



To: Richmond City Council
From: Cathryn Volkering Carlile
General Manager - Parks Recreation and
Cultural Services
Date: March 20, 2003
File: -
Re: **Plan for renewal for the Parks Recreation and Cultural Services Delivery System**

Staff Recommendation:

1. That the City advise each partnered group defined in the Recreation Services Renewal Report that acquisition of surplus funds currently in the possession of each Community Group is not an interest of the City; and,
2. That a Special Meeting of City Council be called for April 29, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. in Richmond City Council Chambers for the purpose of hearing delegations on the Plan for Renewal of the Parks Recreation and Cultural Services Delivery System.

Cathryn Volkering Carlile
General Manager - Parks Recreation and Cultural Services

Staff Report

Origin

In February 2003, City Council approved Resolution R03/4-10 stating:

1. That the Guiding Principles for the Service Delivery System be adopted; and
2. That staff seek community feedback on the Community Involvement Model, Planning Framework and Proposed Service Delivery System (as outlined in the report dated February 11, 2003, from the General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services), through the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Master Plan process, and report to Council in June 2003.

Since this time, staff have met with each partnered Community Group and have planned a comprehensive communications strategy to enable feedback from the community on the renewal plan.

Analysis

As outlined in the Renewal Report, the City works directly with 16 Non-profit Societies in the delivery of Parks Recreation and Cultural Services. The City is proposing the current model of delivery be changed.

Surplus Funds

Staff and Council members have been made aware of several concerns regarding the plan; two concerns continue to be focused on. They are the perception that the City is interested in securing the surplus funds currently under the jurisdiction of each partnered community group and the need for an opportunity for the community to provide feedback to City Council directly.

The plan never had the intention of acquiring the past surplus funds from the partnered community groups. Each group has a constitution that outlines their own financial arrangements. The City has no authority over the dispersal of the funds currently held in each Associations' reserve accounts.

Special Council Meeting

The initial plan for feedback included meetings with each partnered community group, hosting a two-day open house, hosting focus groups and various electronic feedback opportunities. Some partnered community groups and the community at large have expressed an interest in appearing as delegations before City Council to express their views on the change proposal and to be able to present alternative proposals.

A Special Council Meeting could be planned in April to hear delegations from the community on the plan for renewal for the delivery system.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact to the City as a result of approving the recommendations other than the potential advertising and overtime costs for staff to attend the Council meeting.

Conclusion

Passing these resolution would put to rest the concerns from each partnered community group that the City is not interested in seeking their surplus funds held in each individual reserve account and would provide further opportunities for the public to express their views on the renewal plan.



Cathryn Volkering Carlile
General Manager - Parks Recreation and Cultural Services

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