

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION
HELD AT THE PARK BOARD OFFICE
ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2009**

PRESENT:	Chair	- Raj Hundal
	Vice Chair	- Loretta Woodcock
	Commissioners	- Constance Barnes
		- Sarah Blyth
		- Aaron Jasper
		- Stuart Mackinnon
	General Manager	- Susan Mundick
	Director of Vancouver East District	- Liane McKenna
	Director of Stanley District	- Peter Kuran
	Acting Director of Queen Elizabeth District	- Diane Murphy
	Acting Director of Planning and Operations	- Danica Djurkovic
	Manager of Recreation Services	
	- Stanley District	- Thomas Soulliere
	Arts and Culture Coordinator	- jil weaving
	Manager of Communications	- Joyce Courtney
	Recorder	- Julie Casanova

Commissioner Robertson was absent as he was out of town on business.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on Monday, July 20, 2009 were adopted as circulated.

The minutes of the special meeting of the Board held on Monday, August 10, 2009 were adopted as circulated.

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair reported on the Park Board's participation in the Celebration of Lights Fireworks, the City's Pride Parade float, India Days at Sunset Community Centre and the Annual Donor Recognition event. He invited the public to attend the free skates at Killarney and Trout Lake Ice Rinks as part of the official openings. A City proclamation of "Wild Salmon Month" was read and information on the Salmon Celebration festival in Vanier Park was provided.

The Chair announced the retirement of General Manager Susan Mundick and thanked her for the many years of service to parks and recreation. The Board will be having an open recruitment and hiring process assisted by a senior staff of the City of Vancouver.

City Council Report

Council will be receiving an update on the H1N1 virus update and reports on the 2009 Provincial Budget and Infrastructure Grants.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Planning and Environment Committee: at its meeting on September 10, 2009, the Committee discussed the possibility of having Committee meetings in the community, Synturf Site Selection, Biennale Returning Art/Donation, Trout Lake Community Centre Development Permit/Design, Capital Projects Overview and the Komagata Maru Memorial.

Services and Budgets Committee: at its meeting on September 15, 2009, the Committee discussed the possibility of having Committee meetings in the community, Vancouver Services Review, Operating Budget Update to August 2009 and HST impact.

STAFF REPORTS

Bicycle Skills Area – Vanier Park

Board members received copies of a staff report dated September 11, 2009 recommending that the Board approve the installation of a BMX /Mountain Bike skills area in Vanier Park.

Staff advised the Board that a public consultation process was conducted to establish a BMX/mountain bike skills park in Vanier Park and the summary of inputs were reported to Planning and Environment committee. There was general support for the proposed skills park by the potential users and residents surrounding the neighbourhood. The implementation of this project will be sensitive to the concerns raised by the local resident's association, park stakeholders and the Squamish First Nation.

The following delegations requested to speak to the Board:

- Robin Coope
- Rob Wynen
- Pat Armstrong
- Katie Teed
- Rob – Dunbar Cycle
- Chris Young

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

- support the bmx skills jump park, usually well cared for by users;
- have an open planning process and include a variety of jumps;
- request to work with bicycle committee to ensure it is integrated with existing bike routes;
- this is a great location, however, the bicycle advisory committee would request that there be no car parking near the site;
- bicycle advisory committee would like to be involved in the final design;
- impressed with public consultation process;
- good use of a former military base;
- visited bike park in Kamloops which was built by the bikers;
- this is an inclusive sport for all ages and families;
- bikers are under-represented, need to encourage physical activities;
- this facility will be a good addition to the neighbourhood and Vanier Park;
- this is an important part of a healthy lifestyle, support at the Open House shows that this facility is needed;
- tired of driving kids to White Rock and Port Coquitlam, all other municipalities have a bike riding facility, it is time for Vancouver to have one;
- parents need to be able to drop their children off safely, so there will need to be car parking available;
- consider having lights on timer for days when daylight is short;
- good activity for kids to do afterschool;
- form a stewardship group to oversee the bike park;
- easy access to emergency area makes this an ideal spot.

Board members thanked the delegations for their support of the project and stated that they looked forward to building the first bmx/mountain bike trail in Vancouver for people to stay fit and have fun in a car free area. A member of the Board expressed concern about the Alderwoods and requested a master plan on how to manage this natural site be included in the next Capital Plan.

Moved by Commissioner Blyth,

THAT the Board approve the installation of a BMX/Mountain Bike skills area in Vanier Park, as detailed in the report.

- Carried Unanimously.

**Extension of License with the City of Vancouver Re: Captain Cook Park –
Gingerbread House**

Board members received copies of a staff report dated September 10, 2009 recommending that the Board approve recommendations A and B.

Staff advised the Board that under the City's Childcare Protocol Agreement City Council executes agreements with operators of childcare facilities on civic properties, however, if the facility is located on Park Board land, the Park Board enters into a licensing agreement with the City of Vancouver the terms of which matches the childcare operating agreement. Gingerbread House Daycare was provided a portion of Captain Cook Park to accommodate the daycare's outdoor play area. A renewed licensing agreement consistent with the City's Protocol Agreement for Childcare is recommended.

Board members support the renewal of the licensing agreement as it is important to teach children the benefits of exercise.

Moved by Commissioner Barnes,

- A. **THAT subject to City Council's renewal of the operating lease including the term with childcare operator, the Board renew its licence agreement with the City of Vancouver for the use of a portion of Captain Cook Park for a small fenced play area for the adjacent childcare;**
- B. **THAT once the form of the licence has been approved by the General Manager and the Director of Legal Services, that the General Manager is authorized to execute the document on behalf of the Board.**

- Carried Unanimously.

Design for VanDusen Botanical Garden New Visitor Centre

Board members received copies of a staff report dated September 10, 2009 recommending that the Board approve the concept design for the VanDusen Botanical Garden New Visitor Centre Development Permit Application.

Staff advised the Board that since the Planning and Environment Committee reviewed the revised design some minor adjustments were made to enhance the energy performance and further refinement of the building area with a view to further cost savings. The revised plan for the Visitor Centre contains new educational, library, visitor orientation and arrival spaces, as well as an informal food service facility. The Garden Pavilion will in the future accommodate larger rental and horticultural events. The project is jointly funded by the Vancouver Park Board and the VanDusen Botanical Garden Association. Fundraising efforts of the Capital Campaign Committee continue, however, there is a shortfall of \$7 million. An application for funding under the Federal Department of Heritage Cultural Spaces Program is pending and representations have been made to the Provincial Government regarding the possibility of funding under the Provincial Infrastructure programs.

Board members discussed the report and a member of the Board was concerned about using the wood waste as a source of energy. Board members were generally supportive of the design and asked staff to do further investigation on the wood waste concept.

Moved by Commissioner Blyth,

THAT the Board approve the concept design for the VanDusen Botanical Garden New Visitor Centre Development Permit Application, as detailed in this report and illustrated in Appendix I.

- Carried.

(Commissioner Woodcock contrary)

Vancouver International Sculpture Biennale – Returning Sculpture: Walking Figures

Board members received copies of a staff report dated September 21, 2009 recommending that the Board approve the return of the sculpture Walking Figures by Magdalena Abakanowicz installed as part of the Vancouver Biennale's temporary exhibition.

Staff advised the Board that in May 2009 organizers of the Vancouver Biennale Foundation requested the Park Board to consider permitting four sculpture pieces to either relocate to a new installation site or remain in a current site for a new temporary exhibition period. The Board approved three of these proposals. The sculpture by Magdalena Abakanowicz is a returning work in a new location.

Board members discussed the report and stated that we were fortunate to have many art pieces in our parks. A member of the Board stated that he had been contacted by a resident who was concerned with what happens with the sculpture at the end of the biennale. Staff advised the Board that the Biennale is responsible to remove the artwork, and if they decide to donate to the Park Board, the standard donation process will take place.

Moved by Commissioner Jasper,

THAT the Park Board approve the return of the sculpture Walking Figures by Magdalena Abakanowicz installed as part of the Vancouver Biennale's temporary exhibition, as outlined in Appendix A.

- Carried Unanimously.

Public Art Donation – Echoes 2003

Board members received copies of a staff report dated September 10, 2009 recommending that the Board accept the donation of Echoes 2003 by artist Michel Goulet from the Vancouver International Biennale with all arrangements to the satisfaction of the General Manager.

Staff advised the Board that a proposal was received from the Vancouver Biennale Foundation to donate the sculpture, Echoes 2003 by Michel Goulet and the standard donations process was initiated. The Public Art Committee reviewed and offered its support for the proposed donation. The sculpture meets the Board's criteria for "Long Term gifts of Public Art" and the majority of community responses were positive.

Board members discussed the report and supported the Board receiving the donation of the artwork, Echoes 2003 by Michel Goulet.

Moved by Commissioner Woodcock,

THAT the Board accept the donation of Echoes 2003 by artist Michel Goulet from the Vancouver International Biennale, with all arrangements to the satisfaction of the General Manager.

- Carried Unanimously.

In-Camera Meeting

Moved by Commissioner Jasper,

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.

Enquiries, Other Matters and New Business

A member of the Board requested an update on the H1N1 flu virus strategy. The General Manager advised the Board that we are working with the City Emergency Management and Vancouver Coastal Health Authority to provide information through posters, information on the web site, crew talks.

A reference to the outbreak of E-Coli at the PNE recently was made and a member of the Board enquired what is done at the Children's Farmyard as a prevention. The General Manager advised the Board that we have veterinarians who regularly check on the animals and staff have a prevention strategy in place and visible to our visitors.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 pm.

Susan Mundick
General Manager

Commissioner Raj Hundal
Chair