



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 20, 2025

A Regular meeting of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation was held on Monday, January 20, 2025, at 9:17 pm, in the Boardroom at the Park Board Office, and via videoconference.

PRESENT:	Commissioner Laura Christensen, Chair Commissioner Brennan Bastyovanszky, Vice-Chair Commissioner Tom Digby Commissioner Angela Haer Commissioner Scott Jensen Commissioner Jas Viridi
ABSENT:	Commissioner Marie-Claire Howard
GENERAL MANAGER'S OFFICE:	Steve Jackson, General Manager Jessica Kulchyski, Manager, Executive Office and Board Relations Carol Lee, Meeting Clerk Victoria Tyers, 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, and the meeting is being held on the land respectfully and with honour to each other, the land, and the communities we serve.

IN CAMERA MEETING

MOVED by Commissioner Digby
SECONDED by Commissioner Jensen

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 – December 9, 2024

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen
SECONDED by Commissioner Digby

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board meeting of December 9, 2024, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair highlighted the participation of Commissioners at Park Board events since the previous Board meeting on December 9, 2024:

- VanDusen Festival of Lights - Commissioners and their families attended the Festival of Lights display at VanDusen Garden
- 2025 Polar Bear Swim - Commissioners attended and participated in the 2025 Polar Bear Swim at English Bay.
- Liaison Roles – Comr. Digby - Commissioner Digby attended Board meetings with the Britannia Community Services Society and Dunbar Community Centre Association (CCA) in his role as liaison
- Joint Childcare Council of Vancouver - Commissioners Christensen and Jensen attended the Joint Childcare Council of Vancouver meeting in their roles as liaison
- Invictus Games Display - Commissioner Jensen visited English Bay to view the Invictus Games "I Am" display.

COMMUNICATIONS

No communication related to the meeting agenda was received.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Report of the Board Committee – January 20, 2025

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

1. Nat Bailey Stadium Improvement Update
2. Sponsorship, Naming Rights and Donations Program Update.

MOVED by Commissioner Digby
SECONDED by Commissioner Jensen

THAT the Board approve the recommendations and actions taken by the Board Committee at its meeting of January 20, 2025, as contained in items 1 and 2.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

STAFF REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

1. Stanley Park Hemlock Looper Response – Bid Committee Change Order

The Director of Park Operations was available to respond to questions on the report provided with the agenda package.

2. 2024 Year in Review

The General Manager presented the 2024 Year in Review, highlighting the work delivered by staff on a range of priorities, projects and initiatives for Vancouver's parks and recreation spaces.

3. Commissioner Liaison Appointments

The Chair reviewed the memorandum included with the agenda package regarding Commissioner Liaison Appointments for the 2025 year.

4. General Manager's Report

The General Manager presented their report, highlighting:

- Muncie Booth Retirement – Park Board staff celebrated the retirement of Muncie Booth, Golf Operator of McCleery Golf Course
- 2025 Polar Bear Swim – Celebration of the 105th anniversary of the Polar Bear Swim on January 1, 2025, at English Bay
- VanDusen Festival of Lights 2024 – The VanDusen Festival of Lights celebrated its 40th year
- Bloedel Conservatory Pathway Reconstruction – Bloedel Conservatory reopened on January 4, 2025, following a 2-month pathway reconstruction project

- Council agenda items:
 - Report titled "[Local Government By-election 2025](#)" on January 21, 2025
 - Report titled "[Contract Award for Tree Removal and Associated Services in Stanley Park](#)" on January 22, 2025
 - Motion titled "[Effective Water Use in the City of Vancouver](#)" on January 22, 2025
- Board briefing [memos and emails](#) issued from December 9, 2024 to January 20, 2025.

MOTION TO EXTEND

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen
SECONDED by Commissioner Digby

THAT the meeting extend in order to complete the business on the January 20, 2025 In Camera agenda.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MEMBER'S MOTIONS

1. Request for Designation of 17 Parks as Permanent Public Parks Under the Vancouver Charter s. 488(5)

Commissioner Digby introduced the motion and responded to questions from the Board.

MOVED by Commissioner Digby
SECONDED by Commissioner Jensen

WHEREAS:

1. A report adopted by City Council on November 27, 2024, proposed that 17 parks, which are currently Custody, Care and Management (CCM) parks, or only partially permanent, be designated Permanent Public Parks under Vancouver Charter s. 488(5).

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

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

CARRIED

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

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

The Board meeting adjourned at 9:59 pm.

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Steve Jackson
General Manager

Commissioner Laura Christensen
Chair