



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 8, 2020

The Regular Park Board meeting was held on Monday, June 8, 2020, at 7:09 pm, at the Park Board Office and 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: Shauna Wilton, Acting 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 paragraphs:

- (c) labour relations or other employee relations;
- (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 – May 25, 2020

MOVED by Commissioner Barker
SECONDED by Commissioner Giesbrecht

THAT the Park Board minutes of the May 25, 2020 meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COMMUNICATIONS

The Board was advised that from June 1, 2020 to June 8, 2020 at 3:00 pm, the General Manager's Office received the following correspondence:

Topic	Oppose	Neutral	Support
Motion on Notice: Responsible Consumption of Alcohol at Select Parks and Beaches - a Temporary Measure to Help during a COVID-19 Pandemic Summer	2	-	3
Motion on Notice: Exploring Options to Reduce Motor Vehicle Traffic in Stanley Park	88	8	57

All correspondence has been sent directly to Commissioners.

COMMITTEE REPORT

1. Report of the Park Board Committee – June 8, 2020

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

1. REPORT: East Fraser Lands North and Middle Kinross New Parks – Construction Contract
2. REPORT BACK: Artistic Enhancement to Dedicated Park Benches

MOVED by Commissioner Mackinnon
SECONDED by Commissioner Demers

THAT the Board approve the recommendations and actions taken by the Park Board Committee at its meeting of June 8, 2020, as contained in items 1 and 2.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

STAFF REPORTS

1. Reconciliation Update

Shauna Wilton, Acting General Manager, Park Board, introduced Rena Soutar, Cultural Planner, Park Board.

Ms. Soutar led the review of a presentation providing an update on the reconciliation and decolonization work being undertaken by the Park Board and highlighted:

- The meaning of reconciliation
- The questions regarding reconciliation to be considered in the time of COVID-19
- Approved Park Board Decolonization Strategy
- Three work flows:
 - Past, including the Colonial Audit
 - Present, including engagement and collaboration with the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations on park design and planning
 - Future, including visioning and goal creation
- Five work types
- Updates on projects in the following areas:
 - Archeology
 - Arts and culture
 - Environmental art and stewardship
 - Exhibitions
 - Partnerships
 - Education
 - Park/City planning
 - Values anchor
 - Colonial Audit
 - Development of a whole systems approach
- Future visioning and championing of reconciliation and decolonization work.

Ms. Soutar responded to questions from the Board. There was discussion on:

- Sources of inspiration for future visioning workshops
- Work with other City departments and external organizations to codify and implement decolonization principles
- The next concrete step that can be taken by Commissioners to support the reconciliation and decolonization work
- The Park Board cannot proceed with reconciliation and decolonization without systemic change by the City
- Whether there is a process of managing the tension between the reconciliation and decolonization work and functioning within the colonial institution of the Park Board
- The need for regular meetings between the elected leadership of the Park Board and the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 8:01 pm and reconvened at 8:08 pm.

2. COVID-19 Pandemic – Parks and Recreation Reopening and Recovery Update

Shauna Wilton, Acting General Manager, Park Board, introduced Sarah Iacoe, Special Project Manager, Business Planning and Project Support, Park Board.

Ms. Iacoe, Dave Hutch, Director of Planning and Park Development, Park Board, and Steve Jackson, Director of Financial Planning and Analysis, Park Board, jointly provided an update on the reopening and recovery strategy and highlighted:

- Park Board approach to reopening and recovery
- Coordination, guidelines and insights incorporated in reopening plans
- Draft reopening and recovery roadmap that aligns with the BC Restart Plan
- Reopened services:
 - Outdoor recreation facilities
 - Special events and filming operations
 - Reopened services are being monitored and modified for improvement, as needed
- Reopening services in progress:
 - Swimming beaches
 - Outdoor pools
 - Day camps and programming
 - Sport field permits
- Finalization of a temporary traffic management plan for Stanley Park for the summer 2020 which includes:
 - Public vehicle access to Stanley Park, including restaurants, attractions and features
 - Sections of road space dedicated to cycling to continue to enable physical distancing on the seawall
 - Ensuring access for seniors and those with mobility needs
- Long-term implementation and planning for the Stanley Park Road reallocation will be informed by the Stanley Park Comprehensive Plan that is currently in development
- Process to consideration alcohol consumption at parks and beaches and next steps
- Financial update:
 - Updated estimate of a \$38 million revenue loss
 - All restarted services are being monitored to assess the impact on financial capacity
 - The 2020 budget has been adjusted as a result of mitigation plans
- Next steps.

Ms. Iacoe and Messrs. Hutch and Jackson, along with Daisy Chin, Director of Recreation, Park Board, and Ms. Wilton, responded to questions from the Board. There was discussion on:

- Temporary traffic management plan for Stanley Park:
 - Confirmation that the temporary traffic management plan will include private vehicle access to Stanley Park
 - Bicycles will be permitted both on the seawall and Stanley Park Road

- Those with mobility needs include families and individuals that require mobility aids
- Expectation that the temporary traffic management plan will be implemented in the coming weeks
- The temporary traffic management plan includes a separated bicycle lane on Park Drive
- Approximately 2,500 vehicles accessed Stanley Park per day in 2019
- There is no data available on the number of passengers in the private vehicles accessing Stanley Park
- Concern regarding the traffic congestion that could result from reducing vehicular access to one lane
- Whether there has been comparative analysis of the impact of eliminating traffic in parks in other jurisdictions
- Request for data on the parking utilized within Stanley Park
- The need to collect data on the impact of the reduction or elimination of global tourism on the use of Stanley Park
- The planned timing for reopening of the Vancouver Aquatic Centre
- Potential that alcohol consumption at parks and beaches will be permitted during the summer of 2020
- There are discussions underway regarding the reopening of Community Centre Association operated daycare centres
- Whether plans are being developed for a second wave of COVID-19 in the fall 2020
- Confirmation that transportation planning is an element of the Stanley Park Comprehensive Plan
- Community gardens were deemed an essential service in light of food security and were not closed:
 - Processing of applications for community gardens has recommenced
- The \$38 million revenue shortfall is offset by reduced expenditures of approximately \$25.5 million
- The Park Board revenues have been the most negatively impacted of all City departments:
 - The City is keen to support the reopening of Park Board services
- The anticipated timing for reopening of concessions to improve the visitor experience
- The funding shortfalls anticipated in the 2019–2022 capital budget:
 - Discussions are in progress regarding Park Board access to senior government emergency funding for municipalities.

3. General Manager's Report

Shauna Wilton, Acting General Manager, Park Board, advised that the General Manager's Report is deferred to the June 22, 2020 Board meeting.

Extension of Meeting

MOVED by Commissioner Irwin
SECONDED by Commissioner Demers

THAT the Park Board extends the meeting beyond 10:00 pm.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Recess

The meeting was recessed at 9:32 pm and reconvened at 9:39 pm.

MOTIONS ON NOTICE

1. Responsible Consumption of Alcohol at Select Parks and Beaches – A Temporary Measure to Help During a COVID-19 Pandemic Summer

Commissioner Demers withdrew the motion based on the information provided by staff that work is underway to allow alcohol at select parks and beaches.

2. Exploring Options to Reduce Motor Vehicle Traffic in Stanley Park

Commissioner Coupar challenged the Chair's ruling that the motion is in order as the substance of the motion is sufficiently distinct from the work and studies already in progress.

Challenge of the Chair

MOVED by Commissioner Coupar
SECONDED by Commissioner Barker

THAT the ruling of the Chair be sustained.

CARRIED

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

Opposed: Barker, Coupar

Commissioner Irwin introduced the motion and commented on the benefits of reducing vehicular traffic in Stanley Park. Commissioner Irwin responded to questions from the Board.

Main Motion

MOVED by Commissioners Irwin and Mackinnon
SECONDED by Commissioner Giesbrecht

WHEREAS:

1. The City of Vancouver's [Climate Emergency Response report](#) (2019) contains a set of six "Big Moves" adopted by Council to reduce Vancouver's carbon pollution by reducing emissions and building on and expanding on existing work to fight climate change;

2. By 2030, two thirds of all trips in Vancouver are targeted to occur through a safe and convenient active transportation and transit network (“Big Move #2”);
3. Approximately 30% of Vancouver’s greenhouse gas emissions come from motorized vehicles;
4. To enable increased physical distancing in response to the COVID 19 pandemic, motor vehicle access to Stanley Park was closed to the public, with roadways remaining open to cyclists to reduce crowding on the seawall;
5. The reduction in motor vehicle traffic in Stanley Park increased active transportation and has been well-received by many, with comments that fewer vehicles made visiting a more park-like experience;
6. The reallocation of the eastbound lane along Beach Avenue to cyclists and pedestrians greatly reduced congestion on the seawall and increased access for active transportation to Stanley Park;
7. Convenient & well-serviced transportation alternatives, such as electric shuttle busses, increased bike share hubs, bicycle rickshaws, etc. would greatly reduce vehicle trips to Stanley Park while providing much needed access for those with mobility challenges; and
8. Staff are currently working on a temporary traffic management plan for the summer of 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and reopening of Stanley Park facilities.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT Vancouver Park Board staff explore the long term feasibility of reducing motor vehicle traffic in Stanley Park, including but not restricted to, reducing roadways to single lanes while maintaining access to the park;
- B. FURTHER THAT consultation include the Stanley Park Intergovernmental Working Group, as well as park partners, stakeholders, and the community at large; and
- C. THAT Park Board staff explore green transportation options, to and throughout the park, to support equitable access for all park users, including those with mobility challenges.

Motion to Refer

MOVED by Commissioner Barker
SECONDED by Commissioner Coupar

THAT the Park Board defer consideration of the Motion on Notice titled “Exploring Options to Reduce Motor Vehicle Traffic in Stanley Park” to a Park Board Committee meeting where the public could attend an in-person meeting to speak to the motion.

DEFEATED

In favour: Barker, Coupar

Opposed: Demers, Dumont, Giesbrecht, Irwin, Mackinnon

Amendment to the Main Motion

MOVED by Commissioner Irwin

SECONDED by Commissioner Giesbrecht

THAT the motion be amended as follows:

- A. THAT Vancouver Park Board staff explore the long term feasibility of reducing motor vehicle traffic in Stanley Park, including but not restricted to, reducing roadways to single lanes while maintaining access to the park, while increasing accessibility for those with disabilities;
- B. FURTHER THAT consultation include the Stanley Park Intergovernmental Working Group, the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee, as well as park partners, stakeholders, and the community at large; and
- C. THAT Park Board staff explore green transportation options, to and throughout the park, to support equitable access for all park users, including those with disability and mobility challenges.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY/CARRIED/DEFEATED

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

Opposed: Barker, Coupar

Question on the Main Motion, as Amended

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT Vancouver Park Board staff explore the long term feasibility of reducing motor vehicle traffic in Stanley Park, including but not restricted to, reducing roadways to single lanes while maintaining access to the park, while increasing accessibility for those with disabilities;
- B. FURTHER THAT consultation include the Stanley Park Intergovernmental Working Group, the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee, as well as park partners, stakeholders, and the community at large; and
- C. THAT Park Board staff explore green transportation options, to and throughout the park, to support equitable access for all park users, including those with disability and mobility challenges.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY/CARRIED/DEFEATED

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

Opposed: Barker, Coupar

ENQUIRIES

1. A Board member enquired when an update on the Kinross Ravine Park project would be available, noting the connectivity between Everett Crowley, Kinross Ravine and the new parks in the East Fraser Lands development.

2. A Board member enquired if staff have worked to provide funding for African-Canadian Community based projects.
3. A Board member enquired if the Park Board provides grants and funding needed to actualize trainings, workshops on anti-Black racism as well as promotion of Black arts and culture in Vancouver.
4. A Board member enquired if the Park Board provides adequate avenues for members of the Black community to celebrate Black History Month and other cultural events.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

The Board adjourned at 10:29 pm.

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Shauna Wilton
Acting General Manager

Commissioner Camil Dumont
Chair