

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD AT MOUNT PLEASANT COMMUNITY CENTRE
ON MONDAY, JUNE 01, 2009**

PRESENT:	Chair	- Raj Hundal
	Vice Chair	- Loretta Woodcock
	Commissioners	- Sarah Blyth
		- Aaron Jasper
		- Stuart Mackinnon
		- Ian Robertson
	General Manager	- Susan Mundick
	Director of Planning & Operations	- Piet Rutgers
	Director of Vancouver East District	- Liane McKenna
	Director of Emergency Management(City)	- Kevin Wallinger
	Senior Business Analyst	- Meg Elliott
	Manager of Communications	- Joyce Courtney
	Recorder	- Julie Casanova

Commissioner Barnes was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on Monday, May 04, 2009 were adopted as amended.

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair reported on a number of community events: the opening of Ebisu Park and the Anniversary Garden at Dunbar Community Centre; Keep Vancouver Spectacular Cleanup, Komagatu Maru candlelight vigil and the opening of Ken's Kitchen at Kitsilano War Memorial Community Centre.

PRESENTATION

Kevin Wallinger, Director of Emergency Management Program gave a presentation on the overview of responsibilities on emergency management, the legislation and authorities, emergency management pillars, the British Columbia Emergency Response Management System, emergency management in Vancouver and the Role of the Park Board.

OPEN QUESTION PERIOD

Keith Jacobson, President, Killarney Community Centre Association, asked the Board to place the Seniors' Centre as a high priority project on the infrastructure program list. He stated that from past experience the Federal Government does not consider projects not on the priority list. The delegation was advised that the Seniors' Centre was not on the Capital Plan and in order to qualify for the infrastructure funding, projects must be shovel ready.

Keith Tropp questioned if it was necessary to have a community centre to have a pool, he cited the example of New Brighton Pool which does not have a community centre attached. The delegation was advised that the infrastructure supporting Mount Pleasant Pool were within the confines of the community centre, therefore, when the community centre is taken away, the key elements to support the pool will no longer exist.

Margery Duda, Mount Pleasant Pool Community and a member of the Mount Pleasant Community Centre Association Board presented additional support letters and petition signatures requesting the retention of the pool. She referred to a consultant's study on aquatics and questioned why elements of the documents were not changed to reflect the Board's motion of 2005. The delegation was advised that the Board's motion is part of the record, however, the original document cannot be changed.

Rosemary Cornell stated that the \$1 million allocated for the demolition of the community centre should be re-allocated to be used for the retention of the building. The delegation was advised that the funds were Development Cost Levies monies and can only be used for park acquisition and development.

Anita Romaniuk, former Park Commissioner and a member of the Mount Pleasant Pool Committee stated that the community was willing to fund raise for a new pool but needs cooperation from the Park Board.

Marnie Rogers, a member of the Pool Committee asked the Board to retain the Mount Pleasant Community Centre building as a community hall administered by the Mount Pleasant Centre at #1 Kingsway. The building is too valuable to lose and the Board should work with the community in fundraising.

Alexander Burton thanked the Board for bringing the Board meeting into the community. He stated that the pool and community centre was an integral part of the community and the Board should make the commitment to keep the pool.

Judy Pigott representing the art groups would like the Board to consider converting the building for use by artists. They have been working with the Pool Committee and the Mount Pleasant Board and need time to do a feasibility study.

Vanessa Valini asked the Board to commit to retain the community centre building and assist in fundraising.

The General Manager advised the Board that there were numerous public consultations and meetings in 2001 when the decision to build a new community centre was made. The location and accessibility of the new community centre were important elements for the new building. Staff's recommendations to the Board are based on technical advice and the best interest of the overall community.

Nicole Oliver, a member of the Mount Pleasant Community Association stated that since the last consultation in 2001 there has been a large change and the Board needs to change with the times. There need to be an agreed upon process and to know the Board is working with the community.

Jeff Rogden stated that they already have a pool, they are not asking for anything new, so money should be committed to the pool. Other communities who do not have a pool will not be asking for a pool.

Gary Richmond, a member of the Mount Pleasant Association Board stated that they never wanted to leave the site, but wanted to have a satellite site in north east Mount Pleasant. The Board should put this project on the capital plan and start the process of building a new pool at this or another site.

Nancy A. Chiavario, President, Mount Pleasant Community Association stated that there had been interest since 2005 on how to use the building once the community centre was moved to the new site. They gym and racquet courts are still usable and can continue to be used, but there has always been the message that there is no use for this site. There has been no effort to work together. The Mount Pleasant Community Association is spending \$2 million to build the new childcare facility and cannot afford to keep this building going.

Gavin Ross, was a member of the Mount Pleasant Community Association for fifteen years but has recently stepped down as he does not agree the Association should support the portable for a childcare facility. The community wants the building to remain and a member of the Board had indicated that the pool and community centre will be saved.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Planning and Environment Committee : the Committee discussed the Vanier Park BMX Proposal, VanDusen Gardens Development Permit and Preliminary List of Infrastructure Projects.

Services and Budgets Committee: the Committee discussed the Strategic Plan-City and Park Board Process, Bottled Water and 2009 Operating Budget April Statement.

City Council Report

The General Manger advised the Board that Park Board related items on Council's agenda were the Olympic Legacy Reserve Project – David Lam Park Permanent Power, 2009 Basic Capital Budget and Closeouts, Northeast False Creek Direction for the Future (Part 1) and Municipal Ticket Information Pilot Project.

STAFF REPORTS

Financial Statements to March 31, 2009

Board members received copies of a staff report dated May 19, 2009 recommending that the Board receive this report for information.

Staff reviewed the Financial Statements to March 31, 2009 and stated that the Board has spent about 28% of its budget. In looking at the detail compared to 2008, expenses are down \$100,000 from the previous year, while revenues are down \$250,000. This statement was also provided to the Services and Budgets Committee meeting at its meeting in April and the Committee directed staff to closely monitor the budget and requested that staff look at areas for potential cost savings which could be implemented to offset the revenue shortfall. There was a net increase in the Donation Program and the Stanley Park Restoration Project has a balance of \$1,293,681 remaining in the fund to complete the restoration and legacy work for Stanley Park.

Board members discussed the financial statement and a member of the Board stated that she was worried with the revenue in March and thanked staff for the hard work to stay on budget.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

THAT the Board receive this report for information.

- Carried Unanimously.

Yaletown Park – Temporary Installation “Light the City”

Board members received copies of a staff report dated May 20, 2009 recommending that the Board approve the use of Yaletown Park for a temporary light installation as part of the City's “Light the City” program during the 2010 Winter Olympic Games.

Staff advised the Board that the City's Office of Olympic and Paralympic Operations are requesting Council to approve funding for a “Light the City” project, a nightly celebration of light and colour to welcome residents and visitors in the Downtown

area during the 2010 Winter Olympics. One of the proposed sites for this program is Yaletown Park at the corner of Nelson and Mainland Streets, adjacent to one of the designated pedestrian corridors.

Board members discussed the report and stated that it would be interesting to have the live sites connected.

Moved by Commissioner Jasper,

THAT the Board approve the use of Yaletown Park for a temporary light installation as part of the City's "Light the City" program during the 2010 Winter Olympic Games.

- Carried Unanimously.

Brockton Point Addition Contract Award

Board members received copies of a staff report dated May 22, 2009 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to D.

Staff advised the Board that an expansion of the Brockton Point Visitor Centre was approved with 2/3 funding from the Lessee and 1/3 from the Corporate Sponsorship Fund. An expression of interest from general contractors was advertised and a short list of three contractors were pre-qualified to tender the Brockton Point Project.

Board members discussed the report and stated that this would be an improvement for residents and visitors. A member of the Board thanked the lessee, Destination Canada for making the renovation which will improve his business and bring additional revenue to the Board.

Moved by Commissioner Mackinnon,

- A. THAT, subject to Recommendations B, C and D, the Board enter into a contract with Stuart Olson Constructors Inc. in the amount of \$722,000, plus GST, for Brockton Point Visitor Centre Addition as detailed in this report;**
- B. THAT the contract be on the terms and conditions outlined in this report and on such other terms and conditions as are approved by the General Manager of the Park Board in consultation with the Director of Legal Services;**
- C. THAT, upon approval of the contract by the General Manager of the Park Board in consultation with the Director of Legal Services, the General Manager of the Park Board be authorized to execute the contract on behalf of the Board;**

- D. THAT no legal rights shall arise hereby, and none shall arise until execution of the contemplated contract, and the Board reserves the right to rescind this resolution at any time up to the execution and delivery of the contemplated contract by the General Manager of the Park Board.**

- Carried Unanimously.

Oppenheimer Park Redevelopment Contract Award

Board members received copies of a staff report dated May 22, 2009 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to E.

Staff advised the Board that a revised concept plan for the redevelopment of Oppenheimer Park and a new fieldhouse was approved by the Board in July 2008. An expression of interest from general contractors was advertised and a short list of five contractors were pre-qualified to tender the Oppenheimer Park project.

Board members discussed the report and stated that the community are involved with the renovations and looking forward to the opening of the new Oppenheimer park.

Moved by Commissioner Blyth,

- A. THAT, subject to Recommendations B, C, D and E, the Board enter into a contract with Bynett Construction Services Ltd. in the amount of \$1,804,500, plus GST, for the construction of a new fieldhouse and redevelopment of Oppenheimer Park as detailed in this report;**
- B. THAT the contract be on the terms and conditions outlined in this report and on such other terms and conditions as are approved by the General Manager of the Park Board in consultation with the Director of Legal Services;**
- C. THAT, upon approval of the contract by the General Manager of the Park Board in consultation with the Director of Legal Services, the General Manager of the Park Board be authorized to execute the contract on behalf of the Board;**
- D. THAT no legal rights shall arise hereby, and none shall arise until execution of the contemplated contract, and the Board reserves the right to rescind this resolution at any time up to the execution and delivery of the contemplated contract by the General Manager of the Park Board; and**

- E. THAT the contract be awarded subject to City Council approving the Park Board 2009 Capital Budget.**

- Carried Unanimously.

Emery Barnes Park Phase Two Construction Contract Award

Board members received copies of a staff report dated May 22, 2009 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A to D.

Staff advised the Board that prior to construction of Phase Two of Emery Barnes Park, the Board and City are closing and consolidating the laneway and converting all existing overhead utility services within the lane corridor to underground, demolition of buildings along Seymour Street and an environmental site investigation of the Seymour properties. Phase Two of the project will be implemented in two stages as the building on the corner of Davie and Seymour Streets is still occupied by two tenants who have leases until 2010.

Board members discussed the report and congratulated staff on their vision to acquire land at this site. The area is going through a change and a larger park will be great addition for the neighbourhood.

Moved by Commissioner Robertson,

- A. THAT, subject to Recommendations B, C and D, the Board enter into a contract with Cedar Crest Lands (BC) Ltd. in the amount of \$1,326,861.30 plus GST, for landscape construction services for Phase Two of Emery Barnes Park as detailed in this report;**
- B. THAT the contract be on the terms and conditions outlined in this report and on such other terms and conditions as are approved by the General Manager of the Park Board in consultation with the Director of Legal Services;**
- C. THAT, upon approval of the contract by the General Manager of the Park Board in consultation with the Director of Legal Services, the General Manager of the Park Board be authorized to execute the contract on behalf of the Board;**
- D. THAT no legal rights shall arise hereby, and none shall arise until execution of the contemplated contract, and the Board reserves the right to rescind this resolution at any time up to the execution and delivery of the contemplated contract by the General manager of the Park Board.**

- Carried Unanimously.

Enquiries, Other Matters and New Business

The Chair asked the Board for consent to put his name forward as the Board's representative on the PNE Board. Board members were assured that he would not make any decision at the PNE Board without consulting the Board. There was general consensus to nominate the Chair to the PNE Board and request that City Council affirm by appointment.

A member of the Board requested a status update regarding the Hollow Tree. The General Manager advised the Board that the group was in the process of raising funds and planning logistics. The Board requested a status report from the Hollow Tree Society.

A member of the Board enquired about the next steps for Trillium Park now that pre-loading is complete. Staff advised the Board that we were working with the Province on soil issues and once cleared, a report will be brought to the Board.

MOTION

Moved by Commissioner Jasper,

WHEREAS the Park Board at its regular meeting of May 4, 2009 approved a 2009 Capital Budget of \$66,635,600, including full allocations to fund the post-Olympic conversion of the Hillcrest Curling Venue, the renewal of Trout Lake Community Centre and buildings at VanDusen Botanical Garden;

AND WHEREAS a report before Council for its June 2, 2009 meeting recommends a revised 2009 Parks Basic Capital Budget of \$30,410,000, including planning/phase 1 funding only for the three major projects listed above, rather than allocation of the entire 3 year Capital Plan amount in the first year;

AND WHEREAS the Capital Budget approved by Park Board is based upon the 2009 – 2011 Capital Plan for parks and recreation, approved by the electorate in November 2008 after a clear and thorough public process and including significant contributions from external sources, including senior governments;

BE IT RESOLVED that Park Board urge Council to support its commitment to the community to complete three major capital projects in a timely manner, and approve the 2009 Capital Budget of \$66,635,600 as originally approved by the Board.

Board members discussed the motion and a member of the Board stated that he did not agree that the capital budget for the Board should be phased in instead of the approved \$66 million. The Park Board has demonstrated that we complete our projects on time and we do not want to lose our autonomy. A member of the Board stated that he would support the motion and is concerned with the gradual jurisdiction take over by City Council. A member of the Board stated that the Park Board has always managed the capital plan, the people voted for the capital plan for the Park Board and we do not want to have to go to Council for approval of spending on individual projects.

The motion was put forward and it was Carried Unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:39 p.m.

Susan Mundick
General Manager

Commissioner Raj Hundal
Chair