



PARK BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING MEETING MINUTES

MAY 13, 2019

A Regular Park Board Committee meeting was held on Monday, May 13, 2019, at 6:34 pm, at the Park Board Office.

PRESENT: Commissioner Tricia Barker, Vice-Chair
Commissioner John Coupar
Commissioner Dave Demers
Commissioner Camil Dumont
Commissioner Gwen Giesbrecht, Chair
Commissioner John Irwin
Commissioner Stuart Mackinnon

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair acknowledged that the meeting is taking place on the traditional territory of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Park Board Committee Meeting – April 15, 2019

MOVED by Commissioner Demers
SECONDED by Commissioner Coupar

THAT the Park Board Committee minutes of the April 15, 2019 meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

In favour: Barker, Coupar, Demers, Dumont, Giesbrecht, Mackinnon

Absent: Irwin

COMMUNICATIONS

The Committee was advised that there are no communications of note related to the Committee agenda items.

STAFF REPORTS

1. REPORT: Recognition of Grace McCarthy – Commemorative Naming

Doug Shearer, Acting Manager of Planning, Policy and Environment, Park Board, introduced Erin Embley, Planner II, Park Board.

Ms. Embley led the review of a presentation on the proposed naming of the plaza surrounding the Bloedel Conservatory in Queen Elizabeth Park to recognize Grace McCarthy and highlighted:

- Background of Grace McCarthy and her legacy
- Grace McCarthy’s accomplishments as a Park Board Commissioner
- Input received regarding the commemorative naming to recognize the contributions of Grace McCarthy
- Characteristics of the proposed site
- Next steps.

Mary McCarthy Parsons, Grace McCarthy’s daughter, thanked the Park Board for considering the commemorative naming to recognize her mother and noted that the entire McCarthy family is supportive of the staff recommendation.

MOVED by Commissioner Coupar
SECONDED by Commissioner Mackinnon

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the commemorative naming of the plaza surrounding the Bloedel Conservatory in Queen Elizabeth Park as “Grace McCarthy Plaza” in recognition of Ms. McCarthy’s contributions to the Park Board, the City of Vancouver, and the Province of British Columbia.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. REPORT: Special Event Guidelines – Proposed Update and Interim Direction

Octavio Silva, Manager of Business Development, Park Board, introduced Jenny Jung, Supervisor of Special Events and Filming, Park Board.

Mr. Silva led the review of a presentation on the need to update to the Special Event Guidelines and highlighted:

- Special events in parks
- Special event framework
- Event types/categories and their distribution
- Impact of special events
- Rationale for updating the Special Event Guidelines
- Issues and market pressures to be considered:
 - Vancouver market conditions
 - Growth of the events/festival sector

- Commercial events and activities
- Incorporation of new Reconciliation Strategy
- Project timeline and scope
- Options for handling applications for commercial events and activities while the Special Event Guidelines are being updated
- Next steps.

Mr. Silva responded to questions from the Committee. There was discussion on: clarification on the criteria for a picnic (private event); examples of events where multiply typologies apply; confirmation that commercial for-profit events require a variance of the Park By-law; and the advantages of reviewing the fees concurrently with the updating of the Special Event Guidelines.

The Committee heard from 10 speakers. One speaker requested the Park Board support the corporate sponsors that are necessary to maintain the viability of the Honda Celebration of Light. One speaker encouraged the Park Board to impose a moratorium on the introduction of new commercial initiatives and suggested the Board also consider the expansion of alcohol sales in the updated Special Event Guidelines. Three speakers spoke in support of updating the Special Event Guidelines and provided the following recommendations: commercial events be the last priority for the use of park space; prohibit the amplification of sound in residential areas for longer than two to three days; eliminate the provision for the use of power generators in parks; address the noise created by mechanized or motorized equipment; and require extensive community consultation prior to approving a commercial event. Four speakers spoke in support of special events in parks, two of which supported the continuation of commercial events and activities while the Special Event Guidelines are being updated and one speaker who suggested that the Park Board review the liquor licensing while updating the Special Event Guidelines. One speaker commented that bringing Bacio Rosso to Vancouver was the greatest challenge he has faced in over 20 years. The speakers responded to questions from the Committee.

Main Motion

MOVED by Commissioner Mackinnon
SECONDED by Commissioner Irwin

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to update the Park Board's Special Event Guidelines, which were last updated and approved in 2003, to address current issues and ensure alignment with the values and principles of the Park Board, and to better support Vancouver's event community; and
- B. FURTHER THAT, in the interim, the Board clarify its perspectives and principles regarding commercial events and activities in parks and direct staff to:
 - Option 1: continue with the existing Park Board practice of reviewing, assessing, and enabling commercial events and activities as applications and proposals are received.

or

- Option 2: maintain and support the existing Park Board portfolio of commercial events and activities, but issue a moratorium on the introduction of any new commercial initiatives until after the Special Event Guidelines have been updated and approved by the Board.

Question on Option 1

- B. FURTHER THAT, in the interim, the Board clarify its perspectives and principles regarding commercial events and activities in parks and direct staff to maintain and support the existing Park Board portfolio of commercial events and activities, but issue a moratorium on the introduction of any new commercial initiatives until after the Special Event Guidelines have been updated and approved by the Board.

DEFEATED

In favour: Barker, Coupar

Opposed: Demers, Dumont, Giesbrecht, Irwin, Mackinnon

Question on Option 2

- B. FURTHER THAT, in the interim, the Board clarify its perspectives and principles regarding commercial events and activities in parks and direct staff to maintain and support the existing Park Board portfolio of commercial events and activities, but issue a moratorium on the introduction of any new commercial initiatives until after the Special Event Guidelines have been updated and approved by the Board.

CARRIED

In favour: Demers, Dumont, Giesbrecht, Irwin, Mackinnon

Opposed: Barker, Coupar

Amendment to the Main Motion

MOVED by Commissioner Irwin

SECONDED by Commissioner Demers

THAT Item A be amended to:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to update the Park Board's Special Event Guidelines within 18 months, which were last updated and approved in 2003, to address current issues and ensure alignment with the values and principles of the Park Board, and to better support Vancouver's event community; and

DEFEATED

In favour: Demers, Irwin

Opposed: Coupar, Barker, Dumont, Giesbrecht, Mackinnon

Question on the Main Motion

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to update the Park Board's Special Event Guidelines, which were last updated and approved in 2003, to address current issues and ensure alignment with the values and principles of the Park Board, and to better support Vancouver's event community; and
- B. FURTHER THAT, in the interim, the Board clarify its perspectives and principles regarding commercial events and activities in parks and direct staff to maintain and support the existing Park Board portfolio of commercial events and activities, but issue a moratorium on the introduction of any new commercial initiatives until after the Special Event Guidelines have been updated and approved by the Board.

CARRIED

In favour: Demers, Dumont, Giesbrecht, Irwin, Mackinnon

Opposed: Barker, Coupar

REPORT: Bike the Night – Special Event

Octavio Silva, Manager of Business Development, Park Board, introduced Jenny Jung, Supervisor of Special Events and Filming, Park Board.

Mr. Silva led the review of a presentation on the proposed Bike the Night special event and highlighted:

- Background of HUB Cycling
- History and attributes of the Bike the Night event
- Key parameters of the proposal
- Preliminary site plan
- Additional considerations.

Mr. Silva responded to questions from the Committee. There was discussion on: the fees payable to the Park Board would be approximately \$1,000; incremental staff time would be billed to the event organizers; and the levels of amplification would be moderate and is not expected to negatively impact the residents.

MOVED by Commissioner Irwin

SECONDED by Commissioner Dumont

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve an application from HUB Cycling, organizers of the Bike the Night cycling event, to host the start/finish area of the ride at Sunset Beach Park on Saturday, September 7, 2019, from 6:00pm to 10:00pm, with all arrangements to the satisfaction of the General Manager of the Park Board.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Committee adjourned at 9:16 pm.

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Malcolm Bromley
General Manager

Commissioner Gwen Giesbrecht
Chair