

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD AT THE PARK BOARD OFFICE
ON MONDAY, MARCH 01, 2010**

PRESENT:	Chair	- Aaron Jasper
	Vice Chair	- Sarah Blyth
	Commissioners	- Constance Barnes
		- Raj Hundal
		- Stuart Mackinnon
		- Ian Robertson
		- Loretta Woodcock
	Acting General Manager	- Peter Kuran
	Director of Vancouver East District	- Liane McKenna
	Director of Planning and Operations	- Piet Rutgers
	Co-Acting Director of Stanley District	- Philip Josephs
	Co-Acting Director of Stanley District	- Thomas Soulliere
	Acting Director of Queen Elizabeth District	- Diane Murphy
	Manager of Business Development	- Octavio Silva
	Manager of Communications	- Joyce Courtney
	Project Manager, Planning and Operations	- Deborah Barnes
	Recorder	- Shala Hay

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Board held on Monday, February 01, 2010 and special meeting of the Board held on Monday, February 08, 2010 were adopted as circulated.

CHAIR'S REPORT

On behalf of the Board, the Chair thanked staff for their hard work over the past few weeks during the Olympic Games.

The Chair reported on several events that occurred during the past month, these included: the Community Happenings Festival at Sunset Community Centre; IOC special guests tour of Stanley Park; welcoming of the Olympic Torch Relay at the Inukshuk; taping of The Colbert Report program with Steven Colbert at Creekside Park; Vancouver House receptions at LiveCity Yaletown; Oslo Flag Farewell Ceremony at City Hall; viewing of the Closing Ceremony at LiveCity Yaletown; and attainment of the Wood First Champions Awards for the construction of Trout Lake Rink and Hillcrest Aquatic Centre.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Since the last Board meeting the Services and Budgets and the Planning and Environment Committees have not met. Their next meetings will be as follows: Services and Budgets, March 16, 2010; Planning and Environment, April 08, 2010.

City Council Report

Today at a Special Standing Committee meeting the Vancouver Sport Hosting Grant Allocations were approved by Council.

PRESENTATION

2009 Bright Nights at Stanley Park - BC Professional Fire Fighters' Burn Fund

The Chair acknowledged that the partnership between the Board and the Fire Fighters' Burn Fund is now in its 12th year. This year there was a record attendance of over 107,000 visitors. A cheque for \$180,246.17 was presented by the Board to Ray Boucher and Terry Hughes of the BC Professional Fire Fighters' Burn Fund.

STAFF REPORTS

Concept Plan Approval -Fraserview Park Upgrade

Board members received copies of a staff report dated February 18, 2010 recommending that the Board approve the concept plan for the proposed Fraserview Park Upgrade as described in this report and illustrated in Appendix 1.

Staff presented to the Board the concept plan for the Park upgrades. This concept was preferred by the majority of respondents who participated in the public consultation process. The park is heavily used by the Fraserview Boys and Girls Club and feedback from the club was incorporated into the design concept. Following the Board's approval, the next step would be the design development stage, construction is scheduled to commence in June 2010.

Moved by Commissioner Hundal,

THAT the Board approve the concept plan for the proposed Fraserview Park Upgrade as described in this report and illustrated in Appendix 1.

-Carried Unanimously.

Stanley Park/English Bay Seawall Consultancy Contract

Board members received copies of a staff report dated February 18, 2010 recommending that the Board authorize the Acting General Manager to award the consultancy contract related to the rehabilitation of portions of the English Bay and Stanley Park seawall.

Staff advised the Board that transfer of authority to the Acting General Manager would ensure that the project moves forward in a timely manner in order to meet the stringent federal government deadline for completion and maximize the use of low tides, which is critical for this project. This authorization would prevent the project from losing two extra weeks.

Moved by Commissioner Hundal,

THAT the Board authorize the Acting General Manager to award the consultancy contract related to the rehabilitation of portions of the English Bay and Stanley Park seawall.

- Carried Unanimously.

MOTIONS

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

WHEREAS Vancouver Park Board subsidizes the annual operating budget of Bloedel Conservatory and is seeking new ways to increase revenues and reduce costs;

WHEREAS the Bloedel facility needs to review its energy strategies in order to reduce annual utility costs in excess of \$150,000;

WHEREAS while the Park Board is seeking ways to address Bloedel's operating budget through a Request for Expressions of Interest for business cases/concepts for the future use of the facility, it also simultaneously needs to seek creative solutions to locate funding to improve the building's energy efficiency;

BE IT RESOLVED that Park Board staff pursue strategies to locate incremental grant funding to improve the energy efficiency of Bloedel that includes seeking alternative energy government grants.

The following delegation requested to speak to the Board:

- Sheryl Hamilton, Friends of the Bloedel Association

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

- Thanks the Board for extending the Conservatory's closure date beyond March 1st
- Views this motion as a step forward in collaborating with the Board
- The Friends of Bloedel Association did make some contact with potential organizations for grants and would be happy to share this information with the Board

Board members discussed the motion. A Board member advised that while the Board is aggressively pursuing options to meet the operational budget, which includes a focus on energy efficiency, staff can also look into energy conservation at the Conservatory and the possibility of obtaining grants for this. Some Board members expressed concerns as to whether staff should be allocating time to this, as it is not clear if the Conservatory would remain open, the building would be saved, or the facility would continue to be used for its current purpose. At the request of the Board, staff advised that this would not be an intensive exercise but rather a matter of identifying opportunities that may arise to achieve energy efficiencies.

The motion was put forward and it was Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Commissioners Barnes,

WHEREAS the City of Vancouver has world class recreation facilities, attractions, and parks;

WHEREAS the Vancouver Park Board is committed to maintaining and improving services, concessions, and attractions in our parks and recreation facilities;

WHEREAS the Vancouver Park Board has an opportunity to explore and pursue potential new, alternative, and innovative ways to increase visitation (by existing and new users) to its unique facilities and attractions;

WHEREAS the legacy venues that will remain after the completion of the 2010 Olympic Winter Olympic Games present a potential marketing and revenue-generating opportunity;

WHEREAS tremendous expertise exists within our community stakeholders, the City's tourism/hospitality industry, and environmental partners;

WHEREAS the Vancouver Park Board is committed to engaging community stakeholders and business partners, and soliciting their ideas, input, and creative energy;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Vancouver Park Board establish a Marketing & Business Development Advisory Committee, consisting of tourism/hospitality and marketing experts as well as Park Board stakeholders, for the purpose of assisting the Park Board to identify potential new marketing and business opportunities and improved parks and recreation services.

A member of the Board stated that the motion addresses the existing need for greater promotion of parks and recreational services in the City and to find more opportunities to reach the public. The Marketing & Business Development Advisory Committee's role would be defined once the motion is approved. The next step would be to work with staff to select the ideal members and develop a structure. Several Board members recommended that the Committee serve as an advisory to the Board rather than of the Board.

The motion was put forward and it was Carried Unanimously.

Enquiries, Other Matters and New Business

A Board member acknowledged that the Friends of Bloedel Association privately funded promotional signage for the Conservatory to attract visitors during the Olympics, and thanked the Association for its endeavors.

A Board member acknowledged that the outdoor crew have already started working hard to get the parks ready for spring and summer and requested that the appreciation of the Board be conveyed to the team.

In-Camera Meeting

Moved by Commissioner Blyth,

THAT the Board later this evening go into a meeting which is closed to the public, pursuant to Section 165.2 (1) of the *Vancouver Charter*, to discuss matters related to paragraph:

- (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 Board, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the Park Board if they were held in public.**

- Carried Unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm

Peter Kuran
Acting General Manager

Commissioner Aaron Jasper
Chair