



## REGULAR BOARD MEETING MEETING MINUTES

MAY 11, 2020

The Regular Park Board meeting was held on Monday, May 11, 2020, at 6:52 pm, via videoconference.

**PRESENT:** Commissioner Tricia Barker  
Commissioner John Coupar  
Commissioner Dave Demers, Vice-Chair  
Commissioner Camil Dumont, Chair  
Commissioner Gwen Giesbrecht  
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. 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 Irwin  
SECONDED by Commissioner Demers

THAT the Board will go into meetings next month/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):

- (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 – March 9, 2020**

MOVED by Commissioner Coupar

SECONDED by Commissioner Giesbrecht

THAT the Park Board minutes of the March 9, 2020 meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

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

## **COMMITTEE REPORT**

### **1. Report of the Park Board Committee – May 11, 2020**

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

1. REPORT: East Park and Creekside Park South – Design Contract.

MOVED by Commissioner Demers

SECONDED by Commissioner Coupar

THAT the Board approve the recommendations and actions taken by the Park Board Committee at its meeting of May 11, 2020, as contained in item 1.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **1. COVID-19 Pandemic – Parks and Recreation Response**

Malcolm Bromley, General Manager, Park Board, expressed appreciation to Park Board staff for their leadership in responding to the unprecedented situation created by the COVID-19 global pandemic.

Shauna Wilton, Deputy General Manager, Park Board, Christine Ulmer, Senior Communications Manager, Park Board, and Steve Jackson, Director of Financial Planning and Analysis, Park Board, jointly led the review of a presentation on the Parks and Recreation response to the COVID-19 pandemic and highlighted:

- BC Provincial orders that impacted Park Board operations
- Internal and external service impacts:
  - Graphics and Design shop

- Park operations
- Park Rangers
- Park Experience Team (washrooms and janitorial)
- Golf services
- Stanley Park road reallocation
- Destination attractions
- Community centres and field sports
- Launch of Park Board Champions program
- Community engagement and outreach
- Planning and park development
- Special events and filming
- Business services
- General Manager’s Office, Board and support services
- Broad public awareness and education campaign on physical distancing in parks and demonstrating community support was undertaken
- 2020 budget and staffing impacts:
  - Several financial scenarios were developed to assess the financial impact of COVID-19
  - Assuming physical distancing measures are lifted at the end of August 2020 and a six week recovery period, there will be an operating budget shortfall of \$111 million, after all mitigation measures
  - Some activities have already resumed, which will reduce the revenue impact
  - Staffing impacts to mitigate the operating budget shortfall
- Reopening and recovery strategy:
  - Guiding principles
  - Alignment with BC’s Four-Stage Restart Plan and Risk-based Decision-making framework
  - Considerations in the development of the reopening process
  - Phased reopening protocols
  - Golf services reopened in May 2020 with modified operating and play protocols to ensure safe physical distancing
  - Reopening of VanDusen Botanical Garden on May 1, 2020 with new safety protocols
  - Reopening of tennis and pickleball outdoor courts commenced on May 10, 2020 with new guidelines
  - Stanley Park road reallocation working group to consider future options for Park Drive
  - The plan to reopen parking lots is being reassessed
  - Kitsilano Beach concession opened on a trial basis
  - Next steps.

Mses. Wilton and Ulmer and Messrs. Jackson and Bromley, along with Dave Hutch, Director of Planning and Park Development, and Daisy Chin, Manager, Recreation Services, Park Board, responded to questions from the Board. There was discussion on:

- Protocols have been developed to allow access to community gardens while respecting physical distancing requirements

- Refunds were processed automatically for ActiveNet users who had registered for programs
- FlexiPasses were placed on hold with refunds being processed when requested
- Request that media requests received by Commissioners be referred to the Communications Department to ensure the most current information is provided
- Concern regarding the ongoing exclusion of residents and visitors with mobility challenges if Park Drive is not reopened to vehicular traffic:
  - The need for vehicular access to support Park Board partners in Stanley Park, such as the Vancouver Aquarium and restaurants
- Suggestion to implement a one-way path at the Bloedel Conservatory to ensure physical distancing can be maintained
- Suggestion to consider reopening parking lots in the vicinity of farmers' markets during market days
- Suggestion to expedite the approval process to create new community gardens to address the issue of food security that has come to light during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Suggestion to reopen the parking lot in Queen Elizabeth Park to provide access to individuals with mobility challenges
- The need to advise the public that the reduction in seasonal staff will necessarily result in a lower standard of maintenance of parks, fields and gardens
- Discussions are underway regarding the lifesaving services to be provided when the beaches reopen
- Discussions are underway with Community Centre Associations (CCAs) regarding programming that can be provided in outdoor spaces
- Pitch and putt courses have remained closed due to the inability to monitor compliance with physical distancing requirements:
  - The situation will be monitored to consider the reopening of the pitch and putt courses
- Summer programming at the VanDusen Botanical Garden has not yet been determined.

## **2. General Manager's Report**

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

- Recognition of Howard Normann, Director of Parks, who recently retired after a 42-year career with the Park Board
- Board briefing memos and emails issued from March 9 to May 11, 2020.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

The Chair noted that the May 11, 2020 Regular Board meeting is the first since the March 9, 2020 meetings were held. The following meetings were cancelled or postponed, in accordance with Item 3.4 of the Procedure By-law to adhere to COVID-19 protocols:

- March 19, 2020 Special Board meeting – postponed
- March 30, 2020 Committee meeting – cancelled
- March 31, 2020 Regular Board meeting – cancelled
- April 27, 2020 Committee and Regular Board meeting – cancelled.

Commissioner Coupar expressed gratitude to Park Board staff for their efforts to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) Day.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

The Board adjourned at 8:15 pm.

\* \* \* \* \*

---

Malcolm Bromley  
General Manager

---

Commissioner Camil Dumont  
Chair