



## REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**OCTOBER 8, 2024**

A Regular meeting of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation was held on Tuesday, October 8, 2024, at 9:48 pm, in the Boardroom at the Park Board Office, and via videoconference.

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

**GENERAL MANAGER'S OFFICE:** Steve Jackson, General Manager  
Denise Swanston, Manager, Board Relations & Meeting Clerk  
Connie Law, Board Support and Meeting Assistant & Meeting Clerk  
Jessica Kulchyski, Board Support and Meeting Assistant

*\* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.*

### 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 the 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.

### Motion to Extend

At 9:49pm, it was,

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen  
SECONDED by Commissioner Haer

THAT the meeting extend past 10:00pm in order to complete the business on the agenda.

CARRIED AND BY THE  
REQUIRED MAJORITY

*In favour: Commissioners Bastyovanszky, Christensen, Digby, Haer and Jensen*  
*Opposed: Commissioners Howard and Virdi*

## **IN CAMERA MEETING**

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen  
SECONDED by Commissioner Christensen

THAT the Board will go into meetings 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;

(i) the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;

(j) information that is prohibited, or information that if it were presented in a document would be prohibited, from disclosure under section 21 [disclosure harmful to business interests of a third party] of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act;

(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 Council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the city if they were held in public;

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

### **1. Regular Board Meeting – September 24, 2024**

MOVED by Commissioner Digby  
SECONDED by Commissioner Jensen

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board meeting of September 24, 2024, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

At this point in the proceedings, Commissioner Digby raised a Point of Privilege asking if any Commissioners who were absent from past meetings, without requesting prior leave from the Board, would like to apologize for their unexplained absences. Commissioner Haer apologized for her absence at the last meeting, advising that she had been invited to another important meeting and had informed staff. The Chair reminded the Board that the proper course of action is to request a leave of absence from the Board if a Commissioner plans to be away from a Board meeting.

## **CHAIR'S REPORT**

The Chair highlighted the participation of Commissioners at Park Board events since the previous Board meeting on September 24, 2024:

- Coopers' Park – Commissioner Jensen met with Victor Jeon from the Mount Pleasant Community Policing Centre at Coopers' Park dog park to discuss the Park Board's People, Parks and Dogs Strategy.
- Field Guides Exhibition – Chair Bastyovanszky and Commissioner Jensen attended the Field Guides Exhibition at Roundhouse, showcasing the Vancouver Park Board's Field Activation Project.
- First County Stone for Ireland – Chair Bastyovanszky attended the unveiling of the First County Stone for Ireland with Ireland Canada Place Director Brendan Flynn.
- Oddball Fall Classic Dragon Boat Competition – Chair Bastyovanszky attended the Oddball Fall Classic Dragonboat Competition at False Creek.
- Kitsilano Farmers Market – Chair Bastyovanszky attended the Kitsilano Farmers Market with volunteers from the Save our Park Board campaign.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

No communication related to the meeting agenda was received.

## **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT**

### **1. Report of the Board Committee – October 7 and 8, 2024**

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

1. Preservation and Protection of the Green Space at the Corner of Gore and Union
2. Corporate Sponsorship Fund Request - VanDusen Botanical Garden and Bloedel Conservatory
3. Stanley Park Update

MOVED by Commissioner Christensen  
SECONDED by Commissioner Jensen

THAT the Board approve the recommendations and actions taken by the Board Committee at its meeting of October 7 and 8, 2024, as contained in items 1 to 3.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
*Absent: Commissioner Howard*

## **STAFF REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS**

### **1. Affirmation of the Park Board as a Living Wage Employer - Report Back**

The General Manager introduced the item, and the Project Manager of Strategic Operations presented the [Affirmation of the Park Board as a Living Wage Employer - Report Back](#).

Following the presentation, staff responded to questions related to:

- Estimated cost
- Procurement
- Jurisdiction
- Resources
- Fair wage
- Council motion to repeal the living wage program
- Current living wage rate

At this point in the proceedings, Commissioner Digby raised a Point of Order, requesting a vote on the item and the addition of an amendment to the motion. The Chair agreed and ruled the motion in order.

Subsequently, it was,

MOVED by Commissioner Digby  
SECONDED by Commissioner Bastyovanszky

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board receive this report back for information on the process and budgetary impacts of seeking Living Wage Employer re-certification.

At this point in the proceedings, Commissioner Viridi raised a Point of Order, asserting that the Chair's question to the mover was not relevant to the motion. The Chair responded that the question was indeed pertinent and ruled the challenge out of order.

The Board then proceeded to ask clarification questions of the mover.

### **Amendment to the Main Motion**

MOVED by Commissioner Digby  
SECONDED by Commissioner Bastyovanszky

THAT the following be added as B:

- B. AND FURTHER THAT the Board directs staff to include \$15k in the upcoming funded 2025 budget proposal for an external legal opinion covering the main arguments in favour of the Board's authority to implement Living Wage for staff operating in the fields of parks and recreation and evaluating the legal strength of these arguments.

LOST

*In favour: Commissioner Digby*

*Opposed: Commissioners Christensen, Haer, Howard, Jensen and Viridi*

*Abstained: Commissioner Bastyovanszky*

### **Main Motion**

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen  
SECONDED by Commissioner Digby

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

THAT the Vancouver Park Board receive this report back for information on the process and budgetary impacts of seeking Living Wage Employer re-certification.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **2. General Manager's Report**

In the interest of time, the General Manager submitted their report as written, which included the below:

- Replacement of the "Florentine Wall" Bronze Sculpture – The family of late artist Frank Perry (1923-2006) were presented with the replacement molding of the stolen "Florentine Wall" centrepiece from the Queen Elizabeth Theatre. The bronze centrepiece, stolen in 2022, was re-sculpted by the Park Board's Graphics Department. The new mold will be reinstated in November 2024.
- Council Agenda Items:
  - Report titled "[Reconciliation Report 10-Year; Colonial Audit Consolidation](#)" on October 8, 2024.
  - Report titled "[Vancouver Heritage Register Upgrade](#)" on October 8, 2024.
  - Presentation titled "[Inappropriate Public Behaviours – Updating the City's Violence Prevention Program to Ensure a Respectful and Safe Work Environment for Employees](#)" on October 9, 2024.

- Report titled "[Contract Award for Construction Services for Sunset Seniors Centre Building – General Contractor](#)" on October 9, 2024.
- Board [briefing memos and emails](#) issued from September 24, 2024 to October 8, 2024.

## MEMBERS' MOTIONS

### 1. Code of Conduct Policy Amendments

MOVED by Commissioner Christensen

SECONDED by Commissioner Jensen

#### WHEREAS

1. On February 9, 2021, City Council enacted Code of Conduct By-Law No. 12886.
2. On January 4, 2022, City Council announced the appointment of Lisa Southern as the City of Vancouver's first Integrity Commissioner, effective January 1, 2022.
3. On July 18, 2022 the Board approved the Park Board Code of Conduct Policy, and further minor amendments were passed on April 24, 2023.
4. On July 4, 2023, the current Park Board Integrity Commissioner, Lisa Southern, was appointed.
5. In the 2023 Park Board Integrity Commissioner's Annual Report, submitted December 22, 2023, the Integrity Commissioner recommended that the Park Board consider amendments to the Code of Conduct Policy.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Parks and Recreation direct staff to report back by the end of 2024 with proposed Code of Conduct Policy amendments that address the recommendations made by the Integrity Commissioner, including, but not limited to:

- A. Reporting in the annual report when a Park Board Commissioner fails to attend Integrity Commissioner orientation training or education sessions.
- B. Part 1 to state the Standards and Values are principles intended to inform the interpretation of the provisions in the Code of Conduct By-law and the role of Park Board Commissioners and Advisory Committee Members.
- C. Allow for notices of outcome to be provided to those whose complaints have been rejected due to the operation of section 5.8 of the Code of Conduct Policy (which states that the Integrity Commissioner must not accept multiple complaints on the same matter); and

- D. Additional sanction provisions for reduction in remuneration and/or restriction from holding roles that enhance remuneration in appropriate circumstances when a breach of the Code of Conduct Policy is found.

**CARRIED**

*In favour: Commissioners Bastyovanszky, Christensen, Digby and Jensen*

*Opposed: Commissioners Haer and Viridi*

*Abstained: Commissioner Howard*

During questions to the mover, Commissioner Haer raised a Point of Order, asserting that the term “rehabilitation” in relation to Commissioners was offensive. The Chair acknowledged and clarified that the appropriate term ought to have been “atonement” and apologized for the misspoken word.

**NOTICE OF MEMBERS’ MOTIONS**

None.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Commissioner Haer withdrew the apology she provided earlier in the meeting regarding her unapproved absence from the previous Board meeting.

**ENQUIRIES**

A Commissioner requested an update related to the following topic:

1. Coal Harbour (Harbour Green) Dock

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

The Board adjourned at 11:13 pm.

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Steve Jackson  
General Manager

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Commissioner Brennan Bastyovanszky  
Chair