



## REGULAR BOARD MEETING MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 18, 2018

The Regular Park Board meeting was held on Monday, June 18, 2018, at 8:39 pm, at the Park Board Office.

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

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Erin Shum

**GENERAL MANAGER'S OFFICE:** Malcolm Bromley, General Manager  
Shauna Wilton, Deputy General Manager  
Cheryl Chan, Manager, Executive Office and Board Relations  
Carol Lee, Meeting Clerk  
Jessica Kulchyski, Meeting Assistant

### WELCOME

The Chair acknowledged that the meeting is taking place on the traditional territory of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations. The meeting is being held on the land respectfully and with honour to each other, the land and the communities that the Commissioners serve. The Chair invited Commissioners to join him in committing to actions of reconciliation in their deliberations and decisions.

### IN CAMERA

#### 1. In Camera Meeting

MOVED by Commissioner Coupar  
SECONDED by Commissioner Wiebe

THAT the Board will go into meetings prior to the next Regular Board Meeting, which are closed to the public, pursuant to Section 165.2(1) of the *Vancouver Charter*, to discuss matters related to paragraph(s):

- (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**

### **1. Regular Board Meeting – June 4, 2018**

Commissioner Kirby-Yung requested an amendment to Page 3 of the draft minutes, final bullet of the General Manager's Report, to indicate that information was requested for a comparison of the costs for upgrading and retaining the whirlpools vs. repurposing the spaces.

MOVED by Commissioner Coupar  
SECONDED by Commissioner Wiebe

THAT the Park Board minutes of the June 4, 2018 meeting be adopted as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

The Board was advised that as at 3:00 pm on June 18, 2018, in addition to the correspondence noted by Commissioner Crawford during the Committee meeting, three letters were received in support of Commissioner Kirby-Yung's motion on notice titled "Creating a Public Square Legacy in Chinatown and one letter was received in opposition to Commissioner Wiebe's motion on notice titled "Enhancing the Park Board's Digital Platform",

All correspondence has been sent directly to Commissioners.

## **COMMITTEE REPORT**

### **1. Report of the Park Board Committee – June 18, 2018**

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

1. REPORT: African Descent Festival – Licensed Area
2. REPORT: Langara Golf Course – Drainage Improvement and Consideration of Alternate Uses.

MOVED by Commissioner Wiebe  
SECONDED by Commissioner Evans

THAT the Board approve the recommendations and actions taken by the Park Board Committee at its meeting of June 18, 2018, as contained in items 1 and 2.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## STAFF REPORTS

### GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Malcolm Bromley, General Manager, Park Board, reported on:

- Park development:
  - Finalization of plans for the construction of the Stanley Park new accessible pathway
  - Targeted completion of the China Creek North Park renewal is now mid-2019
  - Sunset Park renewal is nearing completion with a soft opening scheduled for the end of June 2018
- Park planning:
  - June 6, 2018 VanPlay community dialogue
  - Work with the Arbutus Greenway project team to strategically coordinate the greenway's design vision with future plans for the six parks adjacent to the greenway
  - Consultation with stakeholders on the Northeast False Creek (NEFC) Park design which will reflect Indigenous values and principles
- Park operations:
  - Treatment of the invasive Japanese beetle found in False Creek
- Recreation:
  - Mobi bike share pilot program offering low income residents access to bike shares at a subsidized cost
- Council business:
  - Council will be receiving a rezoning application for the Plaza of Nations site at the June 19, 2018 meeting
- Briefing notes issued from June 1 to 13, 2018.

Mr. Bromley, along with Tiina Mack, Manager of Park Development, Park Board, and Donnie Rosa, Director of Recreation, Park Board, responded to questions from the Board. There was discussion on:

- Events planned for the soft opening of the Sunset Park renewal
- Whether there will be a maximum number of Mobi bike share passes issued for low income residents
- Requirement for a needs assessment to be undertaken for the development of the community centre and other community amenities as part of the rezoning of the Plaza of Nations

### MOTIONS ON NOTICE

#### 1. **Strengthening Access to Recreation Programs for Children and Youth in Care and Aging Out of Care**

Commissioner Evans introduced the motion and commented on the importance of providing wrap-around services, including recreational programs, for children and youth in care. Commissioner Evans responded to questions from the Board.

MOVED by Commissioner Evans  
SECONDED by Commissioner Mackinnon

WHEREAS:

1. At the April 19, 2018 meeting of Youth Matters, the importance of access to recreation and recreation programs in supporting positive outcomes for children and youth in care and aging out of care was specifically noted; and
2. The Park Board is able to directly engage organizations dealing with children and youth in care to ensure those children and youth have on-going access to recreation programs.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT staff report back to the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation on ways to increase the opportunities for children and youth in care to participate in recreation activities and programs throughout Vancouver;
- B. AND FURTHER THAT staff report back on ways to eliminate barriers to the on-going engagement in recreation programs of youth aging out of care.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **2. Creating a Public Square Legacy in Chinatown**

Commissioner Kirby-Yung introduced the motion and noted the timeliness of exploring an opportunity to work with the City to redesign of the courtyard between Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden and Pender Streets. Commissioner Kirby-Yung responded to questions from the Board.

MOVED by Commissioner Kirby-Yung  
SECONDED by Commissioner Coupar

WHEREAS:

1. The courtyard between Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden and Pender Streets is accessible from both Pender Streets and Carrall Streets as well as through the adjacent public garden;
2. This courtyard, which is also home to the Chinese Cultural Centre, including the Chinese Canadian Military Museum, has the potential to be a gem that is an anchor for the rich history of this neighbourhood. It serves as the main entrance and access points to both institutions;
3. Unfortunately, the courtyard is plagued with challenges stemming from serious social issues including ongoing sustained vandalism resulting in boarding up the Chinese Cultural Centre entrance, under usage by the public, and fire risks from unauthorized fires and related activity;
4. In an area with such a rich heritage and architecture, the risk of fire cannot be ignored;

5. Various individual solutions have been proposed over time ranging from consideration of the installation of gates to provide security benefits to lighting. For example, a lighting study was completed for Cultural Services at the City of Vancouver by historian John Atkin. However, despite some funding allocation to the Chinese Cultural Centre, this did not result in a successful implementation of lighting. Similarly, installation of gates was proposed in the past by the local Vancouver Police Community Policing Centre and has recently been under consideration by Vancouver Park Board staff. These might present some security benefits but they could also result in the creation of additional security hazards to the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden as well as other related issues;
6. Vancouver-based renowned architect James K.M. Cheng was commissioned for the Chinese Cultural Centre in 1978. The original exterior design in today's environment poses challenges as, in conjunction with the courtyard design, it creates dead zones and impedes visual sightlines;
7. The City of Vancouver has been placing priority on revitalization of public squares, such as the recent renovation of the Vancouver Art Gallery main plaza recognizing the role they can play in providing community hubs and serving as activity and gathering spaces;
8. In addition to broad design strategies and security considerations, animation of this space as a true public square would provide a meaningful legacy for the community;
9. There are a number of existing community organizations that Park Board and the City could partner with to activate the space ranging from and not limited to the Park Board Meeting – June 18, 2018 Chinatown Night Market to the Hua Foundation and Vancouver Farmers Markets (to address food rising food security issues in the neighbourhood) and create a social hub;
10. At the November 1, 2017 Standing Committee of Council on Policy and Strategic Priorities, City Council unanimously approved the Report titled: "Historical Discrimination Against Chinese People in Vancouver" including the following key actions:
  - i. Initiating a process towards a UNESCO designation of World Heritage Site for Chinatown Adoption of the "Preliminary Research on Historical Discrimination Against Chinese People in Vancouver" report that provides context and background for the initiative;
  - ii. Creating a Chinatown Living Heritage and Cultural Assets Management Plan to support the UNESCO process; and
11. A Conservation and Upgrade Assessment for the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden report is being led by Real Estate and Facilities Management for the long-term needs of the Garden with completion expected in Summer 2018.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation ask the City of Vancouver to explore the opportunity to work on a redesign of the courtyard between Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden and Pender Streets with the goal of

creating a true Public Square in this historically rich and priceless neighbourhood and support the UNESCO work with the engagement of key stakeholders;

- B. THAT such a project be broad-based including exterior architecture review, potential for light and/or art installations and other design strategies that would open the plaza more fully to the public and encourage broader usage;
- C. THAT the Vancouver Park Board recommend an initial step of a high-level feasibility review with a report back to the City and Park Board on early findings; and
- D. THAT the Vancouver Park Board explore opportunities in partnership with the City of Vancouver, Sun Yat-Sen Garden, Chinese Cultural Centre, and local community organizations and stakeholders to identify programming opportunities that would create vitality and animate this important location in this historic neighbourhood.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **3. Activating Community Space in Chinatown**

The Chair advised that Commissioner Shum requested this item be deferred, as she is unable to attend the meeting.

### **4. Enhancing the Park Board's Digital Platform**

Commissioner Wiebe introduced the motion. Commissioner Wiebe responded to questions from the Board.

MOVED by Commissioner Wiebe  
SECONDED by Commissioner Mackinnon

WHEREAS:

- 1. The City of Vancouver developed, in 2013, a comprehensive Digital Strategy to create a robust and accessible digital infrastructure that fosters a stronger government ecosystem;
- 2. In 2015, The Vancouver Park Board implemented the ActiveNet registration and reservation system to better improve online user experience and has greater program registration flexibility;
- 3. Special events have started to sell tickets online to increase ease; and
- 4. The Vancouver Park Board [activecommunities.com](http://activecommunities.com) site has increased the ease of booking and helped to maximize our facility usage.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation direct staff to enhance the current information provided, such as to increase the ease to book at a Park Board or partnering facility, view a digital map, access event information, buy a ticket or send an enquiry.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The Chair advised that the 78<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Britain would be commemorated at the Air Force Garden of Remembrance in Stanley Park on September 9, 2018. All Commissioners are invited to attend.

## **ENQUIRIES**

1. A Board member requested an update on the sale of liquor in the Concession Strategy. Shauna Wilton, Deputy General Manager, Park Board, advised that the pilot project planned for summer 2018 would not proceed due to time constraints. Recommendations for alcohol sales will be included in the Concession Strategy report back scheduled for September 2018. Malcolm Bromley, General Manager, Park Board, noted that concession sales have increased significantly this season with staff piloting some of the local food components that will be included in the Concession Strategy. The data on the concession sales will be shared with Commissioners.
2. A Board member enquired regarding the rationale for the significant increase in the cost of the Marpole Community Centre renewal. Tiina Mack, Manager of Park Development, Park Board, advised that Real Estate and Facilities Management (REFM) and Park Board staff have revised the cost of constructing an outdoor pool and the new costs reflect the change in the timeline and scope. Mr. Bromley advised that a breakdown of the new cost estimates would be provided to Commissioners.
3. A Board member enquired regarding the timeline for implementation of temporary dog parks in Kitsilano, Mount Pleasant and Grandview/Woodlands to coordinate with signage and increase enforcement. Ms. Mack advised that information on the timelines were included in the People, Parks & Dogs implementation guide which is available on the Vancouver Park Board website.
4. A Board member followed-up on a previous enquiry regarding accessible parking spaces at Kits Pool. Ms. Wilton advised that a review of accessible parking at several outdoor pools has been completed and the allotment of accessible parking spaces exceeds the guidelines for the area, but staff will continue to monitor demand.
5. A Board member noted the challenges with placing a plaque in the Garden of Remembrance prior to the 78<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemoration of the Battle of Britain. Mr. Bromley committed to having the plaque placed prior to the ceremony on September 9, 2018.
6. A Board member enquired if the chairs from the beach pilot will be deployed at Kits and Second Beach Pool during the 2018 season. Donnie Rosa, Director of Recreation, Park Board, advised that 40 chairs have been added for the 2018 season. Ms. Wilton reported that details of deploying the chairs from the original proponent of the beach chairs are being finalized.
7. A Board member recognized the improvements to the concessions, including promotion of local products, and noted the success since the beginning of the 2018 season.

8. A Board member enquired regarding the Park Board's outreach with the group interested in having a public art piece placed in Chinatown. Mr. Bromley undertook to follow up.
9. A Board member enquired if the activation of cooling centres has impacted programming at the West End Community Centre. Ms. Rosa reported that the situation is being monitored and cooling centres generally do not have an impact on programming.
10. A Board member enquired regarding the installation of water fountains at cooling centres. Ms. Rosa undertook to investigate.
11. A Board member enquired if the Park Board was involved in the City's declaration of June 24, 2018 as Garden Day at Riley Park. Mr. Bromley advised that the Park Board was not involved and undertook to follow up.
12. A Board member commented on the appearance of the median on Knight Street/Clarke Drive and the need to maintain the median.
13. A Board member expressed concern with the safety of the rental fence that has been placed at Hinge Park to restrict public access, considering that people are bypassing the fence. Mr. Bromley undertook to follow up.
14. A Board member enquired regarding the timing for recruitment of the new Public Art Planner. Mr. Bromley undertook to follow up.
15. A Board member advised that the use of the False Creek shower room by community members for long periods of time is hindering its use by dragon boaters and enquired if a policy could be implemented to allow all to share the facility. Ms. Rosa undertook to investigate.
16. A Board member enquired regarding timing of the installation of the seniors' equipment at Memorial Park South. Ms. Mack reported that a tender would be issued within the month, with construction anticipated to commence in fall 2018.
17. A Board member suggested that the General Manager issue a request to the Mayor and Council to inform the Park Board when events and announcements are made that involve Park Board programs and jurisdiction.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

The Board adjourned at 9:45 pm.

\* \* \* \* \*

---

Malcolm Bromley  
General Manager

---

Commissioner Stuart Mackinnon  
Chair