



## REGULAR BOARD MEETING MEETING MINUTES

**FEBRUARY 8, 2021**

The Regular Park Board meeting was held on Monday, February 8, 2021, at 6:49 pm, via videoconference and at the Park Board Office.

**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:**

Donnie Rosa, General Manager  
Steve Jackson, Acting 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):

- (e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the Council [Board] considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the city;
- (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;

- (j) information that is prohibited, or information that if it were presented in a document would be prohibited from disclosure under section 21 [disclosure harmful to business interests of a third party] of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

### **1. Regular Board Meeting – January 18, 2021**

MOVED by Commissioner Coupar  
SECONDED by Commissioner Giesbrecht

THAT the Park Board minutes of the January 18, 2021 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 – February 8, 2021**

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

- 1. REPORT: Special Events and Filming – 2020 Year in Review

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 February 8, 2021, as contained in item 1.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **STAFF REPORTS**

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

Sarah Iacoe, Manager of Special Projects, Park Board, provided an update on the COVID-19 reopening and recovery strategy and highlighted:

- Recap of 2020 phased reopening

- Collaboration with the Office of the Provincial Health Officer (PHO) regarding the immunization plan
- Current focus of reopening and recovery
- Impact of the current Provincial Health Order, which has been extended indefinitely
- Operational highlights from Q4 2020:
  - Community centre programming
  - Arts and culture programming
  - Childcare and youth services
  - Access and inclusion
  - Indoor aquatics
  - Fitness centres
  - Arenas
  - Outdoor sport fields and courts
  - Golf
  - Pitch and Putt
  - Concessions and clubhouses
  - Bloedel Conservatory
  - VanDusen Botanical Garden
- Next steps.

S. Iacoe, along with Daisy Chin, Director of Recreation, Park Board, responded to questions from the Board. There was discussion on:

- Request for information on the financial impact of the capacity restrictions at Park Board facilities
- Public receptivity to the online community centre programming pilot project
- Challenges faced by those individuals who do not have internet access to obtain information on community centre programming
- Exploration of extended swim times
- Consideration of providing bag lunches for seniors' lunch program by the CCAs

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

Steve Jackson, Acting Deputy General Manager, Park Board, reported on:

- The Community Action Initiative profiled the Park Board led project "Our Park" in their December 2020 newsletter:
  - The project was funded through a community wellness and harm reduction grant and is intended to bring together community around Andy Livingstone Park to create an art project while focusing on anti-stigma, harm reduction and safe park spaces

- Reanimation of three giant outdoor checkerboards in Stanley Park, which originally opened in the 1920s
- Recognition of Park Board partners:
  - Muncie Booth, Head Professional at McCleery Golf Course, was recently awarded the inaugural PGA of Canada's Warren Crosbie Community Leader of the Year Award
  - David Cooper, who has a long history of working with the Park Board's community-engaged dance projects, has been appointed to the Order of Canada for innovation in performance photography
  - Mark Haney, one of the first Fieldhouse Artists, was named an Artist Hero of 2020 by the Globe and Mail for his Isolation Commissions project, compositions, and performances in Mountain View Cemetery
- City Council approved the Park Board's 2021 Operating and Capital Budget on December 8, 2020, with an amendment to the Park Board Operating Budget to include an additional investment for Park Cleanliness and Safety in the amount of \$300,000
- Completion of the design and installation of four new gates in the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen memorial courtyard and garden in late 2020
- Park improvements and washroom replacements at CRAB Park
- Staff highlights of Major Maintenance and Construction Team
- Upcoming Council business of interest to the Park Board:
  - Referral Report on East Fraser Lands Official Development Plan and Public Amenity Financial Plan and Strategy: 10-Year Review and Update
- Board briefing memos and emails issued from January 18 to February 8, 2021.

S. Jackson, along with Daisy Chin, Director of Recreation, Park Board, responded to questions from the Board. There was discussion on: the opening of warming centres at community centres during the impending cold weather period; and request for information on the specifications used to develop the otter-proof gates for the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen memorial courtyard gates.

## **MOTIONS ON NOTICE**

### **1. Park Board Staff to Maintain All Types of Parks**

Commissioner Irwin introduced the motion and commented on the need to ensure Park Board staff maintain all Park Board public parks. Commissioner Irwin responded to questions from the Board.

#### **Main Motion**

MOVED by Commissioner Irwin

SECONDED by Commissioner Giesbrecht

#### **WHEREAS:**

1. At its July 9, 2018 meeting, the Vancouver Park Board approve a vision-plan for the Westbank Oakridge development, which includes nine acres, some of which is "airspace" park located over a privately-owned mall;

2. The new park will be maintained by workers contracted by the mall owners, rather than Park Board employees;
- 3.. Very experienced, capable Park Board staff are having their work contracted out; and
4. The Park Board gardeners and staff already maintain 'green roofs' (Coal Harbour, Harbour Green Park).

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board have fully qualified Park Board staff maintain and carry-out all work for any future, under-construction, or proposed 'airspace' parks, similar to and including the new 'airspace' park at Oakridge Centre Mall with the Westbank development, and in all parks that are in any way different from traditional, surface parks;
- B. THAT, in order to carry out A, the Vancouver Park Board requests Vancouver City Council to work collaboratively to negotiate a contract with Oakridge that specifies that work is to be done by Park Board staff in the new park at Oakridge Centre; and
- C. THAT only Park Board staff maintain and tend Vancouver Park Board public parks, and any other parks that are public, but have a private interest involved.

**Motion to Refer**

MOVED by Commissioner Coupar  
SECONDED by Commissioner Barker

THAT the motion be referred to staff to provide information, including legal and financial implications, on the process to renegotiate the park maintenance contract for the new park at Oakridge Centre and to clarify the implications of Item C.

**CARRIED**

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

**NOTICE OF MOTIONS**

**1. Bodyweight Exercising and General Fitness in Parks – 2021 Pandemic Communications Plan and VanPlay Target Adjustment**

Commissioner Demers gave notice of motion on the following:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to develop a communications plan for 2021 to promote and facilitate the usage of Vancouver parks and installations for outdoor bodyweight exercising and general fitness, particularly in light of the COVID-19 pandemic health and safety restrictions impacting indoor and group fitness activities;

- B. FURTHER THAT staff encourage the Vancouver School Board to participate and contribute to the development of this communication plan; and
- C. THAT, in order to increase the resiliency of Vancouver's recreational system against disruptions such as health crises and financial shortfalls, the Park Board direct staff to evaluate the VanPlay target of one new outdoor fitness location per capital plan and report back to the Board with recommendations.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Commissioner Irwin noted that February is Black History month and advised that there are many virtual events available. Commissions Barker and Irwin wished all a happy and prosperous lunar new year that will be celebrated on February 12, 2021.

## **ENQUIRIES**

- 1. A Board member requested an update on the request for a report from Easy Park on parking revenue and lot utilization, by parking lot as well as paid street parking, for all Park Board lots on Beach Avenue from the Vancouver Aquatic Centre to English Bay.
- 2. A Board member requested an update on the status of the Public Engagements Standards Policy that was referred back to staff in 2014.
- 3. A Board member requested an update on the development of the Monuments and Memorials Framework that was referenced in a presentation to the Board in February 2020.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

The Board adjourned at 8:13 pm.

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Donnie Rosa  
General Manager

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Commissioner Camil Dumont  
Chair