



PARK BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 24, 2019

A Regular Park Board Committee meeting was held on Monday, June 24, 2019, at 6:31 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: 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 – June 10, 2019

MOVED by Commissioner Irwin
SECONDED by Commissioner Demers

THAT the Park Board Committee minutes of the June 10, 2019 meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COMMUNICATIONS

The Committee was advised that, from June 11, 2019 to 3:00 pm on June 24, 2019, there were two emails received in support of the staff recommendation contained in the report titled "Slocan Park Field Upgrades – Contract Award".

The emails have been forwarded directly to Commissioners.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. REPORT: Vanier Park Pump Track Expansion: Balancing Environment and Recreation

Tiina Mack, Manager of Park Development, Park Board, introduced Joe McLeod, Landscape Architect, Park Board, and Justin Dykstra, Senior Landscape Architect, Park Board.

Ms. Mack and Mr. McLeod jointly led the review of a presentation on the proposal to integrate a bicycle pump track facility in Vanier Park with environmental improvements to ensure the resident bald eagles can successfully raise their young and make the park their long-term home track and highlighted:

- History and context of the site
- Proposed project elements of recreation, wildlife and stewardship/user experience
- Recent chronology of the use of the Vanier Park area by eagles
- Pump track design and location rationale
- Findings from the public engagement on the proposed initiative
- Next steps.

Ms. Mack, along with Mr. McLeod, responded to questions from the Committee. There was discussion on: the stability of the cottonwood tree in which the eagles' nest is currently located; replacement of the cottonwood and alder trees and removal of invasive species are elements of the Vanier Park urban forest stewardship strategy; the anticipated length of time before there is confirmation that the eagles accept the nesting pole; the limited construction period is intended to limit disturbance to the eagles; the rationale for constructing an artificial nest to replace the eagles' nest that is located in the unstable cottonwood tree; concern regarding the safety of young children using the pump track concurrently with older riders; volunteers will augment the staff resources required to implement the stewardship strategy; and the increased presence of Park Rangers was requested by residents.

The Committee heard from nine speakers, all of whom expressed support for the proposed expansion of the Vanier Park pump track. The speakers responded to questions from the Committee.

Main Motion

MOVED by Commissioner Demers
SECONDED by Commissioner Dumont

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the installation of a structural pole, construction of a nesting platform and relocation of the existing eagles' nest, to a location at the central-west area of the Vanier Park forest as recommended by Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development and Hancock Wildlife Foundation; and
- B. THAT the Board approve the construction of a bicycle pump track facility adjacent to the existing Vanier Park bicycle dirt jumps facility; and

- C. THAT the Board approve expanded stewardship initiatives and development of a comprehensive long-term stewardship strategy for the Vanier Park forest.

Commissioner Coupar requested the motion be separated into distinct propositions.

Question on Item A

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the installation of a structural pole, construction of a nesting platform and relocation of the existing eagles' nest, to a location at the central-west area of the Vanier Park forest as recommended by Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development and Hancock Wildlife Foundation.

CARRIED

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

Opposed: Coupar

Question on Item B

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

THAT the Board approve the construction of a bicycle pump track facility adjacent to the existing Vanier Park bicycle dirt jumps facility.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Question on Item C

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

THAT the Board approve expanded stewardship initiatives and development of a comprehensive long-term stewardship strategy for the Vanier Park forest.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. REPORT: Slokan Park Field Upgrades – Contract Award

Tiina Mack, Park Board, introduced Ali Nayeri, Civil Engineer, Park Board.

Ms. Mack and Mr. Nayeri jointly led the review of a presentation on the recommended contract award for the renewal of the grass sport field at Slokan Park and highlighted:

- Current grass and artificial turf inventory
- Overview of Park Board sports fields and renewal program
- Grass field grading system
- Context of Slokan Park
- Current conditions and issues of the Slokan Park fields
- Project timeline
- Proposed field layouts

- Scope of work
- Drainage details
- Project outcomes
- Construction overview
- Public engagement activities and results
- Procurement process
- Background of the preferred bidder.

Ms. Mack, along with Mr. Nayeri, responded to questions from the Committee. There was discussion on: suggestion to increase transit access rather than parking spaces; suggestion to utilize an alternative to plastic pipes for drainage; sports that can be accommodated on the sports fields; the impact of the displacement of the field users during the construction period; confirmation that potable water is used for irrigation; support for the innovative use of drainage catch basins with drywells; and suggestion to utilize cisterns to collect rainwater for irrigation in future projects.

The Committee heard from seven speakers. Six speakers expressed support for the Slocan Park field upgrades. One speaker expressed opposition to the Slocan Park field upgrades due to the lack of consultation with the community and other users, concern regarding the impact of the sports field upgrades and the reduction in unstructured green space. There was concern expressed regarding the impact of the fencing around the sports fields and a contradictory concern about the risks of unfenced sports fields. The speakers responded to questions from the Committee.

Suspension of the Rules

MOVED by Commissioner Mackinnon
SECONDED by Commissioner Irwin

THAT the Committee suspend the rules to allow the Manager of Park Development to respond to the concerns expressed by the speakers.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Ms. Mack offered the following comments: acknowledgement that the public consultation could have commenced earlier in the planning process; the concerns regarding the fencing will be addressed collaboratively with the community and park users; opportunities to use different parts of Slocan Park during the construction period to allow the 2019 Still Moon Festival to proceed; and concern that delay of the commencement of construction could increase the closure period.

During discussion, staff was directed to include the speakers' concerns regarding the fencing in the final design of the Slocan Park field upgrades.

MOVED by Commissioner Coupar
SECONDED by Commissioner Demers

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board authorize staff to enter into a contract with Wilco Civil Inc., to upgrading the grass fields located at the Slocan Park, for a term of approximately six (6) months, with an estimated contract value of \$1,041,627.00, plus applicable taxes over the initial term, to be funded through 2019 Capital Budget;
- B. FURTHER THAT the Director of Legal Services, Chief Purchasing Official and Park Board General Manager be authorized to execute on behalf of the Board the contract contemplated by Recommendation A; and
- C. FURTHER THAT no legal rights or obligations will be created by Board adoption of Recommendations A and B above unless and until such contract is executed by the authorized signatories of the City as set out in these Recommendations.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. REPORT: Pandora Park Renewal and New Dog Off-Leash Area – Contract Award

The recommendation contained in the report was adopted on consent:

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

- A. A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board authorize staff to enter into a contract with Canadian Landscape and Civil Services Ltd., for the Pandora Park Renewal and New Dog Off-Leash Area with a total contract value of \$775,000.00 plus applicable taxes, to be funded through 2019-2022 Capital Budget;
- B. FURTHER THAT the Chief Purchasing Officer and Park Board General Manager be authorized to execute on behalf of the Board the contract contemplated by Recommendation A; and
- C. FURTHER THAT no legal rights or obligations will be created by Board adoption of Recommendations A and B above unless and until such contract is executed by the authorized signatories of the City as set out in these Recommendations;

The Committee adjourned at 9:27 pm.

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Malcolm Bromley
General Manager

Commissioner Gwen Giesbrecht
Chair