



BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 6 AND 7, 2025

A Committee meeting of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation was held on Monday, October 6, 2025 at 6:37 pm in the Boardroom at the Park Board Office, and via videoconference. Subsequently, the meeting recessed and reconvened on Tuesday, October 7, 2025, at 6:37 pm.

PRESENT:

Commissioner Scott Jensen, Chair
Commissioner Brennan Bastyovanszky
Commissioner Laura Christensen
Commissioner Tom Digby, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Angela Haer
Commissioner Marie-Claire Howard
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 territory of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations.

Suspension of Rules

MOVED by Commissioner Christensen
SECONDED by Commissioner Virdi

THAT the Vancouver Park Board varies the agenda to consider the item titled "T100 Vancouver Multisport Festival 2026 – Special Event" following the Referred Items.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOVED by Commissioner Haer
SECONDED by Commissioner Bastyovanszky

THAT the Vancouver Park Board suspends the rules to hear from speakers who had registered following the deadline.

CARRIED

In favour: Commissioners Bastyovanszky, Digby, Haer, Virdi

Opposed: Commissioner Howard

Abstained: Commissioners Christensen, Jensen

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Board Committee Meeting – September 15, 2025

MOVED by Commissioner Digby

SECONDED by Commissioner Christensen

THAT the Minutes of the Board Committee meeting on September 15, 2025, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were received via email or the [Contact Park Board Commissioners](#) web form between September 29, 2025, and 3:00 pm on October 6, 2025 regarding:

- Member's Motion titled "Think Home Run":
 - Two in support
 - One with other comments
- Procurement Policy Update – Report Back:
 - One opposed
- T100 Vancouver Multisport Festival 2026 – Special Event:
 - Four in support.

REFEPPED ITEMS

1. Think Home Run

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

The Board Committee heard from 15 speakers, of which 11 spoke in support and three spoke in opposition to the Member's Motion and one requested that use of the proposed batting facility be restricted to JLL players. The speakers responded to questions from Commissioners.

Main Motion

MOVED by Commissioner Virdi

SECONDED by Commissioner Jensen

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 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:

- A. Assessing site suitability and potential design or environmental considerations;
- B. Evaluating operational logistics, including access, scheduling, and community use;
- C. Identifying and analyzing potential community benefits, especially for equity-seeking and underserved youth populations;
- D. 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

- E. 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 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.

Amendment to the Main Motion

MOVED by Commissioner Bastyovanszky

SECONDED by Commissioner Haer

THAT the Main Motion be replaced with the following:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to evaluate the Jericho Little League (JLL) proposal in accordance with the Park Board's Unsolicited Proposal Process, clarifying whether it qualifies as a Tier 1 ($\leq \$200k$ construction) or Tier 2 project, and ensuring alignment with the Board's established policies on community amenities, partnerships, sponsorships, and donations;
- B. FURTHER THAT staff assess the proposal's consistency with the Park Board's VanPlay Framework, and the Sport Field Strategy priorities, equitable access, community benefit, including:
 - i. Direction 5, Action C – Sustainable funding source to support minor upgrades; and
 - ii. Direction 5, Action J – Implementation of enhanced amenities;
- C. AND FURTHER THAT staff report back by Q2 2026 with recommended next steps.

Amendment to the Amendment

MOVED by Commissioner Christensen

SECONDED by Commissioner Jensen

THAT Item C of the Amendment be amended to:

- C. AND FURTHER THAT staff report back in the next Unsolicited Proposal Process (UPP) report back to the Board.

CARRIED

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

Opposed: Commissioner Haer

Abstained: Commissioner Virdi

Question on the Amendment, as Amended

THAT the Main Motion be replaced with the following:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to evaluate the Jericho Little League (JLL) proposal in accordance with the Park Board's Unsolicited Proposal Process, clarifying whether it qualifies as a Tier 1 (\leq \$200k construction) or Tier 2 project, and ensuring alignment with the Board's established policies on community amenities, partnerships, sponsorships, and donations;
- B. FURTHER THAT staff assess the proposal's consistency with the Park Board's VanPlay Framework, and the Sport Field Strategy priorities, equitable access, community benefit, including:
 - i. Direction 5, Action C – Sustainable funding source to support minor upgrades; and
 - ii. Direction 5, Action J – Implementation of enhanced amenities;
- C. AND FURTHER THAT staff report back in the next Unsolicited Proposal Process (UPP) report back to the Board.

CARRIED

In favour: Commissioners Bastyovanszky, Christensen, Digby, Jensen

Opposed: Commissioners Haer, Howard, Virdi

Question on the Main Motion, as Amended

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to evaluate the Jericho Little League (JLL) proposal in accordance with the Park Board's Unsolicited Proposal Process, clarifying whether it qualifies as a Tier 1 (\leq \$200k construction) or Tier 2 project, and ensuring alignment with the Board's established policies on community amenities, partnerships, sponsorships, and donations;
- B. FURTHER THAT staff assess the proposal's consistency with the Park Board's VanPlay Framework, and the Sport Field Strategy priorities, equitable access, community benefit, including:
 - i. Direction 5, Action C – Sustainable funding source to support minor upgrades; and
 - ii. Direction 5, Action J – Implementation of enhanced amenities;
- C. AND FURTHER THAT staff report back in the next Unsolicited Proposal Process (UPP) report back to the Board.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Recess

The meeting recessed at 8:21 pm and reconvened at 8:30 pm.

2. Potential Disqualification of Commissioner Howard

Commissioner Bastyovanszky introduced the motion and responded to questions from the Board Committee.

The Board Committee heard from six speakers, of which five spoke in support and one spoke in opposition to the Member's Motion. The speakers responded to questions from Commissioners.

Motion to Extend

MOVED by Commissioner Christensen

SECONDED by Commissioner Jensen

THAT the meeting be extended to the conclusion of the discussion of the item titled "T100 Vancouver Multisport Festival Triathlon – Special Event".

CARRIED

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

Opposed: Commissioner Howard

Abstained: Commissioner Haer

Main Motion

MOVED by Commissioner Bastyovanszky

SECONDED by Commissioner Digby

WHEREAS:

1. Section 144 of the *Vancouver Charter* provides that a Commissioner who is absent from meetings of the Board for a period of 60 consecutive days or four regularly scheduled meetings, whichever is the longer time period, without leave of the Board ceases to hold office;
2. Commissioner Howard has missed three consecutive Board meetings on three separate occasions, placing her one meeting short of the threshold for disqualification under Section 144 of the *Vancouver Charter*;
3. Commissioner Howard has been absent without leave from 60% of Board meetings in 2025 missing 6 of 10 meetings, her recorded absences for 2025 are:

- January 20, 2025 - Absent	- May 12, 2025 - Absent
- February 3, 2025 - Absent	- June 2, 2025 - Absent
- February 24, 2025 - Absent	- June 16, 2025 - Absent

4. Commissioner Howard was absent from the following consecutive regular meetings of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation without leave in 2025:
 - May 12, 2025
 - June 16, 2025
 - June 2, 2025
5. Commissioner Howard was recorded as absent for a portion of the meeting on April 14, 2025, which may constitute a fourth consecutive absence and requires a legal opinion; and
6. Commissioner Marie-Claire Howard has demonstrated a consistent pattern of absenteeism, lack of transparency, and disregard for obligations under the Vancouver Charter, raising serious questions about her capacity to serve in public office.

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.

Amendment to the Main Motion

MOVED by Commissioner Digby

SECONDED by Commissioner Christensen

THAT the Main Motion be replaced with the following:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation reaffirm that Commissioners are expected to attend all Board or Board Committee meetings, in person or by electronic attendance, otherwise a Leave of Absence is required; and

FURTHER THAT The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation implement a process for requesting Board permission for electronic attendance, as proposed in the March 8, 2021 report to the Board ("Park Board Procedure By-law Update – Report Back"), and that without such permission a Commissioner will be deemed absent from the Board or Board Committee meeting;

- B. THAT the Board request that the City review the actions taken by Commissioner Howard in regards to the Conflict of Interest provisions of *Vancouver Charter* Sections 145.2-145.5, or other sections, noting in particular that Commissioner Howard:
 - i. Attended, participated and voted on a motion in which she had a pecuniary interest in at the Board Meeting of September 16, 2025; and is again attending and participating in this motion tonight and still has not recognized or declared her ongoing Conflict of Interest in these proceedings;
 - ii. By email to all Commissioners dated September 9, 2025, sought to influence Commissioners' views of this motion;
 - iii. By filing a complaint with the Integrity Commissioner, sought to have certain Commissioners deemed ineligible to vote on this motion; and

- iv. Any other actions of Commissioner Howard as may be revealed by due investigation; and
- C. FURTHER THAT if such actions are deemed to have disqualified Commissioner Howard from holding office under Section 38(2) of the *Vancouver Charter*, that the Park Board request the City make an application to the courts for declaration of disqualification of Commissioner Howard under Section 142.1(1) of the *Vancouver Charter*.

Amendment to the Main Motion

MOVED by Commissioner Haer
SECONDED by Commissioner Virdi

THAT the Main Motion be replaced with the following:

- A. The motion titled “Potential Disqualification of Commissioner Howard” submitted on July 21, 2025, be struck from the public record as redundant, procedurally improper, and inconsistent with the intent of Section 144 of the *Vancouver Charter*;
- B. The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation affirm its commitment to compassion, dignity, and due process in all matters relating to Commissioners’ attendance and personal circumstances;
- C. The Board recognize that compassion and humanity must guide our actions, particularly when a Commissioner is experiencing profound personal loss, such as the passing of a parent; and
- D. Any future attendance or conduct concerns be referred in camera to legal counsel and the General Manager for confidential consideration prior to any public discussion or motion.

DEFEATED

In favour: Commissioners Haer, Howard, Virdi

Opposed: Commissioners Bastyovanszky, Christensen, Digby, Jensen

Amendment to the Main Motion

THAT the Main Motion be replaced with the following:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation reaffirm that Commissioners are expected to attend all Board or Board Committee meetings, in person or by electronic attendance, otherwise a Leave of Absence is required; and

FURTHER THAT The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation implement a process for requesting Board permission for electronic attendance, as proposed in the March 8, 2021 report to the Board (“Park Board Procedure By-law Update – Report Back”), and that without such permission a Commissioner will be deemed absent from the Board or Board Committee meeting;

- B. THAT the Board request that the City review the actions taken by Commissioner Howard in regards to the Conflict of Interest provisions of *Vancouver Charter* Sections 145.2-145.5, or other sections, noting in particular that Commissioner Howard:
- i. Attended, participated and voted on a motion in which she had a pecuniary interest in at the Board Meeting of September 16, 2025; and is again attending and participating in this motion tonight and still has not recognized or declared her ongoing Conflict of Interest in these proceedings;
 - ii. By email to all Commissioners dated September 9, 2025, sought to influence Commissioners' views of this motion;
 - iii. By filing a complaint with the Integrity Commissioner, sought to have certain Commissioners deemed ineligible to vote on this motion; and
 - iv. Any other actions of Commissioner Howard as may be revealed by due investigation; and
- C. FURTHER THAT if such actions are deemed to have disqualified Commissioner Howard from holding office under Section 38(2) of the *Vancouver Charter*, that the Park Board request the City make an application to the courts for declaration of disqualification of Commissioner Howard under Section 142.1(1) of the *Vancouver Charter*.

CARRIED

In favour: Commissioners Bastyovanszky, Christensen, Digby, Jensen

Opposed: Commissioners Haer, Howard, Virdi

Question on the Main Motion, as Amended

- A. THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation reaffirm that Commissioners are expected to attend all Board or Board Committee meetings, in person or by electronic attendance, otherwise a Leave of Absence is required; and

FURTHER THAT The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation implement a process for requesting Board permission for electronic attendance, as proposed in the March 8, 2021 report to the Board ("Park Board Procedure By-law Update – Report Back"), and that without such permission a Commissioner will be deemed absent from the Board or Board Committee meeting;

- B. THAT the Board request that the City review the actions taken by Commissioner Howard in regards to the Conflict of Interest provisions of *Vancouver Charter* Sections 145.2-145.5, or other sections, noting in particular that Commissioner Howard:
- i. Attended, participated and voted on a motion in which she had a pecuniary interest in at the Board Meeting of September 16, 2025; and is again attending and participating in this motion tonight and still has not recognized or declared her ongoing Conflict of Interest in these proceedings;
 - ii. By email to all Commissioners dated September 9, 2025, sought to influence Commissioners' views of this motion;

- iii. By filing a complaint with the Integrity Commissioner, sought to have certain Commissioners deemed ineligible to vote on this motion; and
 - iv. Any other actions of Commissioner Howard as may be revealed by due investigation; and
- C. FURTHER THAT if such actions are deemed to have disqualified Commissioner Howard from holding office under Section 38(2) of the *Vancouver Charter*, that the Park Board request the City make an application to the courts for declaration of disqualification of Commissioner Howard under Section 142.1(1) of the *Vancouver Charter*.

CARRIED

In favour: Commissioners Bastyovanszky, Christensen, Digby, Jensen

Opposed: Commissioners Haer, Howard, Virdi

STAFF REPORTS

Agenda Varied

The order of the agenda was varied to consider Item 3 prior to Item 1.

3. T100 Vancouver Multisport Festival Triathlon – Special Event

The Director, Business Services, introduced the item. The Associate Director, Business Development, and Operations Manager, Filming and Special Events, jointly reviewed a presentation regarding the proposed addition to the annual Calendar of Major Special Events and highlighted:

- Successful execution of the inaugural 2024 event
- Proposed event dates of August 14 to 16, 2026 and mid-August thereafter.

Following the presentation, staff and the event organizers responded to questions and comments related to the preference for August dates from an international competition perspective.

The Board Committee heard from seven speakers, all of whom spoke in support of the staff recommendation. The speakers responded to questions from Commissioners.

Main Motion

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen

SECONDED by Commissioner Virdi

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board receive for information the report back on the 2025 T100 Vancouver Multisport Festival Triathlon as outlined in this report; and
- B. THAT the Board approve the addition of the T100 Vancouver Multisport Festival Triathlon to the annual Calendar of Major Special Events starting in 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Agenda Varied

The order of the agenda was resumed.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 10:51 pm and reconvened on October 7, 2025 at 6:39 pm.

1. Imagine West End Waterfront Vision: Alternative Phase 1 – Report Back

The Director, Park Planning and Development introduced the item. Planner III and Planner II, jointly reviewed the presentation regarding the recommendation to begin detailed design work for Alexandra Park, as the first phase of Imagine West End Waterfront Vision implementation.

Following the presentation, staff responded to questions related to:

- The determination of playground deficiency
- Confirmation that there are no plans to demolish the Haywood band stand
- Whether the project will include changes to south of Alexandra Park toward the English Bay bath house
- Suggestion to undertake consultation specifically on Alexandra Park to ensure it meets the needs of local residents
- Concern regarding interface with Beach Avenue and the attendant liability risk:
 - Whether there is an option to make the Beach Avenue more pedestrian friendly to mitigate the risk
- Confirmation that a request for the cost of construction will be included in the next capital request.

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen

SECONDED by Commissioner Digby

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to begin detailed design work for Alexandra Park, as the first phase of Imagine West End Waterfront Vision implementation, as described in this report.

CARRIED

In favour: Commissioners Bastovanszky, Christensen, Digby, Jensen

Opposed: Commissioners Haer, Howard, Viridi

2. Procurement Policy Update – Report Back

The Board Committee heard from one speaker, who spoke in opposition to the staff recommendation. The speaker responded to questions from Commissioners.

MOVED by Commissioner Virdi
SECONDED by Commissioner Christensen

THAT the Committee recommend to the Board:

THAT the Board of Parks and Recreation approve amendments to the Park Board Procurement Policy as described in this Report and attached as Appendix A, which includes changes to delegated authorities (also referred to as "Standing Authorities") for procurement;

FURTHER THAT this amended policy supersedes the existing Park Board Procurement Policy.

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

Opposed: Commissioner Haer

Abstained: Commissioner Howard

The Committee meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

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Steve Jackson
General Manager

Commissioner Scott Jensen
Chair