



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DECEMBER 9, 2024

A Regular meeting of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation was held on Monday, December 9, 2024, at 11:27 pm, in the Boardroom at the Park Board Office, and via videoconference.

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

ABSENT: Commissioner Angela Haer

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.

IN CAMERA MEETING

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen
SECONDED by Commissioner Virdi

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 – November 4, 2024
2. Special Board (In-Camera approvals) Meeting – November 25, 2024
3. Special Board (Budget) Meeting – November 25, 2024

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen

SECONDED by Commissioner Digby

THAT the Minutes of the following Board meetings be approved:

1. Regular Board Meeting of November 4, 2024;
2. Special Board (In-Camera approvals) Meeting of November 25, 2024; and
3. Special Board (Budget) Meeting – November 25, 2024.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

Absent: Commissioner Howard

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair highlighted the participation of Commissioners at Park Board events since the previous Board meeting on November 4, 2024:

- National Indigenous Veterans Day – Commissioner Jensen presented a wreath at the National Indigenous Veterans Day Ceremony at Victory Square Park
- Remembrance Day – Memorial South Park – Commissioner Digby presented a wreath at the Remembrance Day Ceremony at Memorial South Park
- Remembrance Day – Victory Square – Chair Bastyovanszky presented a wreath at the Remembrance Day Ceremony at Victory Square Park.
- Remembrance Day – Chinatown – Chair Bastyovanszky attended the Chinatown Memorial Square Remembrance Day Ceremony
- Kerrisdale Arena 75th Anniversary – Chair Bastyovanszky and Commissioner Digby attended the 75th Anniversary of the Kerrisdale Arena

- Jericho Sailing Centre Association Meeting – Commissioner Jensen attended the JSCA meeting.
- Brock House Society Lease Agreement – Commissioner Digby attended the celebration of a renewed lease agreement for the Brock House Society.
- Lumiere Festival – Commissioners attended the launch of the Lumiere Festival at Harbour Green Park
- Comr. Digby – Liaison Roles – Commissioner Digby attended the Britannia Community Services Centre meeting, the Dunbar CCA meeting, and the Kerrisdale CCA meeting in his role as liaison
- All Aboard Skateboard Celebration – Commissioner Jensen attended the All Aboard Skateboard Celebration.
- Louis Riel Day – Commissioner Jensen celebrated Louis Riel Day on November 16
- Comr. Jensen – Liaison Role – Commissioner Jensen met with HI Hostel, attended the Hastings Park Conservancy AGM, and attended the Urban Indigenous Peoples’ Advisory Committee in his role as liaison
- Park Board Transition Press Conference – Chair Bastyovanszky and Commissioner Digby attended the press conference for the City’s update on the Park Board Transition Plan
- VPD Mounted Unit – Commissioner Jensen visited the VPD Mounted Unit in Stanley Park
- UGM Christmas Hampers – Commissioner Jensen packed Christmas Hampers for the Union Gospel Mission
- Christmas Wonderland on The Drive – Commissioner Christensen attended Christmas Wonderland on The Drive in Grandview Park
- Davie Plaza Tree Lighting – Chair Bastyovanszky and Commissioner Jensen attended the tree lighting at Davie Plaza
- Bright Nights in Stanley Park – Commissioners attended the opening night of Bright Nights in Stanley Park.
- East Van Panto – Commissioners met with the cast and crew of East Van Panto
- Chair Bastyovanszky – Liaison Roles – Chair Bastyovanszky attended the False Creek CCA meeting, VFSF Board meeting and AGM, and the VSB-COV Planning and Facilities meeting in his role as liaison
- Comr. Christensen – Liaison Roles – Commissioner Christensen attended the AGM for Mount Pleasant CCA and Trout Lake CCA and swore in new members
- BC Lions Grey Cup Gala – Commissioners attended the BC Lions Grey Cup Gala dinner
- BC Lions Grey Cup Game – Commissioners attended the BC Lions 111th Grey Cup Game at BC Place
- Fallen Trees in Stanley Park – Chair Bastyovanszky and Commissioner Jensen observed fallen trees in Stanley Park after the recent bomb cyclone

- VBGA Alma Society Dinner – Chair Bastyovanszky and Commissioner Digby attended the VBGA Alma Society Dinner
- VPL Year End Meeting – Commissioner Jensen attended the VPL year-end meeting and holiday celebration.

MOTION TO EXTEND

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen
SECONDED by Commissioner Christensen

THAT the meeting extend in order to complete the business on the agenda.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND WITH THE
REQUIRED MAJORITY

In favour: Commissioners Bastyovanszky, Christensen, Digby, Jensen, Viridi
Absent: Commissioner Howard

COMMUNICATIONS

No communication related to the meeting agenda was received.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

1. Report of the Board Committee – December 9, 2024

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

1. FIFA World Cup 26 Vancouver Venue Specific Training Sites at Killarney and Memorial South Parks - Early Works Contract Award
2. Stanley Park Hemlock Looper Response and Mitigation Plan - Advancing Phase 3
3. Park Board Code of Conduct Policy Amendments - Report Back
4. Golf Course Operators - Contract Award

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen
SECONDED by Commissioner Christensen

THAT the Board approve the recommendations and actions taken by the Board Committee at its meeting of December 9, 2024, as contained in items 1 to 4.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
Abstained: Commissioner Howard

STAFF REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

1. General Manager's Report

The General Manager presented the General Manager's Report, highlighting:

- 2024 Micro Forest Pilot – Two micro forest pilot sites were installed at Gordon and Strathcona Parks, supporting improved ecological function, biodiversity, water conservation, and cooling.
- 2024 Stewardship Restoration – Park Board staff supplied stewardship partners with 6,500 native plants to be installed in fall/winter 2024/2025 at community-led events.
- Kerrisdale – Point Grey Track and Field Upgrades – Opening – The track and field at Kerrisdale – Point Grey has been reopened for use with a resurfaced 400m track, new jumping and throwing amenities, improved seating, storage, lighting, and accessibility.
- Bomb Cyclone Response – On November 19, 2024, high winds cause the closure of Stanley Park. 7 trees fell onto roadways within the park, making them impassable. Rangers closed vehicle access points and patrolled the park to ask citizens to leave for their safety.
- Council Agenda Items:
 - Presentation titled "[Vancouver Plan Implementation Update](#)" on December 11, 2024.
 - Report titled ""[Broadway Plan Review and Implementation](#)" on December 11, 2024.
 - Report titled "[Contract Award for the Construction of the Early Works for the FIFA World Cup 26 Vancouver Venue Specific Training Sites \(VSTS\) at Killarney and Memorial South Parks](#)" on December 11, 2024.
 - Motion titled "[Support for Japanese Canadian Interpretive Centre at Hastings Park](#)" on December 11, 2024.
- Board briefing [memos and emails](#) issued from November 4, 2024 to December 9, 2024.

NOTICE OF MEMBERS' MOTIONS

1. Request for designation of 17 parks as Permanent Public Parks under the Vancouver Charter s. 488(5).

Commissioner Digby submitted a Notice of Motion on the above-noted matter. The motion below may be placed on the Board meeting agenda of January 20, 2025, as a Member's Motion.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- A. The Vancouver Park Board hereby endorses the recommendation that the 17 parks listed in Appendix A be designated by Mayor and Council as a Permanent Public Parks under Section 488(5) of the Vancouver Charter.
- B. The Chair be directed to communicate this endorsement to the Mayor and Council forthwith.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Official Apology from Commissioner Digby

Commissioner Digby extended his apology to the Chair, Board members and staff for engaging with a media on December 8 and making inappropriate comments regarding capital budget allocation approved by the Board on November 25.

ELECTION OF BOARD CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR – 2025 TERM

1. Election of 2025 Board Chair

As set forth in the Park Board's Procedure By-law, the General Manager, acting as Presiding Member, called for nominations for Chair of the Board for the 2025 term.

Commissioner Digby moved, and Commissioner Jensen seconded, the nomination of Commissioner Bastyovanszky as Chair of the Board for 2025; Commissioner Bastyovanszky declined the nomination.

Commissioner Bastyovanszky moved, and Commissioner Jensen seconded, the nomination of Commissioner Christensen as Chair of the Board for 2025; Commissioner Christensen accepted the nomination.

Commissioner Viridi moved, and Commissioner Jensen seconded, the nomination of Commissioner Digby as Chair of the Board for 2025; Commissioner Digby declined the nomination.

The General Manager called for additional nominations. There being no further nominations, the General Manager declared nominations for the Chair of the Board closed.

The General Manager announced Commissioner Christensen as Chair of the Board for 2025, by acclamation.

* * * * *

At this point in the proceedings, Commissioner Bastyovanszky, resumed the role of Chair.

* * * * *

2. Election of 2025 Board Vice-Chair

The Chair called for nominations for Vice-Chair of the Board for the 2025 term.

Commissioner Digby moved, and Commissioner Jensen seconded, the nomination of Commissioner Bastyovanszky as Vice-Chair of the Board for 2025; Commissioner Bastyovanszky accepted the nomination.

The Chair called for additional nominations. There being no further nominations, the Chair declared nominations for the Vice-Chair of the Board closed.

The Chair announced Commissioner Bastyovanszky as Vice-Chair of the Board for 2025, by acclamation.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR – 2025 TERM

1. Election of 2025 Committee Chair

The Chair called for nominations for Chair of the Committee for the 2025 term.

Commissioner Digby moved, and Commissioner Christensen seconded, the nomination of Commissioner Jensen as Chair of the Committee for 2025; Commissioner Jensen accepted the nomination.

The Chair called for additional nominations. There being no further nominations, the Chair declared nominations for the Chair of the Committee closed.

The Chair announced Commissioner Jensen as Chair of the Committee for 2025, by acclamation.

2. Election of 2024 Committee Vice-Chair

The Chair called for nominations for Vice-Chair of the Committee for the 2025 term.

Commissioner Jensen moved, and Commissioner Christensen seconded, the nomination of Commissioner Digby as Vice-Chair of the Committee for 2025; Commissioner Digby accepted the nomination.

The Chair called for additional nominations. There being no further nominations, the Chair declared nominations for the Vice-Chair of the Committee closed.

The Chair announced Commissioner Digby as Vice-Chair of the Committee for 2025, by acclamation.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

The Board adjourned at 11:53 pm.

* * * * *

Steve Jackson
General Manager

Brennan Bastovanszky
Chair