



HII BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 24, 2023

A Board Committee meeting was held on Monday, April 24, 2023, at 6:40 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:**

Steve Jackson, Acting General Manager
Denise Swanston, Acting Manager, Executive Office and Board Relations
Carol Lee, Meeting Clerk
Jessica Kulchyski, Board Support and Meeting Assistant
Julia Scott-Lenz, Board Support and Meeting Assistant

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Board 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 Jensen
SECONDED by Commissioner Virdi

THAT the Vancouver Park Board suspends the rules to hear from a speaker who had not register by the published deadline.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Board Committee Meeting – March 27, 2023

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen
SECONDED by Commissioner Haer

THAT the Board Committee minutes of the March 27, 2023 meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Board recognized the coronation of King Charles III on May 6, 2023.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Board Committee was advised that from April 17, 2023 to 12:00 pm on April 24, 2023, the following emails were received via the PBCommissioners@vancouver.ca account and the [Contact Park Board Commissioners](#) webform:

- Attire for Swimming in Public Aquatic Facilities Policy:
 - Five opposed to the staff recommendation
- Alcohol in Parks Program 2023 – Proposed By-law Amendments, Sites, and Program:
 - Four opposed to the staff recommendation
 - Two in support of the staff recommendation.

STAFF REPORTS

1. Park Board Code of Conduct Policy – Review

John Brodie, Acting Director, Strategic Operations and Board Relations, Park Board, introduced:

- Andrew Aguilar, Solicitor III, Legal Services, City of Vancouver
- Jason Twa, Solicitor Team Lead, Legal Services, City of Vancouver.

J. Twa led the review of a presentation on the review of the Code of Conduct Policy and highlighted:

- Principles to be considered when deciding whether to review the Code of Conduct
- Rationale for the proposed amendment to section 4.2 of the Code of Conduct Policy.

J. Twa and A. Aguilar responded to questions from the Board Committee. There was discussion on the suggestion to expand the City's Integrity Commissioner mandate to include the Vancouver Park Board.

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen

SECONDED by Commissioner Bastyovanszky

THAT the Board Committee recommend to the Board:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the proposed addition to section 4.2 of the Board's Code of Conduct Policy, as outlined in this Report and attached as Appendix A; and

- B. THAT the Board, pursuant to section 145.93 of the *Vancouver Charter*, confirms that the Code of Conduct, attached as Appendix A to this Report, aligns with the Board's conduct objectives and a review is not required at this time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Attire for Swimming in Public Aquatic Facilities – Policy

Peter Fox, Manager, Recreation Services, Park Board, reviewed the proposed policy to stipulate appropriate attire for swimming in public aquatic facilities.

Park Board staff responded to questions from the Board Committee. There was discussion on:

- Concern that the policy will marginalize some groups
- Confirmation that breasts are not included in the definition of genitals under the proposed policy
- Staff training that will be provided to implement the policy.

The Board Committee heard from four speakers, of which three spoke in opposition to the staff recommendation and one provided suggestions to promote inclusion. The speakers responded to questions from the Board Committee.

Main Motion

MOVED by Commissioner Haer
SECONDED by Commissioner Digby

THAT the Board Committee recommend to the Board:

- A. THAT to set minimum expectations for appropriate and acceptable attire for swimming in Vancouver's public swimming facilities and to provide staff with a tool in carrying out their functions, the Vancouver Park Board approve Attire for Swimming in Public Aquatics Facilities Policy; and
- B. THAT the Vancouver Park Board delegate authority to the General Manager to make any further decisions to alter, amend or suspend the Attire for Swimming in Public Aquatics Facilities Policy to ensure alignment with the City of Vancouver's policies.

Amendment to the Main Motion

MOVED by Commissioner Bastovanszky
SECONDED by Commissioner Viridi

THAT the motion be amended by adding:

- C. THAT this be implemented as a pilot for one year and that staff report back with findings from the pilot after that year.

CARRIED

In favour: Bastovanszky, Christensen, Digby, Haer, Viridi
Opposed: Howard, Jensen

Amendment to the Main Motion

MOVED by Commissioner Howard
SECONDED by Commissioner Haer

THAT the word “appropriate” be replaced by “clean, legal and safe” throughout the Attire for Swimming in Public Aquatics Facilities Policy.

DEFEATED

In favour: Haer, Howard, Viridi

Opposed: Bastyovanszky, Christensen, Digby, Jensen

Question on the Main Motion, as Amended

THAT the Board Committee recommend to the Board:

- A. THAT to set minimum expectations for appropriate and acceptable attire for swimming in Vancouver’s public swimming facilities and to provide staff with a tool in carrying out their functions, the Vancouver Park Board approve Attire for Swimming in Public Aquatics Facilities Public Policy;
- B. THAT the Vancouver Park Board delegate authority to the General Manager to make any further decisions to alter, amend or suspend the Attire for Swimming in Public Aquatics Facilities Public Policy to ensure alignment with the City of Vancouver’s policies; and
- C. THAT this be implemented as a pilot for one year and that staff report back with findings from the pilot after that year.

CARRIED

In favour: Bastyovanszky, Christensen, Digby, Haer, Jensen, Viridi

Abstained: Howard

3. Alcohol in Parks Program 2023 – Proposed By-law Amendments, Sites, and Program

Doug Shearer, Manager of Park Planning, Policy and Environment, Park Board, and Frankie Mao, Planner II, Park Board, jointly led the review of a presentation on the Alcohol in Parks Program and highlighted:

- Permanent site selection:
 - 32 year-round sites
 - 16 summer-only sites
- Selection of seven beach pilot sites
- Proposed timing and steps for the launch of the permanent year-round, permanent summer-only and temporary beach pilot sites
- Risk mitigation and enforcement
- Proposed amendments to the Parks Control By-law
- Consideration of stakeholder input

- Related work regarding the sale of alcohol at concessions and Downtown Eastside (DTES) parks
- Financial considerations
- Next steps.

Park Board staff responded to questions from the Board Committee. There was discussion on:

- The application of the Alcohol in Parks Program during special events held in parks, beaches and outdoor pools
- Concern regarding the challenge of enforcing the prohibition on glass beverage containers in parks and beaches
- Concern regarding the consumption of alcohol in parks that are adjacent to schools during the months of July and August
- The need for public education regarding the dangers of mixing the activities of drinking and swimming
- Confirmation that parks that meet the site selection criteria will be added permanent sites in the future
- Agreement to remove Barclay Heritage Square from the list of permanent sites, as it does not meet the site selection criteria.

The Board Committee heard from two speakers, both of whom expressed concern with the inclusion of Barclay Heritage Square as a permanent site. 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 proposed amendments to the Parks Control By-law regarding Liquor Consumption in parks and beaches, as set out in Appendix C of this report, to permanently and temporarily designate the park sites listed in the by-law as places where liquor may be consumed;
- B. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the proposed amendments to Section 14 of the Parks Control By-law regarding glass beverage containers, as set out in Appendix C of this report, to prohibit the use of glass containers in parks and beaches without first obtaining permission from the General Manager;
- C. THAT, subject to Board approval of the proposed amendments in Item A, the Vancouver Park Board approve, in principle, the proposed operational approaches for the permanent Alcohol in Parks program and the 2023 Alcohol in Beaches pilot as outlined in this report;
- D. FURTHER THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to bring forward the proposed by-law amendments in Items A and B for enactment by the Park Board, generally in accordance with Appendix C; and

- E. FURTHER THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to update the Board in Q4 2024 on the performance of the permanent Alcohol in Parks program, a year after its public launch.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Board Committee adjourned at 8:32 pm.

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Steve Jackson
Acting General Manager

Commissioner Laura Christensen
Chair