

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD AT THE VANCOUVER PARK BOARD OFFICE
ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2008**

PRESENT:	Chair	- Korina Houghton
	Vice-Chair	- Ian Robertson
	Commissioners	- Allan De Genova
		- Loretta Woodcock
	General Manager	- Susan Mundick
	Director of Vancouver East District	- Liane McKenna
	Director of Stanley District	- Peter Kuran
	Director of Queen Elizabeth District	- Lori MacKay
	Director of Planning Operations	- Pieter Rutgers
	Director of Special Projects	- Jim Lowden
	Manager of Business Development	- Octavio Silva
	Senior Business Analyst	- Meg Elliott
	Special Events Coordinator	- Daisy Chin
	Arborist	- Bill Stephen
	Manager of Communications	- Joyce Courtney
	Recorder	- Julie Casanova

Commissioners Herbert, Holden and Zlotnik were absent from the meeting.

The Chair recognized Commissioners-Elect Barnes, Jasper, Hundal, Mackinnon and Blyth.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Board held on Monday, October 27, 2008 were adopted as circulated.

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair reported on the artists' reception held last week for the Stanley Park Environmental Art Project.

COMMITTEE REPORT

There was no committee report.

STAFF REPORTS

2009 Fees and Charges

Board members received copies of a staff report dated November 12, 2008 recommending that the Board receive the report for information and approve the adjustments as detailed in Appendix A.

Moved by Commissioner Robertson,

THAT the Board receive for information the 2009 Fees and Charges and approve the adjustments as detailed in Appendix A.

Staff advised the Board that under the Global Budget arrangement the Board is expected to balance the budget and adjust fees and charges to address cost increases due to inflation. Working in consultation with the City's Finance staff and allowing for wage increases from the collective agreement, fuel and utility cost increases and supplies and services, the City's inflationary cost increase for 2009 is estimated to be 4%. In order to cover the 4% inflation the Board would need to generate \$1.5 million more than the 2008 budget level in 2009. Feedback from the public consultation on a proposed change in the Fees and Charges policy was mixed and in order to provide the public with more opportunities to give feedback, staff will continue the public consultation regarding potential changes to the Board's Fees and Charges policy. The proposed 2009 Fees and Charges are consistent with the Board's policy to address inflationary increases and market rates in 2009.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Eleanor Hadley
- Sharon Urton
- Sean Smith

The following is a summary of comments provided by the foregoing delegations:

- opposed to increase in fees for children and seniors;
- parks are for everyone without discrimination based on income;

- concerned with short time line for public participation;
- opposed to the reduction of discount to seniors;
- need to provide a higher discount to youth;
- VACNet work with youth and provide early intervention by getting them into community centres for activities;

- opposed to fee increase for Burrard Marina;
- there is no discount for seniors using Burrard Marina;
- increasing fees to cover operating costs does not make sense;

- the fees structure needs to be examined;
- hoped the upgrades and repairs would be included in the Capital Plan, instead a study is being recommended;
- need to have a better communication system as many owners do not use the marina in the winter.

Board members discussed the report and a member of the Board stated that she would like to encourage youth participation and would like to put forward an amendment to the motion.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

**THAT the following be inserted after Appendix A:
“and approve an increase in youth discount by 5% up to 30%.”**

- Carried Unanimously.

The main motion as amended was put forward as follows:

THAT the Board receive for information the 2009 Fees and Charges and approve the adjustments as detailed in Appendix A and approve an increase in youth discount by 5% up to 30%.

- Carried Unanimously.

Stanley Park Forest Management Plan

Board members received copies of a staff report dated November 14, 2008 recommending that the Board receive the progress report for information.

Staff advised the Board that the Stanley Park Forest Management Plan does not deal with the policy of park use but is aimed at the current and future forest management. The plan is a two part document with the first part being the philosophy of forest management process and the second part covers a season by season and year by year guide to the forestry staff outlining the type of work programs required and an assessment of the workforce. The next steps are to review the documents with the environmental organizations which have been involved in the Stanley Park Restoration project, including Parks Canada. A final document will be brought to the Board in the spring.

Board members thanked staff for developing the forest management plan which will guide the management of the Stanley Park forest for the next ten years.

Moved by Commissioner De Genova,

THAT the Board receive this progress report for information and direct staff to seek community input on the Forest Management Plan.

- Carried Unanimously.

Award of Concession to Manage and Operate the Celebration Pavilion at Queen Elizabeth Park

Board members received copies of a staff report dated November 12, 2008 recommending that the Board approve Recommendations A, B and C.

Staff advised the Board that prior to the completion of the Celebration Pavilion, a request for proposal was prepared to manage the pavilion. The first event was held in March 2007. Due to the work stoppage, a new call for proposal was delayed to the end of 2007. CUPE Local 15 has expressed concern with the staff recommendations as they felt that the Board has not met the requirements of Clause 11.7 of the Collective Agreement and communicated to the Union. Staff responded that there were no positions established to operate the pavilion. Auxiliary employees were deployed in a flexible manner to make rental bookings for use of the pavilion. Therefore, there is no change in wage rates, workload or reduction of employment and clause 11.7 of the Collective Agreement does not apply.

An RFP process was conducted to recruit an operator for the Celebration Pavilion at Queen Elizabeth Park. The Pavilion has been operated by the Park Board since its opening and is projected to generate an operating surplus of approximately \$80,000 in 2008, however, future revenue growth and enhanced financial performance will require additional resources and investment including dedicated resources for event planning and marketing for weddings, memorials and corporate events. A potential proponent, Chapel Enterprises is being recommended based on their present performance and the financial return to the Board. Chapel Enterprises plans to invest an estimated \$100,000 to \$150,000 to construct a bride's room, storage room and on-site catering support infrastructure, new furniture and décor supplies and other facility upgrades as required.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Allan and Betty Burnett, operators of The Chapel at Stanley Park
- Paul Faoro and Betty McGee, CUPE Local 15

The following is a summary of comments provided by the foregoing delegations:

- reviewed the history of their organization;
- they also operate the Minoru Chapel in the City of Richmond;
- their business provides all inclusive services for weddings, memorials and corporate events;
- staff provided wrong answer regarding clause 11.7 of the Collective Agreement;
- this report came to the attention of the union on Friday afternoon;
- would like more time to read and provide input;
- will proceed with a Grievance;
- how can you approve an operator without knowing what their charges will be;
- Board will lose complete control of the facility;
- giving an operator the use of a \$1.4 million facility paid by the citizens is not acceptable.

Board members discussed the report and stated that the Board does not have the expertise to provide the services proposed by the proponent. There is no risk to the Board, the capital expenditures will be provided by the operator and will bring in additional revenue for the Board. A member of the Board enquired about the funding for the Celebration Pavilion. Staff advised the Board that the facility was funded by a loan from the Corporate Sponsorship and Donations Account. A member of the Board stated that she will not support the recommendation as the issue of clause 11.7 remains unresolved.

Moved by Commissioner De Genova,

- A. THAT The Chapel at Stanley Park Enterprises Inc. be granted approval to manage and operate the Celebration Pavilion at Queen Elizabeth Park for a 5-year term with an option to renew for up to an additional 5-years.**
- B. THAT no legal rights shall arise and no consents, permissions or licenses are granted hereby and none shall arise or be granted hereafter unless and until all contemplated legal documentation has been executed and delivered by all parties.**
- C. THAT once the form of all legal documentation has been approved by the General Manager and the Director of Legal Services for the City of Vancouver, that the General Manager be authorized to execute and deliver such documentation on behalf of the Board.**

- Carried.

(Commissioner Woodcock contrary)

The Board meeting was on put hold at 8:32 p.m. as Commissioner Woodcock left the room and there was no quorum.

The Board meeting reconvened at 8:40 p.m. upon Commissioner Woodcock's return.

Bell Mobility Proposal – Cellular Enhancements for Killarney and Trout Lake Ice Rinks

Board members received copies of a staff report dated November 13, 2008 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A and B.

Staff advised the Board that Bell Mobility has been contracted by VANOC to provide enhanced cellular coverage inside Trout Lake and Killarney ice rinks. Bell has approached staff with a proposal to have these enhanced features remain in the facilities after the Olympic use is over. Staff has negotiated with Bell Mobility to have the equipment remain in place for a term of up to 10 years at a fee of \$6,000 per year with an annual minimum 3% increase.

Keith Jacobson, President of Killarney Community Centre appeared before the Board and stated that he was concerned with the lack of communication with the community regarding this project. He asked the Board to postpone the report for a community consultation as there are many questions yet to be answered such as cellular effects on health.

Board members discussed the report and a member of the Board enquired what the time frame was for the letter of understanding. Staff advised the Board that Bell Mobility would like to have the Letter of Understanding executed by the end of the year as construction of the facility will be completed in the spring of 2009.

A member of the Board stated that she was concerned with the lack of community consultation.

Moved by Commissioner Robertson,

- A. That the Board approve a Letter of Understanding and subsequently a License Agreement with Bell Mobility based on the terms identified in this report.**
- B. That, once the form of all legal documentation has been approved by the General Manager and the Director of Legal Services for the City of Vancouver, the General Manager be authorized to execute and deliver such documentation on behalf of the Board.**

- Carried.

(Commissioner Woodcock contrary)

2009 Special Events

Board members received copies of a staff report dated November 13, 2008 recommending that the Board approve Recommendations A and B.

Staff advised the Board that the Scotia Bank ½ Marathon on June 28, 2008 and the Vancouver Pride Festival on August 2 are in the third year of their operations. Board approval is required for major special events for the first three years of an event's operation. In addition the 2009 World Police and Fire Games organizers are requesting various locations including Stanley Park, Spanish Banks and Jericho Park. Staff will bring a report to the Board as further details are confirmed for this event.

Board members discussed the report and asked staff to include Tourism Vancouver on the stakeholders list so that information such as park and road closure can be provided to visitors.

Moved by Commissioner Robertson,

- A. THAT the Board approve the following changes to existing major events with Scotia Bank ½ Marathon June 28, 2009; Vancouver Pride Society August 2, 2009, as outlined in the report. All arrangements will be to the satisfaction of the General Manager;**
- B. THAT the Board receive the 2009 Calendar of Major Events as information.**

- Carried Unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Susan Mundick
General Manager

Commissioner Korina Houghton
Chair