre Policy Statement.

STAFF REPORTS

1. Park Board Meeting Dates - 2016 Proposed Schedule

Malcolm Bromley, General Manager, Park Board, reviewed the proposed 2016 Committee and Regular Board meeting schedule.

Mr. Bromley responded to questions from the Board.

The Board requested that special meetings and workshops be scheduled during the year, as required, to allow it to be engaged early in the 2017 budget development process.

MOVED by Commissioner Crawford
SECONDED by Commissioner Coupar

THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the Committee and Regular Board meeting dates for 2016 as follows:

- January 11
- February 1 and 22
- March 7
- April 4 and 18
- May 2, 16 and 30
- June 13 and 27
- July 11 and 25
- August - no meetings
- September 19
- October 3 and 24
- November 14 and 28
- December 12.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTIONS ON NOTICE

1. Park Board Support for the Vancouver Police Department's 529 Bicycle Registry

Commissioner Shum introduced the motion and commented on the need to prevent bicycle theft from Vancouver parks and Park Board facilities.

MOVED by Commissioner Shum
SECONDED by Commissioner Wiebe

WHEREAS:

1. Cycling figures prominently in the City of Vancouver's transportation plan and is one of the greenest and most energy efficient forms of transportation, with the number of citizens choosing cycling as a transportation mode continuing to grow every year;
2. Despite Vancouver Police Department (VPD) anti-theft initiatives, such as Bait Bikes and other initiatives and technologies that make it easier to record bicycle serial numbers, over 2,000 bicycles are reported stolen every year, with almost as many recovered and then ending-up in the VPD Property Office where officers painstakingly work to reconnect bikes with their rightful owners;
3. The VPD are only able to return roughly 10 percent of recovered bikes to their rightful owners due to the fact that bicycle serial numbers and descriptions have not been properly recorded;
4. On October 18, 2015, Councillor Melissa De Genova called for a bicycle registration program that would deter theft and help the Vancouver Police

Department (VPD) identify stolen bicycles and return them to their rightful owners;

5. On October 26, 2015, the Vancouver Police Department, the Vancouver Police Foundation, and the City of Vancouver announced that they are partnering with Project 529 to launch a Vancouver Bike Registry called the 529 Garage;
6. The 529 Garage registry is an active network of cyclists who look out for one another and assist law enforcement with real-time alerts and easy reporting that will allow VPD officers to quickly and efficiently recognize a stolen bicycle and get it back to its rightful owner;
7. The Vancouver Police Foundation is funding the cost to register 10,000 Vancouver bicycles for free in the first three years of the registry;
8. Vancouver parks, Park Board facilities, and community centres offer an excellent range of opportunities to promote the 529 Garage bicycle registration program to the citizens of Vancouver; and
9. Bicycle owners who register their bicycle have the best chance of getting it returned if it is stolen;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT the Park Board direct staff to work in partnership with the Vancouver Police Department, the City of Vancouver, and Community Centre Associations to promote the 529 Garage bicycle registration program through community centres and Park Board facilities, including communication support the Park Board can provide through social media, the Park Board website, signage, general communications, and through Park Board partners; and
- B. FURTHER THAT the Park Board direct staff to report back on potential and/or existing mechanisms for collecting data on bicycle thefts from Park Board facilities, parks, and community centres, including measures to identify bicycle theft “hot spots” and current strategies to address bicycle theft.

Commissioner Evans requested the motion be separated into distinct propositions.

Question on Item A

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Park Board direct staff to work in partnership with the Vancouver Police Department, the City of Vancouver, and Community Centre Associations to promote the 529 Garage bicycle registration program through community centres and Park Board facilities, including communication support the Park Board can provide through social media, the Park Board website, signage, general communications, and through Park Board partners.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Question on Item B

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Park Board direct staff to report back on potential and/or existing mechanisms for collecting data on bicycle thefts from Park Board facilities, parks, and community centres, including measures to identify bicycle theft “hot spots” and current strategies to address bicycle theft

CARRIED

(Commissioner Evans opposed)

2. Refugee Support

Commissioner Mackinnon introduced the motion and commented on the need to support and welcome all refugees arriving in Vancouver.

MOVED by Commissioner Mackinnon

SECONDED by Commissioner Wiebe

WHEREAS:

1. The City of Vancouver has a long and proud history of welcoming refugees and helping them start new lives with hope, security, and freedom here in Canada;
2. Vancouver and communities across the country have a longstanding commitment to welcoming refugees and their families in times of need; this is at the heart of our inclusive, compassionate, and diverse city; and
3. Vancouver has taken steps to increase our capacity to welcome refugees, and we will continue to do so - the City has contributed \$4.1 million in land and grants for the construction of an innovative new Vancouver Welcome House for refugees;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation work with the City of Vancouver, our Community Centre Association partners, and the Immigrant Settlement Services (ISS) of BC to support refugees living in Vancouver; and
- B. FURTHER THAT staff report back to the Board of the measures taken to welcome and support refugees.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOVED by Commissioner Mackinnon

SECONDED by Commissioner Coupar

THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation suspend the Park Board rules to allow the meeting to continue beyond 10:00 pm.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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At this point in the proceedings, Commissioner Kirby-Yung stepped down as Chair in order to introduce the ensuing motion and to participate in the discussion. Commissioner Shum, as Vice-Chair, assumed the chair.

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3. Getting Mileage from Park Board Vehicles

Commissioner Kirby-Yung introduced the motion and commented on the need to utilize the existing Park Board assets to promote the activities offered by the Park Board and to maximize the visibility of Park Board attractions. Commissioner Kirby-Yung responded to questions from the Board.

The Board sought assurance that the car wraps would not promote third-party commercial businesses and that some vehicles be retained to promote the Park Board itself.

MOVED by Commissioner Kirby-Yung
SECONDED by Commissioner Coupar

WHEREAS:

1. The Vancouver Park Board is one of the only elected bodies of its kind in Canada;
2. Vancouverites have great reason to be proud of their Park Board as it works to protect and expand green space, as well as deliver valued recreational services and leisure activities;
3. Despite growing demands on the Park Board as its scope of service delivery increases with new and expanded parks, community centres, and urban forest requirements, the operating budget provided by the City of Vancouver to meet the Board's mandate has been a declining percentage of the City's overall budget;
4. The Park Board has been successful in generating revenue to supplement and support its annual operating budget; this revenue is generated through a number of Park Board operated assets, which include: three golf courses, three pitch and putts, two marinas, the Stanley Park miniature train, the Bloedel Conservatory, and VanDusen Gardens, as well as a number of independently-operated restaurants and attractions;
5. The Park Board has a large fleet of service vehicles comprised of cars, buses, boom trucks, dump trucks, pickup trucks, and vans, which currently numbers 168 vehicles in total; and
6. The recommendations in this motion have been unanimously endorsed by the Park Board's Marketing & Business Development Committee;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to commence a pilot initiative wrapping a number of Park Board vehicles to promote Park Board facilities and attractions as the marketing and communications budget allows;
- B. THAT consideration be given to vehicles that are on the road frequently, such as pickup trucks, and to ones that are based out of different maintenance yards across the city; and
- C. FURTHER THAT such car wraps focus on Park Board branding to raise awareness of the services delivered to Vancouverites, as well as to profile special events and festivals such as VanDusen Festival of Lights or the Stanley Park Easter, Ghost, and Christmas Trains.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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At 10:01 pm Commissioner Kirby-Yung resumed as Chair.

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4. Responding to the Syrian Refugee Crisis

Commissioner Evans introduced the motion and commented on the urgent need to specifically support Syrian refugees.

MOVED by Commissioner Evans
SECONDED by Commissioner Mackinnon

WHEREAS:

- 1. Nearly 4 Million Syrians of all ages have been forced to flee their homes and their country to escape violence, war, imprisonment, and torture;
- 2. The Government of Canada has undertaken to bring 25,000 such refugees to Canada by year-end;
- 3. The City of Vancouver has committed to assist to those refugees that will be settled in Vancouver;
- 4. Agencies in Vancouver that provide services to refugees have identified housing as one of the most pressing needs facing the expected refugees; and
- 5. The Vancouver Park Board has the potential to be able to offer one or more former caretaker suites as temporary accommodation for a refugee family or families;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to examine all currently unoccupied and uncommitted former caretaker suites for the purpose of determining whether any can be reasonably put to use as temporary accommodation for government sponsored refugees from Syria; and
- B. FURTHER THAT staff report back to the Board on possible options as soon as practicable.

Motion to Refer

MOVED by Commissioner Coupar
SECONDED by Commissioner Crawford

THAT the Park Board refer the motion to staff.

CARRIED
(Commissioners Evans, Mackinnon and Wiebe opposed)

5. Accessible Parks Strategy - Site Map

Commissioner Wiebe introduced the motion and commented on the need to utilize technology to break down barriers and to encourage the public to use Park Board facilities.

The Board requested that staff advise of any budget constraints to create the online site maps at the Board budget workshop.

MOVED by Commissioner Wiebe
SECONDED by Commissioner Mackinnon

WHEREAS:

1. The Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee's Accessible City Sub-Committee wants to work with the Vancouver Park Board in the creation of accessibility site maps for the city's parks and facilities that would also be voice enabled;
2. The City of Vancouver's new VanConnect app allows mobile access to information and maps on parks, community centres, and recreational facilities;
3. The Trans* and Gender Variant Working Group identified a need for sitemaps of the universal areas in public facilities to help reduce stressful interactions and increase education on new universal areas;
4. Seniors at the first Park Board Community Dialogue in Marpole voiced a need for more information on the accessibility of our facilities including the location of washrooms, distance from bus stops, number of steps, accessible rooms, pricing, and parking;

5. TransLink's accessibility team has created an Access Transit Strategy that includes site maps of all SkyTrain stations, with clear accessibility directions and information which is voice reader enabled;
6. The Rick Hansen Foundation has created the Planat online tool, which provides on-the-go access from any mobile or computer device to view the accessibility of places worldwide, allowing people with accessibility needs to prepare in advance and reduce stressors; and
7. Tourism Vancouver has an Accessible Vancouver section that lists a few partner recreational organizations, yet does not include any accessible Park Board facilities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to partner with the City of Vancouver's Digital Strategy team to create online site maps that clearly illustrate the accessibility of all Vancouver parks and facilities by June 2018.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NOTICES OF MOTION

Parks Control By-Law Review

Commissioner Evans provided notice of the above titled motion for consideration at a future Board meeting.

ENQUIRIES

A Board Member questioned whether the regular cutting of fields and lawns could be deferred when they are to occur following a heavy rain. Mr. Bromley advised that staff is encouraged to use their judgement to defer cutting if doing so would damage the turf.

A Board Member requested that the power washing of the Aquatic Centre be completed.

A Board Member advised of the low water pressure on the deck of the Aquatic Centre, resulting in the inability to refill water bottles and the requirement to provide access to bottled water. Mr. Bromley reported that the issue had been referred to the Manager of Park Development as a priority issue.

A Board Member suggested that the lighting and signage to the Enchanted Lights event at the Bloedel Conservatory be improved.

A Board Member requested an update on the status of the seniors centre addition to the Killarney Community Centre.

A Board Member requested an estimate of the financial impact of the requirement to continually re-erect the fence along the bicycle path that cuts across the corner of Kitsilano Beach Park. Mr. Bromley advised that it is not possible to quantify the cost of the continued disruption.

A Board Member questioned whether Park Board operations will be impacted by the City's decision to have Multi-Material BC (MMBC) assume responsibility for the collection of recyclable materials. Mr. Bromley advised that a report on this issue would be provided at a future date.

A Board Member questioned whether the fountain at the Andy Livingston dog park is a planned capital project and sought advice on how to respond to a member of the public on this issue.

A Board Member enquired regarding the commencement of the consultation on the Marpole Community Centre renewal. Mr. Bromley undertook to provide an update on the strategy and timing of the consultation to the Board.

Commissioner Coupar thanked his fellow Commissioners for their support during his term as Chair.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Commissioner Evans
SECONDED by Commissioner Coupar

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Board adjourned at 10:41 pm.

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Malcolm Bromley
General Manager

Commissioner Sarah Kirby-Yung
Chair