



## 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](mailto: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

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Commissioner Laura Christensen  
Chair



## REGULAR BOARD MEETING MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 27, 2023

The Regular Park Board meeting was held on Monday, February 27, 2023, at 7:54 pm, via videoconference and at the Park Board Office.

**PRESENT:** Commissioner Brennan Bastyovanszky, Vice Chair  
Commissioner Laura Christensen  
Commissioner Tom Digby  
Commissioner Angela Haer  
Commissioner Marie-Claire Howard  
Commissioner Scott Jensen, Chair  
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, ancestral and unceded territory of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations. The meeting is being held on the land respectfully and with knowledge that there must be continued acknowledgement of the history of injustice toward Indigenous peoples. The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation is committed to supporting truth and reconciliation, and to use this opportunity to amplify local First Nations voices and culture through our work in community.

### IN CAMERA

#### 1. In Camera Meeting

MOVED by Commissioner Digby  
SECONDED by Commissioner Christensen

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. Special Board Meeting – February 6, 2023 and Regular Board Meeting – February 13, 2023**

MOVED by Commissioner Digby  
SECONDED by Commissioner Haer

THAT the Park Board:

1. Adopts the minutes of the February 6, 2023 Special meeting as circulated; and
2. Adopts the February 13, 2023 Regular meeting minutes, with the amendment to attribute the announcement and enquiry to Commissioner Bastyovanszky.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

The Chair highlighted the participation of Park Board Commissioners at official Park Board events since the February 13, 2023 Board meeting:

- 22<sup>nd</sup> anniversary celebration for Wushu BC
- Family Day celebration at Trout Lake Community Centre
- Downtown Business Improvement Association (BIA) event to honour Mayor Ken Sim's first 100 days in office
- Honouring of Pink Shirt Day.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

The Board was advised that there are no communications of note related to the agenda items.

### **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT**

#### **1. Report of the Board Committee – February 13, 2023**

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

1. Naturally Managed Park Plan – Gibby's Field

MOVED by Commissioner Christensen  
SECONDED by Commissioner Digby

THAT the Board approve the recommendations and actions taken by the Board Committee at its meeting of February 27, 2023, as contained in item 1.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **1. Urgent Report on Park Board Preparations for the 2023 Summer Season – Update**

Steve Kellock, Director, Recreation Services, Park Board, reported that there is currently an industry-wide shortage of lifeguards and noted recruitment approaches under consideration.

Peter Fox, Manager, Recreation Services, Park Board, led the review of a presentation providing an update on preparations for the 2023 summer season and highlighted actions with respect to:

- Outdoor pools
- Outdoor aquatics
- Aquatic services
- Park operations
- Food concessions
- Launch of mobile food ordering app
- Alcohol in beaches pilot project
- Operation of cooling centres
- Drinking fountains and stations
- Misting stations.

P. Fox and S. Kellock, along with Donnie Rosa, General Manager, Park Board, Amit Gandha, Director, Parks, Park Board, and Steve Jackson, Director, Business Services, Park Board, responded to questions from the Board. There was discussion on:

- The chlorinated water from the Lumberman’s Arch spray park is currently being treated prior to release into Burrard Inlet to ensure compliance with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) regulations
- Suggestion to consider accepting private donations to activate specific water features if they align with Park Board goals
- The possibility of opening facilities before May 20, 2023, if needed
- Concern with the impact of a long-term shortage of lifeguards and swim teachers.

### **2. General Manager’s Report**

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

- Update on the East Park public engagement

- Launch of the Branch Out pilot project on February 13, 2023 where 250 free trees were offered to residents of the Victoria-Fraserview and Sunset neighborhoods
- Upcoming Council business related to or impacting parks and recreation:
  - Report titled “2023 Draft Operating Budget” recommending approval of the Park Board 2023 draft operating budget
- Board briefing memos and emails issued from February 14 to 27, 2023.

## **ENQUIRIES**

1. A Board member enquired regarding the process to consider the donation of monuments to parks.
2. A Board member requested an update on the installation of a temporary washroom in George Park.
3. A Board member requested that staff provide an update on discussions with Tennis Canada and Tennis BC in relation to tennis court renewals, including proposed scope of work, timing and location of renewals.
4. A Board member requested that staff provide a summary of current Park Board support/engagement of childcare in Vancouver, and options for future plans.
5. A Board member requested that staff consider moving the fence at Crosstown Elementary School to enlarge the playground space.
6. A Board member requested that staff work with Riley Farmer’s Market to identify other suitable locations to alleviate the parking challenges at Hillcrest Community Centre.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

The Board adjourned at 8:42 pm.

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Donnie Rosa  
General Manager

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Commissioner Scott Jensen  
Chair