



SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 21, 2022

A Special Park Board meeting was held on Tuesday, November 21, 2022, at 6:55 pm, via videoconference and at the Park Board Office.

PRESENT: Commissioner Brennan Bastyovanszky, Vice Chair
Commissioner Laura Christensen
Commissioner Tom Digby
Commissioner Angela Kate Haer
Commissioner Marie-Claire Howard
Commissioner Scott Jensen, Chair

REGRETS: Commissioner Jas Virdi

**GENERAL
MANAGER'S
OFFICE:** Donnie Rosa, General Manager
John Brodie, Director, Strategic Operations and Board Relations (Acting)
Carol Lee, Meeting Clerk
Jessica Kulchyski, Board Support and Meeting Assistant
Julia Scott-Lenz, Board Support and 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 from November 17 to 3:00 pm on November 21, 2022, three emails expressing opposition to the proposed Burrard Marina fee increase were received via the PBCommissioners@vancouver.ca account and the [Contact Park Board Commissioners](#) webform.

STAFF REPORTS

1. REPORT: 2023 Fees and Charges – Parks and Recreation

Donnie Rosa, General Manager, Park Board, commented on the uncertainty created by the continued recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and current inflationary environment.

Natalie Froehlich, Director of Financial Planning and Analysis, Park Board, led the review of a presentation on the proposed 2023 Fees and Charges and highlighted:

- The recommended increases of between 3% and 8% on fee and charges will generate approximately \$2 million of incremental revenue

- The City’s 2023 budget engagement survey indicates over 66% of residents are willing to pay more in user fees
- Of the \$2 million of incremental revenue, approximately \$1.3 million has been incorporated into the 2023 budget, while the remaining \$0.7 million will be used to mitigate risks identified within the 2023 Operating Budget
- Proposed increases to fees and charges for:
 - Parking
 - Recreation admission and passes
 - Recreation program and rental fees
 - Golf
 - Destination attraction admissions
 - Burrard Marina
 - Events and permitting.

N. Froehlich, along with Steve Kellock, Director of Recreation, Park Board, and Steve Jackson, Director of Business Services, Park Board, responded to questions and comments from the Board. There was discussion on:

- Request for financial information associated with the Leisure Access pass program
- The rationale for the proposed 3% increase to Burrard Marina fees
- Whether consideration has been given to the implementation of resident/non-resident fees at Park Board golf courses.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 7:18 pm and reconvened at 7:42 pm.

Due to technical difficulties, the registered speakers could not be heard. The Chair encouraged the two registered speakers to provide their comments via email.

Main Motion

MOVED by Commissioner Howard
SECONDED by Commissioner Haer

THAT the Park Board refers consideration of the staff recommendation regarding 2023 Fees and Charges to a future Board meeting, pending the receipt of a staff briefing regarding priority setting, to be provided no later than February 28, 2023.

Amendment to the Main Motion

MOVED by Commissioner Bastyovanszky
SECONDED by Commissioner Howard

THAT the Park Board refers consideration of the staff recommendation regarding 2023 Fees and Charges to a future Board meeting, pending the receipt of a staff briefing regarding priority setting, to be provided no later than December 12, 2022.

CARRIED

In favour: Bastyovanszky, Howard, Haer, Jensen

Opposed: Digby

Abstained: Christensen

Question on the Main Motion, as Amended

THAT the Park Board refers consideration of the staff recommendation regarding 2023 Fees and Charges to a future Board meeting, pending the receipt of a staff briefing regarding priority setting, to be provided no later than December 12, 2022.

CARRIED

In favour: Bastyovanszky, Haer, Howard, Jensen

Opposed: Digby

Abstained: Christensen

2. REPORT: 2023 Service Plan, Operating and Capital Budgets – Parks and Recreation

Members of the Park Board Senior Leadership Team led the review of a presentation on the proposed 2023 Service Plan, Operating and Capital Budgets and highlighted:

- Message from the General Manager
- Mission to decolonize the Park Board and its commitment to reconciliation
- Core services, 2023 service highlights and sample priorities in six core service areas:
 - Strategic Operations and Board Relations
 - Decolonization, Arts and Culture
 - Park Operations (Parks and Green Spaces)
 - Recreation Services
 - Business Services
 - Park Planning and Development
- 2023 proposed operating budget:
 - Budget approach
 - Proposed operating budget, representing a 7.2% increase in the net operating budget over 2022
 - Initiatives not included in the 2023 current state budget:
 - Park Rangers

- Janitorial
- Park Activation
- Accessibility
- Recreation Building Maintenance
- Feminine Hygiene
- 2023 proposed capital budget:
 - Planned 2023 capital expenditures of \$53.7 million
- Notable 2023 capital projects:
 - Convert parkland to healthy habitat
 - Destination park planning
 - Seawall maintenance and repair
 - Dog parks
 - Playgrounds and spray parks
 - Washrooms and field houses
 - Vancouver Aquatic Centre
 - Vehicles
- Next steps.

Members of the Senior Leadership Team responded to questions and comments from the Board. There was discussion on:

- Disappointment that the staff recommendation does not incorporate the previous Park Board motion to align the budget with its climate action plans:
 - Suggestion that future budgets include the carbon cost of the proposed operating and capital budget
- Concern regarding the revenue impact of not operating the miniature train during the Stanley Park Bright Nights event and not extending operating hours at the Bloedel Conservatory during the holidays:
 - Request that staff consider allocating additional financial resources to reinstate extended holiday operating hours at the Bloedel Conservatory in 2023
- Request for information on the full list of initiatives not included in the 2023 current state budget
- Request for information on the anticipated timing for submission of the Sports Field Strategy implementation plan for Board approval
- Request for information on the sports field and turf improvements that can be completed with funds included in the 2023 capital budget.

Motion to Refer

MOVED by Commissioner Christensen
SECONDED by Commissioner Haer

THAT the Park Board refer consideration of the staff recommendation to the December 5, 2022 Regular Board Meeting.

CARRIED

In favour: Bastyovanszky, Christensen, Haer, Howard, Jensen

Opposed: Digby

The Board adjourned at 9:26 pm.

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Donnie Rosa
General Manager

Commissioner Scott Jensen
Chair