



SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 28, 2019

A Special Park Board meeting was held on Monday, October 28, 2019, at 6:31 pm, at the Park Board Office.

PRESENT:

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

GENERAL MANAGER'S OFFICE:

- Malcolm Bromley, General Manager
- Shauna Wilton, Deputy General Manager
- Cheryl Chan, Manager, Executive Office and Board Relations
- 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. 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.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Board was advised that between October 16, 2019 and 3:00 pm, October 28, 2019, the General Manager's Office received the following correspondence:

- Ten emails and a petition with 141 signatures in support of a pool in Mount Pleasant
- Ten emails in support of neighbourhood pools
- One email in support of each of:
 - Lane swimming
 - The whirlpool at Kitsilano Community Centre
 - Lord Byng Pool replacement
 - All VanSplash report recommendations
 - Upgrading the wading pool at Grays Park
 - Outdoor pools, in general
- One email questioning the timeline around Connaught Park and the Lord Byng Pool
- One email expressing concern regarding inclusion in the consultation process.

SPECIAL AGENDA ITEMS

1. VanSplash: Vancouver Aquatics Strategy – Report Back

Dave Hutch, Acting Director of Planning and Park Development, Park Board, and Leila Todd, Planner II, Park Board, jointly led the review of a presentation on the proposed 25-year vision for the Park Board's delivery of aquatics and highlighted:

- Vancouver's aquatics history and the Park Board's role in providing aquatic services
- Project process and Board updates:
 - Advisory Group (AG) process
 - Public notification of the revised VanSplash strategy
- Revisions to the draft VanSplash strategy presented to the Board in December 2017 as a result of the AG process:
 - Strong argument for new and renewed aquatics facilities to address the urgent capacity requirements
 - Addition of values and revision of definitions
 - Emphasis on the need for a mix of pool sizes to deliver a greater diversity of aquatic experiences
 - Future of Templeton and Lord Byng pools
 - Addition of feasibility studies for outdoor pools
 - Addition of feasibility study for a new facility capable of hosting sport training and competition events
- Next steps.

Mr. Hutch and Ms. Todd responded to questions from Board. There was discussion on:

- The adequacy of the time provided to consider the closure of Templeton and Lord Byng pools
- Possible inclusion of innovative indoor/outdoor pool designs
- The need for clarity regarding the intention to replace Lord Byng pool with the new Connaught pool
- Plans for the investigation of the location of the new naturally filtered outdoor pool
- Potential operational issues and health legislative/regulation requirements associated with a naturally filtered outdoor pool
- Importance of providing continued service for competitive swimmers
- The certainty of completing the construction of the proposed Connaught pool given the significant capital cost.

The Board heard from speakers who provided the following comments:

- Include cost-effective sustainability principles and green technology in the design of pools
- Support for the proposed VanSplash strategy and the report recommendations
- Support for the construction of a competition facility in Vancouver with adequate pool and deck space
- Include a mandatory requirement for the elimination of chlorine to treat pool water, grey water usage strategy and facilities to promote inclusion
- Minimize program schedule disruptions due to maintenance closures

- Defer the exploration of design and innovation opportunities until the inventory of recreational and competitive facilities is sufficient to meet the needs of the population
- Invest resources in cleaning ocean beaches, False Creek and Trout Lake before building harbour decks, floating pools and building new outdoor pools
- Mount Pleasant outdoor pool:
 - Include the replacement outdoor pool in Mount Pleasant in VanSplash rather than renewing the Hillcrest pool
 - Opposition to building a new pool in Mount Pleasant when there is an existing pool nearby at the Hillcrest Community Centre
- Neighbourhood pools:
 - Increase the number of neighbourhood pools
 - Amend VanSplash to maintain, support and enhance all existing neighbourhood pools
 - Neighbourhood pools reduce social isolation and meet climate change objectives by reducing the need to travel to larger pools
 - The importance of neighbourhood pools to communities
- Public engagement process:
 - Appreciation for the inclusion of the AG process in developing VanSplash
 - Disappointment that users of Lord Byng pool were not selected for the AG, which skewed the results
 - Concern that neighbourhood pool users were not engaged in the development of VanSplash
 - Concern that public engagement will be undertaken after the recommendations are approved
 - The community was not engaged regarding the location of Connaught Pool
- Lord Byng pool:
 - Consider the qualitative experience of Templeton and Lord Byng pools
 - Belief that users of Lord Byng pool will not utilize the new, large Connaught pool
 - Retain and expand the Lord Byng pool
 - Lord Byng pool is accessible and is used by residents who have mobility issues
- Amend VanSplash to provide specific instructions for the next 25 years
- Meaningfully consult the community and user group before any decisions are made regarding the future of Templeton pool five years after the Britannia pool is operational
- Pools are important as exercise and physical fitness prevent chronic disease

Recess

The meeting recessed at 8:39 pm. and reconvened at 8:50 pm.

- Increase the number of outdoor pools in Vancouver
- Utilize capital funds to build smaller neighbourhood pools rather than one large destination pool

Motion to Suspend the Rules

MOVED by Commissioner Irwin
SECONDED by Commissioner Demers

THAT the Vancouver Park Board suspend the rules to hear from a speaker who had not register by the published deadline.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Support for building the replacement outdoor pool in Mount Pleasant.

Main Motion

MOVED by Commissioner Demers
SECONDED by Commissioner Dumont

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the proposed “VanSplash: Vancouver Aquatics Strategy”, attached as Appendix A and as outlined in this report, which includes recommendations for indoor & outdoor pools, beaches, spray parks, and aquatic innovation to guide both the planning of aquatics facilities in Vancouver and the submissions to the City’s capital planning process (10-year Capital Strategic Outlook and 4-year Capital Plan); and
- B. THAT the Board direct staff to report back annually on the implementation of the 25-Year Vision.

Amendment to the Main Motion

MOVED by Commissioner Coupar
SECONDED by Commissioner Mackinnon

THAT Item A be amended to:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the proposed “VanSplash: Vancouver Aquatics Strategy”, attached as Appendix A and as outlined in this report, which includes recommendations for indoor & outdoor pools, beaches, spray parks, and aquatic innovation to guide both the planning of aquatics facilities in Vancouver and the submissions to the City’s capital planning process (10-year Capital Strategic Outlook and 4-year Capital Plan); with the following revisions:
 - 1. Develop an upgrade and renovation plan, extending operational life-span for pools not undergoing renewal as part of this strategy, to increase sustainability and operational efficiency, including consideration of implementing green technologies;
 - 2. Provide a new outdoor pool at Mount Pleasant Park, as described in the Mount Pleasant Park Upgrade Report, dated October 20, 2010;
 - 3. Investigate the potential to provide a new naturally-filtered outdoor swimming experience at Trout Lake (John Hendry Park) that addresses and compensates for water quality issues and swimming concerns;

4. Insert "full-size" before references to outdoor pools; and
5. Extend the minimum time that Templeton and Lord Byng pools will remain operational from five years to 10 years, following Britannia and Connaught pools becoming fully operational.

Amendment to the Proposed Amendment

MOVED by Commissioner Giesbrecht
SECONDED by Commissioner Demers

THAT Item A, Sub-Item A, be amended to:

2. Provide a new outdoor pool at Mount Pleasant Park, as described in the Mount Pleasant Park Upgrade Report, dated October 20, 2010, subject to community consultation.

DEFEATED

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

Amendment to the Proposed Amendment

MOVED by Commissioner Giesbrecht
SECONDED by Commissioner Irwin

THAT Item A, Sub-Item 3, be amended to:

3. Investigate the potential to provide new naturally-filtered outdoor swimming experiences at, but not limited to, Trout Lake (John Hendry Park) that addresses and compensates for water quality issues and swimming concerns.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Amendment to the Proposed Amendment

Commissioner Irwin introduced an amendment to the Main Motion that was ruled out of order by the Chair on the basis that it is prescriptive and that it would tie the hands of future Boards.

Challenge of the Chair

MOVED by Commissioner Irwin
SECONDED by Commissioner

THAT the ruling of the Chair be sustained.

CARRIED

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

Commissioner Irwin requested that the amendment be separated into distinct propositions.

Question on Item A, Sub-Item 1

1. Develop an upgrade and renovation plan, extending operational life-span for pools not undergoing renewal as part of this strategy, to increase sustainability and operational efficiency, including consideration of implementing green technologies.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Question on Item A, Sub-Item 2

2. Provide a new outdoor pool at Mount Pleasant Park, as described in the Mount Pleasant Park Upgrade Report, dated October 20, 2010.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Question on Item A, Sub-Item 3

3. Investigate the potential to provide new naturally-filtered outdoor swimming experiences at, but not limited to, Trout Lake (John Hendry Park) that addresses and compensates for water quality issues and swimming concerns.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Question on Item A, Sub-Item 4

4. Insert "full-size" before references to outdoor pools.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Question on Item A, Sub-Item 5

5. Extend the minimum time that Templeton and Lord Byng pools will remain operational from five years to 10 years, following Britannia and Connaught pools becoming fully operational.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Question on the Main Motion, as Amended

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the proposed "VanSplash: Vancouver Aquatics Strategy", attached as Appendix A and as outlined in this report, which includes recommendations for indoor & outdoor pools, beaches, spray parks, and aquatic innovation to guide both the planning of aquatics facilities in Vancouver and the submissions to the City's capital planning process (10-year Capital Strategic Outlook and 4-year Capital Plan); with the following revisions:
 1. Develop an upgrade and renovation plan, extending operational life-span for pools not undergoing renewal as part of this strategy, to increase sustainability and operational efficiency, including consideration of implementing green technologies;

2. Provide a new outdoor pool at Mount Pleasant Park, as described in the Mount Pleasant Park Upgrade Report, dated October 20, 2010;
 3. Investigate the potential to provide new naturally-filtered outdoor swimming experiences at, but not limited to, Trout Lake (John Hendry Park) that addresses and compensates for water quality issues and swimming concerns;
 4. Insert "full-size" before references to outdoor pools; and
 5. Extend the minimum time that Templeton and Lord Byng pools will remain operational from five years to 10 years, following Britannia and Connaught pools becoming fully operational; and
- B. THAT the Board direct staff to report back annually on the implementation of the 25-Year Vision.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Board adjourned at 9:51 pm.

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Malcolm Bromley
General Manager

Commissioner Stuart Mackinnon
Chair