



## **BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**OCTOBER 7 AND 8, 2024**

A Committee meeting of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation was held on Monday, October 7, 2024, at 6:40 pm, in the Boardroom at the Park Board Office, and via videoconference. Subsequently, the meeting recessed and reconvened on Tuesday, October 8, 2024, at 6:37pm.

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

**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

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Chair acknowledged that the meeting is taking place on the traditional territory of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations.

### **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

#### **1. Board Committee Meeting – September 23 and 24, 2024**

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen  
SECONDED by Commissioner Bastyovanszky

THAT the Minutes of the Board Committee meeting on September 23 and 24, 2024, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

## COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications related to the Committee meeting agenda were received via email or the [Contact Park Board Commissioners](#) web form:

- Two pieces of correspondence in support of Referred Item 1
- One piece of correspondence in support of Item 2
- Five pieces of correspondence in opposition to Item 2

## MATTERS ADOPTED ON CONSENT

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen  
SECONDED by Commissioner Haer

THAT Staff Report 1 be approved on consent.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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## Motion to Suspend the Rules

MOVED by Commissioner Digby  
SECONDED by Commissioner Haer

THAT the Board suspend section 15.1 of the Procedure By-law to allow speakers who requested to speak after the deadline.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND  
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY

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## REFERRED ITEMS

### 1. Preservation and Protection of the Green Space at the Corner of Gore and Union

At the Regular Board meeting on September 24, 2024, the Board referred the following motion to the Committee meeting on October 7, 2024, in order to hear from speakers, followed by debate and decision.

At this point in the proceedings, Commissioner Digby called a Point of Order requesting to introduce the motion prior to hearing from speakers. The Chair agreed and ruled the motion in order.

The Committee heard from ten speakers in support of the motion.

Subsequently, it was,

MOVED by Commissioner Digby  
SECONDED by Commissioner Jensen

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

- A. THAT the Board hereby declares its interest and intent to preserve the green space at the northeast corner of Gore/Union, initially under care and custody of the Park Board, and eventually as a permanent park.
- B. THAT the Board directs staff to report back by Q2/2025 on costs and options for the Park Board to acquire care and custody of the green space at the corner of Gore/Union to maintain it as a public green space.
- C. THAT a copy of this motion shall be sent promptly to the Mayor and Council for them to arrange ways and means to give effect to this interest and intent.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **Recess**

The meeting recessed at 7:42pm and reconvened at 7:49pm.

### **STAFF REPORTS**

1. **Corporate Sponsorship Fund Request - VanDusen Botanical Garden and Bloedel Conservatory**
  - A. THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation ("Park Board") authorize an expenditure of up to \$50,000 from the Corporate Sponsorship Funds for the construction of a new secured outdoor storage unit for VanDusen Botanical Garden ("VanDusen").
  - B. THAT the Park Board authorize an expenditure of up to \$50,000 from the Corporate Sponsorship Funds for pathway replacement work at Bloedel Conservatory ("Bloedel").

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

2. **Stanley Park Update**

The Director of Parks introduced the item, and the Associate Director of Urban Forestry, along with the Project Manager of Park Operations, presented an update on the [Stanley Park Hemlock Looper Response and Mitigation Plan](#).

Following the presentation, staff responded to questions related to:

- Drought and fire risk
- Replanting
- Tree species
- 2006 windstorm
- Coordination between City of Vancouver and Park Board
- B.A. Blackwell and Associates
- Dead trees in Phase 1
- Public access
- Tree removal

The Committee heard from three speakers in support of the recommendations, 17 speakers in opposition to the recommendations and five who spoke to other aspects of the recommendations.

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### **Motion to Extend**

At 9:57pm, it was,

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen  
SECONDED by Commissioner Digby

THAT the meeting extend to conclude questions to speaker 11.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND  
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY

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### **Recess**

The Committee meeting recessed on Monday, October 7, 2024, at 10:08pm and reconvened on Tuesday, October 8, 2024, at 6:37pm.

After hearing from speakers, staff responded to additional questions related to:

- Procurement
- Alternative treatment for Phase 3
- Communications and public engagement
- Risk assessment

Subsequently it was,

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen  
SECONDED by Commissioner Bastyovanszky

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

- A. THAT the Board receives this report for information and approve staff advancing planned Phase 2 (October 2024 – April 2025) risk mitigation and restoration work, which will address health and safety risks in highly visited areas of Stanley Park as outlined in this report dated October 2, 2024, entitled “Stanley Park Hemlock Looper Response and Mitigation Plan”.
- B. THAT the Board direct staff to advance a competitive procurement process for contracted services to support the final Phase 3 (Q4 2025 – Q1 2027) risk mitigation and restoration of the remaining untreated forest areas (64% of the forest area) with a report back to the Board for approval of the extent of treatment prior to implementation.

CARRIED

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

On October 8, 2024, the Committee meeting adjourned at 9:34 pm.

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Steve Jackson  
General Manager

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Commissioner Laura Christensen  
Chair