



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 16, 2023

The Regular Park Board meeting was held on Monday, January 16, 2023, at 6:36 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
Commissioner Jas Virdi

GENERAL MANAGER'S OFFICE: Donnie Rosa, General Manager
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.

IN-CAMERA

1. In-Camera Meeting

MOVED by Commissioner Digby
SECONDED by Commissioner Virdi

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:

- (g) litigation or potential litigation affecting the City or Park Board;
- (i) the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;
- (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 – December 5, 2022

MOVED by Commissioner Howard

SECONDED by Commissioner Bastyovanszky

THAT the Park Board minutes of the December 5, 2022 meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair highlighted the participation of Park Board Commissioners at official Park Board events since the December 5, 2022 Board meeting:

- Commissioner Bastyovanszky joined staff at an East Park engagement event in December 2022
- Commissioner Bastyovanszky and Chair Jensen met with the Trout Lake Little League
- Commissioner Bastyovanszky joined City Councillors at a Lunar New Year celebration at the Croatian Community Centre
- Commissioner Bastyovanszky attended the West Point Grey Community Centre Association holiday lighting ceremony
- Chair Jensen spoke and Commissioner Bastyovanszky participated in the Polar Bear Swim at English Bay Beach on New Year's Day.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Board was advised that from December 5, 2022 to 3:00 pm on January 16, 2023, the following emails were received via the PBCommissioners@vancouver.ca account and the [Contact Park Board Commissioners](#) webform with respect to the Member's Motion titled "Think Big" Revenue Strategy":

- One in support of the motion and suggesting the restoration of overnight parking at the Vanier boat launch
- One opposed to gated to ticketed events that restrict access to parks.

STAFF REPORTS

1. Infrastructure in Parks: Storm Damage Update

Ian Stewart, Manager, Park Development, Park Board, introduced the following Park Board staff:

- Peter Fox, Manager, Recreation Services
- Amit Gandha, Director, Parks
- Tiina Mack, Director, Planning and Park Development
- Kate McIntyre, Civil Engineer II, Park Development

- Andrew Seeton, Civil Engineer I, Park Development.

K. McIntyre, I Stewart, A. Gandha, A. Seeton and P. Fox jointly led the review of a presentation on storm damage to park infrastructure and highlighted:

- Potential storm damage to Vancouver’s seawall, shoreline and marine infrastructure
- Factors contributing to coastal flooding and efforts to predict the extent of coastal flooding
- Impacts of the January 7, 2022 king tide and storm
- Prevention, response and recovery measures:
 - Mitigation
 - Immediate response
 - Assessment and repair options
 - Design and construction
- Overview of damage from the 2021/2022 storm season and status of recovery of:
 - Stanley Park Seawall
 - Vanier Boat Launch
 - Jericho Pier
 - Spanish Banks
 - Kitsilano Pool
- Estimated cost of repairs and replacements
- Next steps in coastal adaptation planning:
 - Plans and approaches to be included in the development of the West End Waterfront Plan
 - Development of a Park Board coastal adaptation plan in 2023.

I. Stewart and T. Mack responded to questions from the Board. There was discussion on:

- Suggestion that recovery plans and timing be made available to the public
- Request for information on the jurisdiction of the federal government with respect to the elevation at which the new Vancouver Aquatic Centre will be constructed
- Suggestion to accelerate the development of a waterfront plan for the west side of Vancouver, including Kitsilano Beach Park and pool and Jericho Beach Park.

2. Urban Forestry Projects – Stanley Park Update

Amit Gandha, Director, Parks, Park Board, introduced the following Park Board staff:

- Penny Huang, Landscape Architect I, Urban Forestry
- Joe McLeod, Manager, Urban Forestry
- Don Morrison, Project Manager II, Urban Forestry.

J. McLeod led the review of a presentation providing an update on Stanley Park urban forestry projects and highlighted:

- Fall 2022 planting restoration
- Impact of the hemlock looper outbreak on forest health
- Wildfire risk
- Current actions and project timeline.

J. McLeod and A. Gandha responded to questions from the Board. There was discussion on:

- Actions taken by North Shore municipalities in response to the hemlock looper outbreak
- Staff development of a strategy to remove dead trees to mitigate risks in 2023:
 - Suggestion that ecological health of the entirety of Stanley Park be prioritized
 - Suggestion to seek financial support from the federal and provincial governments
- Concern regarding the spread of the hemlock looper to healthy trees
- Factors contributing to wildfire risk and potential mitigation measures.

3. General Manager's Report

Members of the Park Board Leadership Team presented the General Manager's Report and highlighted:

- Presentation of the 103rd Polar Bear Swim on January 1, 2023
- Ongoing support and training for Park Rangers
- Board briefing memos and emails issued from December 6, 2022 to January 16, 2023.

MEMBERS' MOTIONS

1. City Auditor General Invitation

Commissioner Bastovanszky introduced the motion and responded to questions from the Board.

MOVED by Commissioner Bastovanszky

SECONDED by Commissioner Howard

WHEREAS under the *Vancouver Charter*, the Auditor General may undertake financial (excluding attest), compliance and performance audits and provide recommendations to the applicable Board as well as the Auditor General Committee, but only upon the request of that Board.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Parks and Recreation invite the Auditor General to commence a performance audit effective February 2023.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. “Think Big” Revenue Strategy

Commissioner Howard introduced the motion and responded to questions from the Board.

MOVED by Commissioner Howard

SECONDED by Commissioner Haer

WHEREAS:

1. The moratorium on introducing new commercial initiatives in our Parks has been lifted on December 5, 2022. Staff has been directed to report back by end of January 2023 on a timeline for presentation of an updated Special Event Guidelines for Park Board review and consideration;
2. Alcohol in parks will be permanently extended to all suitable parks in Vancouver, as per the motion voted on December 5, 2022;
3. A motion directing staff to explore allowing the reasonable consumption of alcohol on beaches through a pilot project in summer 2023 was approved on December 5, 2022; Staff has been directed to report by the end of Q1 2023 with a plan to allow the responsible consumption of alcohol on appropriate Vancouver beaches;
4. The 2023 budget presented on November 21, 2022 and provisionally approved on December 5, 2022 shows some core services as unfunded.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT staff prioritize a “think big” revenue generating strategy that enables opportunities for increased commercial revenues and identifies resourcing needs (staff and funding) for presentation to Park Board in Q2 2023 for phased implementation in 2023-2024;
- B. THAT staff prioritize sourcing funding opportunities from the provincial and federal governments to fund much needed infrastructure adaptation to climate change, such as, but not limited to, seawall improvement around Stanley Park, Spanish Banks and Jericho beaches;
- C. THAT the revenue generating strategy lens be applied to the golf strategy by exploring, without limitations, options such as leasing club houses to restaurant food operators, raising golf fees for tourists as is common in other tourist destination cities in BC and elsewhere and organizing fee generating tournaments and other community events;
- D. THAT the revenue generating strategy lens be applied to parks’ concessions operations by exploring, without limitations, partnerships with local breweries, restaurants and food trucks with the goal of turning park concessions into destination attractions providing unique experiences for users;
- E. THAT the revenue generating strategy lens be applied when developing the alcohol on beach pilot by partnering with local private sector restaurants to create unique destination beach cafes that serve alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages and cosmopolitan food for summer 2023;

- F. THAT the revenue generating strategy lens be applied when developing the Queen Elizabeth Park master plan, as well as other upcoming master plans for all Park Board operations, such as Stanley Park, marinas, beaches, fields and facilities;
- G. THAT staff consider inviting beverage and food vendors to set up pop-up operations at sports fields during children and adult games;
- H. THAT staff proceed with the activation of the Vancouver Parks Foundation;
- I. FURTHER THAT the revenue generating strategy lens be applied when developing the parking strategy while ensuring flexibility for users (short time parking increments), fairness between locations, protection of residential parking and working with TransLink to ensure public access to our parks and recreational facilities; and
- J. THAT the revenue generating strategy identifies way to develop partnerships with Destination BC, Tourism Vancouver and other tourism and sporting organizations.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Stanley Park Drive Temporary Bike Lane Removal – Phase 2

Commissioner Haer introduced an urgent motion and responded to questions from the Board.

MOVED by Commissioner Haer
SECONDED by Commissioner Howard

WHEREAS:

- 1. On December 5, 2022, the Board passed a motion titled "[Stanley Park Drive Temporary Bike Lane – Next Steps](#)", which directed staff to immediately restore the pre-COVID-19 traffic and parking configuration on Stanley Park Drive, amongst other things; and
- 2. The Board received a [memo on December 15, 2022](#) identifying areas requiring further study due to the complexities of the road network prior to implementation of Part A of the December 5, 2022 motion.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT the Board directs staff to consider recommendations for site specific modifications that could be repurposed from the current configuration that would improve safety, accessibility, traffic flow, wayfinding, and aesthetics on Stanley Park Drive, over the pre-COVID-19 configuration without unduly delaying the removal works or materially increasing costs, in the implementation planning of Part A of the December 5, 2022 motion;
- B. THAT staff specifically consider modifications in areas including, but not limited to, the Tea House access, Brockton Point, the road leading up to Prospect Point, and Ceperley Meadows; and

- C. THAT staff report back to the Board no later than February 13, 2023, with recommendations related to Items A and B above.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Request for Leave of Absence

Commissioner Christensen requested and was granted a leave of absence from the January 30, 2023 meetings.

ENQUIRIES

1. Commissioner Digby requested a summary, by or before April 2023, of the Park Board's current park planning policy framework for coastal and intertidal adaptation in view of anticipated sea level rise and loss of coastal biodiversity between the present and 2050.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

The Board adjourned at 8:37 pm.

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Donnie Rosa
General Manager

Commissioner Scott Jensen
Chair