



BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 27, 2023

A Board Committee meeting was held on Monday, February 27, 2023, at 6:30 pm, via videoconference and at the Park Board Office.

PRESENT:

Commissioner Brennan Bastyovanszky
Commissioner Laura Christensen, Chair
Commissioner Tom Digby
Commissioner Angela Haer, Vice Chair
Commissioner Marie-Claire Howard
Commissioner Scott Jensen
Commissioner Jas Virdi

**GENERAL MANAGER'S
OFFICE:**

Donnie Rosa, General Manager
Denise Swanston, Manager, Board Relations
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.

Motion to Suspend the Rules

MOVED by Commissioner Howard
SECONDED by Commissioner Haer

THAT the Vancouver Park Board varies the length of time Speakers are permitted to speak to three minutes.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Board Committee Meeting – January 30, 2023

MOVED by Commissioner Digby
SECONDED by Commissioner Jensen

THAT the Board Committee minutes of the January 30, 2023 meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COMMUNICATIONS

The Board Committee was advised that from February 21 to 12:00 pm on February 27, 2023, seven email were received in support of the staff recommendation in the report titled “Naturally Managed Park Plan – Gibby’s Field” via the PBCommissioners@vancouver.ca account and the [Contact Park Board Commissioners](#) webform.

STAFF REPORTS

1. Naturally Managed Park Plan – Gibby’s Field

Tiina Mack, Director, Planning and Park Development, Park Board, introduced:

- Max Scruton, Senior Water Resources Engineer, City of Vancouver
- Doug Shearer, Manager, Planning, Policy and Environment, Park Board
- Chad Townsend, Senior Environment and Sustainability Planner, Park Board.

C. Townsend led the review of a presentation on the proposed new Gibby’s Field park and highlighted:

- Site location
- Preliminary design
- Project timeline
- Stewardship opportunities
- Potential for future connectivity.

C Townsend, along with M. Scruton, Amit Gandha, Director, Parks, Park Board, and T. Mack, responded to questions from the Board Committee. There was discussion on:

- Confirmation that visitors to the park would be welcomed
- Comparison of the estimated annual operating cost of Gibby’s Field to conventional parks
- Suggestion to install seating, in addition to the logs, to improve accessibility
- Concern that pests that may be attracted to the planted vegetation and potential standing water:
 - The park design allows water to drain in one to three days
- Expectation that 60% of the project costs will be covered through grant funding
- Suggestion to consider the installation of lighting for safety purposes.

The Board Committee heard from six speakers, all of whom spoke in support of the staff recommendation. The speakers responded to questions from the Board Committee.

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen
SECONDED by Commissioner Bastyovanszky

THAT the Board Committee recommend to the Board:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the draft concept plan for the new park site known as Gibby's Field, and direct staff to design and implement the path, rainwater retention, and vegetation work as described;
- B. THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to work with the City of Vancouver Engineering Department staff to include this work as a part of a grant claim for federal funding assistance; and
- C. THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to work with City staff to consolidate the parcels at 1454, 1458, and 1462 East 18th Avenue as a single park parcel and designate the consolidated parcel as permanent park.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Board Committee adjourned at 7:42 pm.

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Donnie Rosa
General Manager

Commissioner Laura Christensen
Chair