



## REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

JULY 21, 2025

A Regular meeting of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation was held on Monday, July 21, 2025, at 10:52 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 Marie-Claire Howard  
Commissioner Scott Jensen  
Commissioner Jas Virdi

**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, 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 Howard

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:

(c) labour relations or other employee relations;

(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;

- (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 – July 7, 2025**

MOVED by Commissioner Digby

SECONDED by Commissioner Jensen

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board meeting of July 7, 2025, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **CHAIR'S REPORT**

The Chair highlighted the participation of Commissioners at Park Board events since the previous Board meeting on July 7, 2025:

- Commissioners Digby and Jensen celebrated the opening of Kits Pool
- Commissioner Jensen spoke at the one-year anniversary celebration of Park Board's successful partnership with Batch Kitsilano
- Commissioners Bastovanszky, Jensen and Howard attended the Jericho Sailing Centre 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration
- Commissioner Jensen volunteered at the Union Gospel Mission's 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer BBQ at Oppenheimer Park
- Commissioner Jensen visited the newly renovated playground at Oppenheimer Park
- Commissioners attended the Celebration of Light show on July 19, 2025, featuring displays from the Yukon
- Commissioner Bastovanszky attended the playoffs for the West End Slo-Pitch Association at Strathcona Park
- Commissioner Bastovanszky attended the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Kitsilano Community Centre
- Commissioners attended the Bard on the Beach performance of The Two Gentlemen of Verona
- Commissioners Bastovanszky and Jensen attended the opening of the off-leash area at Emery Barnes Park
- Commissioner Bastovanszky attended the Pride 5km Fun Run in Stanley Park
- Commissioners Digby and Haer attended Greek Day on Broadway

- Commissioners Digby and Haer attended the Air Indian Memorial event in Stanley Park
- Commissioner Digby attended the Free the Fern event Champlain Heights
- Commissioner Digby met with members of the community from the Italian Cultural Centre to discuss the Beaconsfield Park sport field renewal
- Commissioner Digby attended Canada Day events at Kerrisdale and Sunset Community Centres and Kitsilano Beach
- Commissioner Digby attended Khatsahlano Street Party on July 5, 2025
- Commissioner Digby visited the FIFA training field at Killarney Park to view the progress of the project
- Commissioner Digby attended the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee and Kerrisdale Community Centre Association (CCA) meetings in his role as liaison
- Chair Christensen attended the launch of the National Drowning Prevention week.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

The following communications were received via email or the [Contact Park Board Commissioners](#) web form regarding the Member's Motion titled "Think Home Run":

- 207 in support.

## **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT**

### **1. Report of the Board Committee – July 21, 2025**

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

1. Kitsilano Secondary School Synthetic Turf Renewal and Lighting Installation – Report Back
2. Tree Related Maintenance Services Pre-Qualification – Contract Award
3. Stanley Park Hemlock Looper Response and Mitigation Plan – Phase 3.

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen

SECONDED by Commissioner Haer

THAT the Board approve the recommendations and actions taken by the Board Committee at its meeting of July 21, 2025, as contained in items 1 through 3.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## STAFF REPORTS

### 1. General Manager's Report

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

- Construction of the FIFA World Cup 2026 (FWC26) training site at Killarney Park
- Collaboration with the City's Planning Urban Design and Sustainability Department in the development of solar access guidelines for the Downtown Peninsula
- Urban park activation summer programs and recreation projects planned for summer 2025
- Brock House Society held their annual Summer Fair on July 12, 2025
- Council agenda items related to, or impacting, parks and recreation:
  - Council to receive a presentation on July 22, 2025, titled "2025 Annual Climate Plan Update"
  - Council to receive a report on July 23, 2025, titled "[City-Wide Design and Development Guidelines – Phase Two Actions](#)", which would approve the Solar Access Guidelines for the Downtown Peninsula
  - Council to receive a report on July 23, 2025, titled "[Contract Award of Supply of Tree Related Maintenance Services Pre-Qualification](#)", which would authorize staff to negotiate with each of the vendors a prequalification, standing-offer agreement for the provision of various tree related maintenance services
  - Council to receive a report on July 23, 2025, titled "[Contract Award for Supply of Contracted Janitorial Services](#)", which would authorize staff to negotiate janitorial services for twenty-two facilities operated by multiple departments at the City
  - Council to consider a motion on July 23, 2025, titled "[Realizing the Full Potential of Exceptional Lands in Vancouver](#)", which would direct staff to provide a report back on potential for housing and public amenities such as green space, childcare, and community and recreation facilities
- Board briefing memos and emails issued from July 7 to 21, 2025.

## MEMBERS' MOTIONS

### 1. Think Home Run

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

## **Main Motion**

MOVED by Commissioner Virdi

SECONDED by Commissioner Howard

### **WHEREAS:**

1. Jericho Little League (JLL) is a long-standing, volunteer-run, not-for-profit organization that has provided meaningful athletic opportunities for children in Vancouver for decades, serving approximately 450 children aged 4 to 12 annually, and delivering high-quality programming that relies heavily on City park infrastructure;
2. JLL uses various Vancouver parks including Jericho Beach Park, Trimble Park, and Carnarvon Park for its baseball programs;
3. JLL has proposed the construction of a new enclosed baseball training facility at Carnarvon Park, near 16th Avenue and Mackenzie Street, utilizing the existing footprint of the current batting cage and bullpen area, ensuring that no additional green space will be impacted;
4. The proposed facility would be fully funded by JLL through donations and corporate sponsorships, resulting in no capital or operating costs to the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation;
5. Once built, the facility would be operated and maintained in partnership with Park Board, and would be made available not only to Jericho Little League players, but all local baseball clubs, teams, and youth development programs, thereby maximizing community access and expanding use across a broader recreational base;
6. The enclosed nature of the facility would provide year-round access to baseball training for children and youth, particularly during winter and rainy months, supporting the Park Board's broader objectives to promote equity in access, youth participation, and lifelong physical activity;
7. The proposed facility is inspired by and modeled on successful precedents, such as the UBC Rose Indoor Training Centre, a high-demand resource for winter baseball training, though the Carnarvon Park version would be scaled appropriately for community-level use;
8. JLL has consistently demonstrated responsible stewardship of public facilities, maintaining the current Carnarvon Park batting cage at no cost to the City, and has committed to continuing that responsibility with this proposed facility; and
9. Carnarvon Park is scheduled to host the B.C. Little League Majors Provincial Championship tournament in 2027, underscoring the importance of the site as a regional sports venue and further supporting the need for modern, year-round training infrastructure. (In 2025, the same tournament will be hosted at Trout Lake Park.)

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation direct staff to work collaboratively with Jericho Little League to explore the feasibility of constructing and operating an enclosed community baseball training facility at Carnarvon Park, including but not limited to:
- i. Assessing site suitability and potential design or environmental considerations;
  - ii. Evaluating operational logistics, including access, scheduling, and community use;
  - iii. Identifying and analyzing potential community benefits, especially for equity-seeking and underserved youth populations;
  - iv. Investigating the financial structure, including the potential for a revenue-sharing arrangement with JLL to ensure long-term sustainability and potential Park Board benefit; and
  - v. Engagement with existing user groups and key stakeholders, including but not limited to soccer leagues, multi-sport organizations, residents, and other park users, to ensure transparency, collaboration, and effective shared use of the park space; and
- B. FURTHER THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation direct staff to report back to the Board by Q1 of 2026, with findings, recommendations, and proposed next steps, including community engagement opportunities, a review of comparable facility models, and guidance to support an informed decision on advancing the proposed partnership.

**Motion to Refer**

MOVED by Commissioner Digby  
SECONDED by Commissioner Viridi

THAT the motion be referred to the September 15, 2025 Board Committee meeting.

CARRIED

*In favour: Commissioners Bastyovanszky, Christensen, Digby, Haer, Howard, Viridi*

*Opposed: Commissioner Jensen*

**2. Waiver of Land-Use Fee for S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Event**

Commissioner Haer withdrew the motion.

**NOTICE OF MEMBERS' MOTIONS**

**1. Fence at Crosstown Elementary**

Commissioner Digby submitted a Notice of Motion on the above-noted matter. The motion below may be placed on the Board meeting agenda of September 15, 2025, as a Member's Motion.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Park Board directs staff to plan, with the Vancouver School Board, a fence or other physical or visual barrier (a “fence”) which incorporates principles of CPTED (crime prevention through environmental design) and place-making design, in Andy Livingston Park, at or near Crosstown 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Elementary School, to provide clear demarcation of areas for exclusive use of school children and staff during and around school hours, and to install the fence as soon as possible.

## **2. Potential Disqualification of Commissioner Howard**

Commissioner Bastoyovanszky submitted a Notice of Motion on the above-noted matter. The motion below may be placed on the Board meeting agenda of September 15, 2025, as a Member’s Motion.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation refers the matter to legal counsel for review and confirmation of the applicability of Section 144 of the *Vancouver Charter* to Commissioner Howard’s attendance record, and requests that legal counsel provide a recommendation to the Board on appropriate next steps.

## **3. Eliminating the Advance Booking System for Kitsilano Outdoor Pool**

Commissioner Howard requested that a motion be considered as urgent business. The Chair ruled that the motion does not meet the criteria for urgent business, as required under the Park Board Procedure By-Law, and the motion will be placed on the agenda of the September 15, 2025 Regular Board Meeting, as a Member’s Motion.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation direct staff to eliminate the current advance booking system for Kitsilano Outdoor Pool and return to drop-in public access as the default model of entry for the month of August 2025 until closing in early September;
- B. THAT Park Board staff be directed to explore and implement measures to ensure equitable access, including:
  - 1. Real-time capacity monitoring at the pool;
  - 2. Designated access times for vulnerable populations (e.g. seniors, people with disabilities); and
  - 3. Communication improvements for peak-time expectations; and
- C. THAT Park Board staff report back to the Board by end of Q4 2025 with recommendations for a long-term access model for Kitsilano Pool that is equitable, efficient, and reflects public demand.

Commissioner Howard withdrew the motion.

## **ENQUIRIES**

Commissioner Digby questioned what the Park Board could do to preserve the remaining pieces of the Trafalgar Log in their present location so that the remaining decades of its iconic presence can be shared by that neighborhood.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

The Board adjourned at 11:26 pm.

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Steve Jackson  
General Manager

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Commissioner Laura Christensen  
Chair