

Hastings Park / PNE Community Advisory Group
Thursday – June 23, 2016
5:30pm – PNE Operations Boardroom
MINUTES

In Attendance:

PNE Staff
Jeff Strickland: Co-Chair
Kate Huffman: Co-Chair

Community Advisory Group Members
Sal Audia (<i>Regrets</i>)
Pasquale Balletta (<i>Regrets</i>)
Patricia Barnes
Steve Canofari
Stephanie Lemmo
Linda Shuto
Darci Swinton
<i>David Bornman</i>

1. Adoption of Agenda/ Minutes

Few wording changes were made to the April 5 meetings minutes.

2. Housekeeping/ Goals

Goals- Kate H. reviewed this meeting goal(s); Community Survey, Discuss Park Safety & Park Communication & Film at Hastings Park

Housekeeping-

- Jeff S. reviewed the process on how to bring forward meeting topics for CAG meetings and providing any accompanying material (if applicable). All items will be reviewed and considered. It will then either be scheduled for that meeting or tabled for a future meeting, unless it is deemed as not relevant for the CAG group to discuss.
- Kate H. shared that in the fall she would be bringing an ongoing action list for the advisory group to review. This would be an ongoing document to keep track of what items need to be brought up again in the future or questions to answer.
- Jeff S. reviewed numerous topics which will be discussed at future meetings including the possible Fair at the PNE date change, Playland Master Plan & future plans with the Coliseum
 - A few members were surprised that the Playland Master Plan had not been brought forward sooner. Jeff communicated that this was the original plan approved back in

2010, they were at council to ask to take the next step of this project, which is looking at the design. Community engagement will happen as it starts to move forward. A few questions on how the race track is going to fulfil its commitments within their original development permit as part of the next steps on master plan.

- It was discussed amongst the group that we need at least 6 members to be at each meeting to ensure fruitful discussion and to move discussion topics forward.

Action:

- Kate H. will bring the ongoing action list to the October meeting
- Kate H. will add the above topics to the ongoing action list
- Kate H. resend fall meeting dates

3. For Information

3.1 Coliseum without the Vancouver Giants – Jeff Strickland presented

Jeff S. shared about the Vancouver Giants deciding to relocate to Langley and the positive and negative implications of this happening.

With more availability in the facility, this now allows PNE management to look at new opportunities for the Coliseum.

The group was interested in what groups/ events might come in to keep the venue active

Action:

- Kate H. will add update on Coliseum usage to the ongoing action list

3.2 Community Survey- by local community group- presented by Linda Shuto

Linda S. took the group through the high level results from a community survey done by the Friends of Hastings Park & Hastings Park Conservancy in May/ June 2016. There were 10 questions asked around what people's current use is and what would bring people into Hastings Park.

It was distributed to approx. 900 and they had 335 respondents. Majority of respondents were from the Hastings Sunrise/ East Vancouver area.

Questions are in appendix below for reference. Full results are being collated and were invited to be re-shared with this group once complete. Further park interaction moving forward is very important.

Action:

- Kate H- will receive this survey and full results when available to review from a community relations perspective and provide these results to PNE senior management to review.
- Kate H- will add this to the ongoing action list

- Linda S- to provide Kate H full survey results

4. Topics to Discuss

4.1 Park Safety/ Security/ Communication

Kate H. reviewed over Hastings Park Safety & Security. She provided details on the current procedures and future plans that will continue to improve safety on site, highlighting the cross-walk at Renfrew & Pandora and restricting roadway access throughout the site.

Communicating to park users also plays an important role. This past spring numerous temporary signs were posted throughout the Sanctuary and Italian Gardens to ramp up communication on the following topics: dogs on leash, no smoking, do not feed animals and fishing from the dock only. Electronic newsletters are produced throughout the year and provide updates to the neighbourhood on things happening at Hastings Park or in the community.

There is also onsite security, health & safety committee and cameras onsite to assist with keeping Hastings Park safe.

Community Advisory members had a few comments:

David B- would like to see parking available next to Rollerland for park users

Patricia B- Empire south end parking lot is confusing to get into, the flow for this space needs improvement

Steve C- Clarification on free parking vs paid parking & how does Empire deal with security issues

- Jeff S. replied Empire has some graffiti issues, this area is overseen by Park Rangers from Vancouver Park Board

Linda S- Why was the underbrush removed in the Sanctuary & will the Playland expansion block the east/ west pedestrian?

- Jeff S. replied when the Sanctuary was planted there was a surplus; so, to allow for viewpoints some of the underbrush was removed. The permanent greenway will go north/ south. Playland entrance will come off of Hastings allowing for a safer permanent greenway east/ west.

Darci S- If trees are removed are they all replaced? For the future crosswalk, please make sure to have lights so it is more visible

- Jeff S. replied there was a surplus of trees planted and some have died or are not safe. We apply with the city arborist to get permission before any trees are removed over a certain width. Planting of new trees are done throughout the year in needed areas. The PNE is advocating for the crosswalk to be installed soon, with lights.

Stephanie L- Continue to communicate to users with dogs that Hastings Park is an on leash site

- Kate H. replied there has been continued communication through signs, newsletters and the PNE security but we will continue to educate park users.

4.2 Film- Hastings Park

Jeff S reviewed the current film market here at Hastings Park, which over this past year has grown with the Canadian dollar exchange rate.

Numerous buildings, park space and parking lots are used throughout the year. Each one has different level of interaction with the site. Impact levels were reviewed along with other things done to help film and Hastings Park work together.

David B- Passed along his concern on the filming vehicles that are right beside park spaces (ex- Italian Gardens & Rollerland). This has an adverse effect to the esthetics of the park and creates an environment that is less inviting. Methods to maintain film shoots without jeopardizing the park need to be explored.

Action: Will work with sales/ operations teams on film set up in the park and finding the least impact to park use and visual appeal

5. Questions/Community Feedback

Darci S- Community soccer groups at Empire are concerned around the cost for parking and that Empire field lights are too bright.

- During Fair change over, concern from bike commuters on greenways

Steve C- Bike infrastructure outside of park spaces would be nice to see

Stephanie L- that walking along Hastings from Renfrew to Empire is quite scary due to heavy traffic and narrow sidewalks

This meeting concluded at 7:15 pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday, Oct 18, 2016 @ 5pm (Hastings Room)

Hastings Park Survey May 2016

YOUR OPINION MATTERS

The purpose of this survey is to collect information from local residents to determine your current use of the Park and what future activities, events, programs and green spaces you would like to have available in Hastings Park.

The survey has been prepared by several residents currently serving on the PNE/City of Vancouver Advisory Group for Hastings Park. We are initiating this survey so that we can represent the views of a wider group of residents at this committee.

We are primarily interested in local community use of the Park, so this survey does not address large scale events, PNE Fair (programmed by the PNE) or programs at Empire Field (programmed by the Vancouver Park Board).

Your input is very important so we hope that you will take a few minutes to express your views.

USE OF HASTINGS PARK

1. How often do you use (visit) Hastings Park?

- daily
- several times per week
- several times per month
- several times per year
- only during the PNE 2 week fair
- rarely

Other (please specify)

2. Which areas of Hastings Park do you visit? (select all that apply)

- Horse barns
- Livestock building
- Pacific Coliseum building
- Garden Auditorium building
- Agrodome building
- Forum building
- Rollerland building
- PNE Amphitheatre
- Casino
- Hastings Racecourse
- Daycare at the Racetrack
- Bikeways/Walkways
- Fishing at the pond
- The Sanctuary
- Momiji Gardens
- Italian Gardens
- Empire Field
- Children's Playground
- Skateboard Park
- Annual PNE Fair
- Playland

Other (please specify)

USE OF HASTINGS PARK

3. Which of the following affects your decision to visit Hastings Park? (check all that apply)

- lack of natural green space
- disjointed public areas
- lack of pedestrian friendly access points (e.g. marked cross walks)
- uncontrolled traffic flow
- absence of park access from Eastern perimeter for Vancouver heights neighborhood
- poor signage
- concerned for personal safety
- lack of public restrooms
- restricted access due to events
- lack of community programs
- excessive space devoted to parking
- random parking throughout the park
- too much asphalt
- poor lighting
- lack of food/coffee facilities

Other (please specify)

4. The Hastings Park landscape has changed in the past decade and in some cases has been re-purposed. What would you like to see in the future for Hastings Park?

	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	N/A	
Increased grass spaces and their usage	<input type="radio"/>				
Increased tree canopy Park wide	<input type="radio"/>				
Allow multipurpose/community usage of the buildings	<input type="radio"/>				
Expansion of nature habitats (example The Sanctuary & Momiji Gardens)	<input type="radio"/>				
Organized parking facilities (parkade, restricted area, etc)	<input type="radio"/>				

Other (please specify)

FACILITIES IN HASTINGS PARK

5. Rate the following as to their importance to you. (check all that apply)

	Strongly support	Support	Neutral	Do not support	Strongly do not support
Activity room for community use	<input type="radio"/>				
Casual dining restaurant	<input type="radio"/>				
Coffee Shop	<input type="radio"/>				
Public library	<input type="radio"/>				
Community centre within Hastings Park	<input type="radio"/>				
Community garden/orchard	<input type="radio"/>				
Drinking fountains	<input type="radio"/>				
Ecological interpretive centre	<input type="radio"/>				
Expanded community childcare facility	<input type="radio"/>				
Farmer's Market - Indoor/Outdoor/Year Round	<input type="radio"/>				
Fishing Dock	<input type="radio"/>				
Microbrewery	<input type="radio"/>				
Public Skating	<input type="radio"/>				
Public Washrooms (year round, inside versus outdoor trailer)	<input type="radio"/>				
Venue for music/drama/cultural events (50-150 seats)	<input type="radio"/>				
Underground parking facilities	<input type="radio"/>				

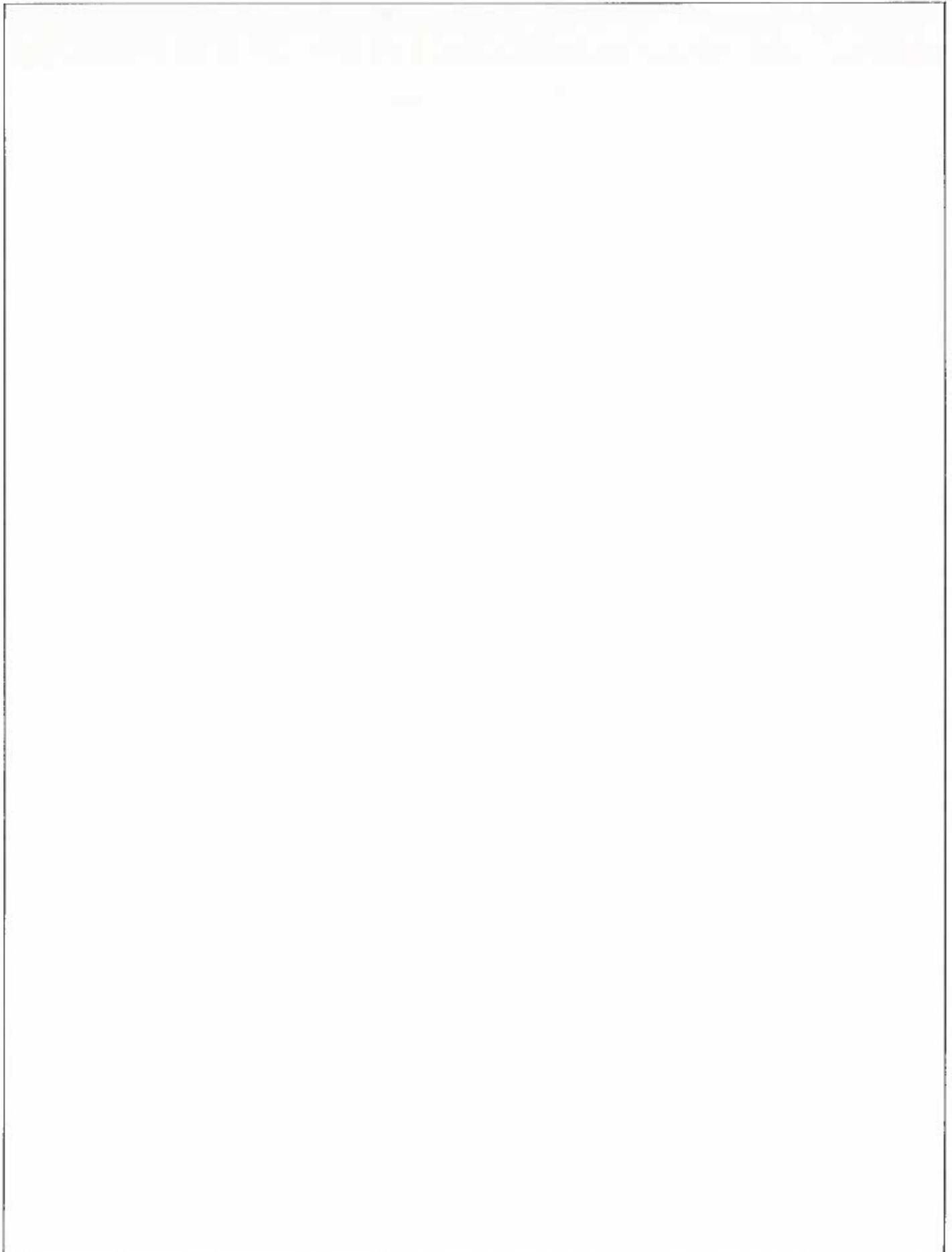
Other (please specify)

OUTDOOR Activities/Events/Green Spaces in Hastings Park

6. Rate the following as to their importance to you. (check all that apply)

	Very Important	Important	Neutral	Not Important	N/A
Barbeque area	<input type="radio"/>				
Picnic tables	<input type="radio"/>				
Shuffle Board	<input type="radio"/>				
Badminton	<input type="radio"/>				
Tennis Courts	<input type="radio"/>				
Bocce	<input type="radio"/>				
Community music/theatre/performance space	<input type="radio"/>				
Outdoor movies	<input type="radio"/>				
Outdoor dancing space (adults)	<input type="radio"/>				
Skateboarding	<input type="radio"/>				
Fishing in the sanctuary	<input type="radio"/>				
Dog Walking	<input type="radio"/>				
Nature Walks/Activities	<input type="radio"/>				

Other (please specify)



INDOOR Activities at Hastings Park

7. Rate the following as to their importance to you. (check all that apply)

	Very important	Important	Neutral	Not Important	N/A
Bingo	<input type="radio"/>				
Dancing Class - adults/children	<input type="radio"/>				
Community Live Theatre/Drama	<input type="radio"/>				
Community Movies	<input type="radio"/>				
Community Music	<input type="radio"/>				
Exercise Class - all ages	<input type="radio"/>				
Health and Wellness Centre	<input type="radio"/>				
Artisan Market	<input type="radio"/>				
Ice Skating	<input type="radio"/>				
Roller Skating	<input type="radio"/>				

Other (please specify)

Fishing at the Sanctuary

8. Are you aware of the fishing program within the Sanctuary? (Since 2013, the Fresh Water Fisheries Society of BC has established the Go Fish Program, stocked the Sanctuary with fish and built a dock for fishing)

- Yes
- No

Comment (please specify)

9. The Sanctuary was completed in 1999 as a nature reserve and bird sanctuary - 138 bird species have been identified.

Fishing in the Sanctuary has become a controversial issue. (Some people enjoy the fishing program and others believe it is detrimental to the birds and environment of the Sanctuary) Which of the following do you support?

- Maintain the fishing program as is
- Discontinue the fishing program
- Maintain the fishing program **ONLY** with more supervision and safety regulations

Other (please specify)

10. In which of the following do you reside?

- North Burnaby
- East Vancouver
- Other
- Comment (please specify)

