



PARK BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 18, 2019

A Regular Park Board Committee meeting was held on Monday, November 18, 2019, at 6:40 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 – November 4, 2019

MOVED by Commissioner Mackinnon
SECONDED by Commissioner Demers

THAT the Park Board Committee minutes of the November 4, 2019 meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COMMUNICATIONS

The Committee was advised that from November 5, 2019 to 3:00 pm on November 18, 2019, there were two emails expressing opposition and three emails in support of the staff recommendation on the Northeast False Creek – Project Update and Guiding Principles.

All emails have been sent directly to Commissioners.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. REPORT: Northeast False Creek Parks – Project Update and Guiding Principles

Motion to Suspend the Rules

MOVED by Commissioner Irwin

SECONDED by Commissioner Dumont

THAT the rules be suspended to hear from two speakers who did not register by the deadline.

CARRIED

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

Opposed: Coupar

Doug Shearer, Acting Manager of Planning, Policy and Environment, Park Board introduced the additional members of the project team present at the meeting.

Catarina Gomes, Planner III, Park Board, and Rena Soutar, Reconciliation Planner, Park Board, jointly led the review of a presentation on the proposed Guiding Principles for the design of the parks in Northeast False Creek (NEFC) and highlighted:

- Background of the creation of the NEFC Park Design Advisory Group (Advisory Group)
- Deficiencies identified through the public engagement on the draft concept design undertaken in 2017
- Extended engagement process:
 - Engagement with the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations and urban Indigenous Peoples
 - Development of a park identity statement
 - Engagement with the Chinatown and Black communities
 - Cultural learnings through the engagement process
- Guiding principles:
 - Identity
 - Community
 - Nature
 - Destination
- Two advanced concept designs are in development
- Next steps.

Mses. Gomes and Soutar, along with Dave Hutch, Acting Director of Planning and Park Development, Park Board, and Malcolm Bromley, General Manager, Park Board, responded to questions from the Committee. There was discussion on:

- The importance of improving the water quality in False Creek to advancing reconciliation
 - The design of the NEFC parks, with a living shoreline, assumes that the water in False Creek will be cleaned up in seven generations
- The Province's management of the contamination in Andy Livingstone Park
- The impact of the major road that will be adjacent to Andy Livingstone Park

- Whether the non-local design team recognizes the importance of incorporating and translating the cultural elements into the park design
- Whether the impact of gentrification, as a result of the St. Paul's Hospital relocation to False Creek Flats, has been considered
- The need to continue the relationships with the Indigenous, Chinatown and Black communities regarding the use of the parks after they have been constructed
- Consideration of best practices in public safety and park programming in the design and operation of all urban parks.

The Committee heard from five speakers. Two speakers spoke in support of the Guiding Principles in the staff recommendation and the remainder provided suggestions for consideration in the design of the NEFC parks. There were comments offered on: additional Guiding Principles to be considered for the NEFC parks; request to retain the original configuration of the parks as the reduction of water access is contrary to the objective of reconciliation and is a disservice to the residents of Vancouver; request that there be no development east of the current alignment of Carrall Street; concern that the total park area in the current plan has been reduced; request for engagement meetings that include all stakeholders, rather than meeting in silos; and support for the advisory group process.

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 Guiding Principles for the parks in Northeast False Creek, including Andy Livingstone Park, Creekside Park, Creekside Park Extension, and Downtown Skateboard Plaza, as outlined in this report and attached as Appendix A; and
- B. THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to advance the concept design of the parks in Northeast False Creek, subject to engagement with local First Nations, local communities, and park stakeholders.

Amendment to the Main Motion

MOVED by Commissioner Coupar
SECONDED by Commissioner Barker

THAT Item C be added:

- C. THAT the Vancouver Park Board request staff to provide a full audit of the changes to the original park size commitment from the City of Vancouver and the proposed present park size.

DEFEATED

In favour: Barker, Coupar

Opposed: Demers, Dumont, Giesbrecht, Mackinnon

Abstained: Irwin

Question on the Main Motion

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the Guiding Principles for the parks in Northeast False Creek, including Andy Livingstone Park, Creekside Park, Creekside Park Extension, and Downtown Skateboard Plaza, as outlined in this report and attached as Appendix A; and
- B. THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to advance the concept design of the parks in Northeast False Creek, subject to engagement with local First Nations, local communities, and park stakeholders.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Committee adjourned at 8:33 pm.

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Malcolm Bromley
General Manager

Commissioner Gwen Giesbrecht
Chair