

## Community Services Committee

Date: Tuesday, March 14, 2000

Place: W.H. Anderson Committee Room  
Richmond City Hall

Present: Councillor Harold Steves, Chair  
Councillor Malcolm Brodie  
Councillor Linda Barnes (4:35 p.m.)  
Councillor Ken Johnston

Absent: Councillor Derek Dang

Also Present: Mayor Greg Halsey-Brandt  
Councillor Lyn Greenhill

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

### MINUTES

1. It was moved and seconded

*That the minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee held on Tuesday, February 29, 2000 be adopted.*

**CARRIED**

**COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION**

Councillor M. Brodie entered the meeting at 4:03 p.m.

**DELEGATION**

2. **Presentation regarding interest in the space in the temporary City Hall on Elmbridge Way for the Resource Centre for Independent Living, specifically, the area presently occupied by the Community Services Department.**

(File: 3190-01)

James Sullivan, Executive Director, Frances Clark, Secretary and Chair, Richmond Committee on Disability, Resource Centre Committee were in attendance to make a presentation to the Committee.

Informational material was distributed (a copy of which is on file in the City Clerk's office). Utilizing a slide presentation, Mr. Sullivan observed that over 20% of the population is disabled or nearly 33,000 Richmond residents. He noted the function of the proposed Resource Centre for Independent Living and further noted the economic feasibility of the project. Reference was made to the already established partnership of the Richmond Committee on Disability (RCD) with the City of Richmond and a request was made for assistance in the form of low cost or no cost space for the proposed facility.

Mr. Sullivan referred to the following groups that have been providing assistance to their organization: Vancouver Foundation, The Richmond Foundation, B.C. Gaming, Milan Ilich Foundation, Tempo Construction, James McPhail Family Foundation, United Way. He noted the benefits to the City of Richmond, i.e. increased employment, making Richmond more liveable, increased volunteerism, consumer spending, business license revenue. Mr. Sullivan suggested that assisting in serving the needs of the community potentially reduces the demand on government services. He referred to the benefits to the individual as well as to the programs which would be run "by people with disabilities for people with disabilities". He noted that the requirements include 2,000 sq. ft. of space in a central location with good site access, readily available transportation and parking facilities. He then indicated members from the community who support this project, and read a letter from a disabled member of their organization.

Mr. Sullivan explained that, although the site was not ideal, there was transit service and parking available.

In response to a query, Mr. Sullivan suggested that the City fund 50% of the potential cost of the space. It was noted that comparable space at the Caring Place was \$12 per square foot. Ms. Frances Clark referenced different ways that other organizations have worked with the City to procure space.

Councillor Johnston questioned the long-term plans of the City for the space requested. Mr. Sullivan clarified the funding sources of the organization.

The General Manager, Urban Development, advised that staff are currently working with the government regarding the establishment of major tenancy in the temporary City Hall building on Elmbridge Way.

Ms. Clark clarified that the criteria of safe, accessible ground floor space meant that they were amenable to other possible spaces in the building.

It was moved and seconded

***That the issue of space in the temporary City Hall on Elmbridge Way be referred to staff for review of its overall disposition.***

**CARRIED**

**MAYOR GREG HALSEY-BRANDT**

3. **TASK FORCE ON DRUGS AND CRIME**

(Report: Mar 3/00, File: 0100-20-DCRI, REDMS 140085)

Referencing his inaugural speech, Mayor Greg Halsey-Brandt commented on the necessity of addressing issues involving drugs in the City of Richmond. He reviewed his report and advised that he had attended several meetings of the Vancouver Coalition for Crime Prevention and Drug Treatment. He noted that the majority of individuals involved in crime and drugs in Vancouver come from outside the City of Vancouver. He observed the worsening problem of recent marijuana drug busts in local neighbourhoods in Richmond and the need to deal with this in order to reduce eventual cost to the community. He referred to groups within the City which have expressed interest in getting involved and noted that this coincided with the priorities of Council. He referenced to the proposed interim report to be submitted in November 2000.

Discussion ensued regarding the cost of the proposed Task Force to the City. It was suggested that application be made for a grant from the Proceeds of Crime Program allocated by the Ministry of the Attorney-General for local crime initiatives. Mayor Halsey-Brandt clarified that the \$25,000 indicated in the report would fund an outside consultant and that further support could possibly be required in the form of temporary part time personnel.

Councillor Linda Barnes entered the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

Councillor Lyn Greenhill expressed concern regarding the cost of personnel to the City but stated that she was very interested in participating in this Program.

Superintendent E. McAulay explained that 46% of marijuana users go on to cocaine and heroin. He stated that marijuana operations are often used to finance more serious criminal activities. He commented on the scope of activities of the RCMP within the City of Richmond in this regard. He further commented on the tremendous revenue generated by these illicit activities which has resulted in a major national and international problem.

It was moved and seconded

***It is recommended that the City of Richmond establish a Task Force on Drugs and Crime as set out in the attached Terms of Reference, and that the Task Force provide an interim report back to City Council, through the Community Services Committee, by November 30, 2000.***

**CARRIED**

**COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION**

4. **MOBILE FOOD VENDORS AND FOOD SALES IN GARRY POINT PARK AND  
MOBILE FOOD VENDOR ENFORCEMENT**

(Report: Jan. 27/00, File No: 2325-20-006, REDMS: 132310)

Dave Semple, Director, Parks reviewed the staff report which resulted from a recommendation from the Committee of the meeting of October 26, 1999. He provided a brief background of the issue. He noted that the existing building had the space for food sales and projected a possible \$3-5,000 profit after expenses for the summer period. He suggested the involvement of people from within the community, e.g. Pajo's. He commented on the difficulties involved in enforcement of food vending bylaws and referred to the opportunity of zoning land to facilitate this. This would necessitate further change to the rules governing business licenses.

In response to a query regarding possible additional garbage, Mr. Semple advised that staff had reviewed other areas and noted that Kitsilano requires the contractors to be responsible for garbage pick-up as part of their contract.

Discussion ensued regarding the need for having a concession in Garry Point Park and the problems with vendors operating in and around this area.

It was moved and seconded

***That Council:***

1. ***Approve the addition of a concession stand to the Garry Point Park Washroom facility; direct staff to send out for proposal calls for the operation of the concession stand and report back to committee.***
2. ***Direct the Law Department to bring forward the necessary Bylaw changes with regard to the ticketing of mobile food vendor operation infractions as outlined in the report from Dave Semple dated January 27, 2000.***
3. ***Direct staff to report back on the extent of bylaw enforcement and cost effective ways to increase enforcement in the Steveston area regarding traffic, parking, and business licensing.***

**CARRIED**

**URBAN DEVELOPMENT DIVISION**

5. **RICHMOND SENIORS ADVISORY COUNCIL 1999 ANNUAL REPORT; AND THE YEAR 2000 WORK PLAN**

(Report: Feb. 25/00; File 0100-20-SADV1-01; REDMS 135043)

Kari Huhtala, Social & Community Planner, introduced Aileen Cormack, Chair of the Richmond Seniors' Advisory Council (RSAC), to Committee members.

Ms. Cormack reviewed the staff report for Committee members, recounting the major accomplishments of 1999. She advised that it had been a productive and successful year, the International Year of Older Persons. She reported that the seniors' group had received a grant for \$10,000 and thanked staff for submitting an application on their behalf. Ms. Cormack further reviewed the year 2000 Work Plan and noted that funding will go towards a consultant to evaluate the need for affordable housing for seniors in Richmond. Applicants are being reviewed for the position of Co-ordinator for the Peer Counselling Program which was anticipated to be running by September. Additional plans include undertaking a workshop to be held in the Fall on issues concerning seniors. Invitations will be sent to various seniors organizations in the Lower Mainland and it is hoped that this would take place in the new City Hall.

Ms. Cormack mentioned her work on the project regarding seniors rights in B.C. and thanked staff for their excellent support.

Mike Redpath, Co-ordinator, Partnership & Stewardship Programs, provided further information regarding grants received and the Golden Gardens Seniors Project.

It was moved and seconded

1. ***That the Richmond Seniors Advisory 1999 Annual Report (attached as Appendix A to the report dated February 25, 2000 from the Manager, Land Use) be received for information.***
2. ***That the Richmond Seniors Advisory Year 2000 Work Plan (attached as Appendix B to the report dated February 25, 2000 from the Manager, Land Use) be endorsed.***

**CARRIED**

6. **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

1. David Naysmith, Manager, Facilities Planning & Construction, reviewed the submitted memorandum dated March 8, 2000 regarding the status of the proposed work to be done on Britannia Shipyard. He explained the nature of the construction.

Committee members expressed concern whether the proposed work was within the scope of what had been recommended by Council.

Upon query, Mr. Naysmith clarified that the original report from the consultants included an outline of the entire scope of the shipyard, including the design concept, working drawings, and the process through to permit and approval. It was advised that meetings will be taking place with the consultants and stakeholders to provide an update and that this issue will be returning to Council for their consideration.

The Chair encouraged staff to remain sensitive to issues related to the possibility of filming at this site. Staff responded that steps have been taken to ensure that the Shipyard will meet the requirements of the building code yet retain its original ambience. Mr. Naysmith explained that an architect was necessary to integrate the structure so as to be non-obtrusive. Staff will seriously consider the comments of the Committee and examine further options.

2. Dave Semple, Director, Parks, advised that the Spring Clean-up Event at Garry Point Park will be held Saturday, May 6, 2000. A large turnout is expected with many groups of guides, brownies, schoolchildren, etc.
3. Dave Semple, Director, Parks, referred to the March 1<sup>st</sup> meeting regarding Steveston Park. He observed that the majority of residents expressed concern about the openness and the appearance of the front of the park. The idea of blacktop pathways for year-round use was noted.
4. Dave Semple, Director, Parks, observed that a report will follow on the issue of community gardens. He advised that a small garden area is being developed in a vacant lot directly behind Lancaster Drive.

### ADJOURNMENT

- 5 It was moved and seconded  
*That the meeting be adjourned (5:35 p.m.).*

**CARRIED**

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee of the Council of the City of Richmond held on Tuesday, March 14, 2000.

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Councillor Harold Steves  
Chair

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Susan Kopeschny  
Administrative Assistant