



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 38 (RICHMOND)

**COUNCIL/BOARD LIAISON COMMITTEE
PUBLIC MINUTES**

Date: Tuesday, February 15, 2005
9:30 a.m.

Place: 4th Floor Meeting Room
School District Administration Office

Present: Trustee L. McPhail, Chair
Trustee S. Bourque
Trustee D. Tablotney
Councillor D. Dang

Regrets: Councillor E. Halsey-Brandt

Also Present: B. Beairsto, Superintendent of Schools
K. L. Morris, Secretary-Treasurer
D. Semple, Director, Parks Operations
G. Hackenbruch, Recording Secretary

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the agenda for the Tuesday, February 15, 2005 meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

2. MINUTES

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the Tuesday, November 30, 2004 Council/Board Liaison Committee meeting be approved, as circulated.

CARRIED

3. BUSINESS ARISING

3.1 Richmond Secondary School Artificial Turf

Mr. Morris, Secretary Treasurer, updated the meeting on the status of the project noting that the delayed installation of the artificial turf field is as a result of various unexpected problems and the resultant required clean up of the site. This work is expected to be completed in late Spring.

4. NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Master Plan/Community Working Group

Mr. Semple, Director, Parks Operations, reported that City Council had passed a motion at the February 14, 2005 meeting re-affirming the practice of community-based recreation service delivery in Richmond and the partnership between the City and the

Community Associations in the delivery of these services. Mr. Semple advised that key to these partnerships is building a foundation and developing criteria on the needs of the community e.g. youth, seniors, wellness and health as well as identifying the best people to accomplish this. He stressed the importance of the partnership between the School District and the City. Mr. Morris advised of his concerns around community associations planning short and long term programs without having the school enrolment projections to assist them to build such plans and the potential resultant impact on the City's programs. Discussion ensued on the best way to communicate this information. It was determined that Mr. Semple and Ms. Sparrow will correspond directly with Mr. Morris in this regard.

Dr. Beirsto noted the health connection with the City's master plan/community working group and the *Action Schools! Program* and provided information on the policy framework on promoting health in B.C. schools currently being drafted by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health Services. A draft is expected within the next few months. Dr. Beirsto then spoke on various programs around active health, and advised that at the next meeting of the School/Health Liaison Group, (comprising representatives from the RCMP, Ministry of Children and Family Development, Richmond Health Services, Richmond School District, Dr. Lu, school medical officer, Ms. Lani Schultz and Ms. Cathy Volkering-Carlisle, City of Richmond) a discussion would be initiated about potential connections with the City's community plan, the Province's framework on promoting health and the 2010 Olympics. Dr. Beirsto will contact Ms. Sparrow in this regard.

Discussion took place on the planned building of a pathway around the Westwind Elementary School park site, including the benefit and usage by others in the community, anticipated costs and funding.

Councillor Dang advised that the Senior Advisory Committee has expressed interest in connecting and creating symbiotic relationships with junior high school students which could take the form of mentoring in health and wellness. Trustee Bourque noted that some secondary schools have already established relationships with seniors homes and advised that secondary school administrators could be approached in this regard. Further discussion ensued on the changes that have taken place in Richmond over the years, various types of exercise and activities, use of school playgrounds, perceived sense of safety by the community and whether the City had given consideration to employing a supervisor in city adventure playgrounds to alleviate such safety concerns in the community.

Trustee Tablotney advised that Table 38 (a district discussion group that includes students and teachers) may be a good forum to discuss the connection of students with seniors. Table 38 meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month and Glenn Kishi, District Administrator - Student Placement, is the contact.

Councillor Dang advised that he would require to depart shortly. The meeting moved onto next agenda item.

4.2 UBC Rowing

Mr. Semple advised that an agreement has now been finalized for UBC to use the middle arm of the Fraser River for rowing. The signing of this agreement also includes exciting opportunities for Richmond school children who currently travel to Delta or Coquitlam for training. Mr. Semple advised that the UBC clubhouse will be situated adjacent to the Navy League Building on River Road and that the finish line will be directly in front of the planned Oval. There were questions on how schools would access this program, the fees involved, UBC's program and the potential commitment from UBC to assist students. Mr. Semple will forward a copy of the program to Dr. Beirsto.

4.3 Sidaway Annex

Trustee McPhail advised that a public meeting was held on January 26, 2005 to discuss the potential closure of Sidaway Annex. Raul Allucva, City of Richmond, attended the meeting and fielded many questions. Trustee McPhail advised a report would be prepared and provided to the first Board Meeting in March. Mr. Semple advised that the City uses Sidaway Annex occasionally for sporting events and that there would be little disruption should it be necessary to relocate programs to neighbouring schools.

Discussion ensued on the demographics of this area of our city.

Councillor Derek departed the meeting at 10:20 a.m. at the conclusion of the above item.

4.4 Action Schools Program

This item was discussed earlier on the agenda.

4.5 Emergency Preparedness, Procedures and Practices

Trustee Tablotney spoke to the rationale of the Resolution of the Board of School Trustees (Richmond) regarding emergency preparedness and practices, a copy of which was included with the agenda package. Discussion ensued on the varying opinions of experts with regard to possible damage after an earthquake, potential flooding scenarios, disaster response and the emergency procedures and practices in place. Mr. Semple provided information on the actions taken by the City to eliminate or reduce risk to human life, property and the environment and included information on the pump station maintenance, dyke monitoring and maintenance and building codes. He also spoke about a recent public forum hosted by the City's Emergency Management Office that focused on the reality and risks of earthquakes and tsunamis in our area and the importance of educating people to allay their fears. Discussion ensued around the operation of the pump stations, back up plan for these stations in the event of disruption to electricity, areas most likely to be flooded and dyke heights. It was questioned as to whether there is a requirement for the District to consider any changes to school preparedness for emergency situations such as flooding. Dr. Beirsto spoke on emergency planning and preparation issues as well as risk management. Dr. Beirsto stated that it is extremely difficult to plan for every type of emergency scenario but expressed confidence that staff in the school district would use the emergency response manuals and apply common sense in all such emergencies. It was advised that representatives from the City would provide a presentation on

emergency preparedness at the February 21, 2005 meeting of the Board of School Trustees. In concluding the discussion, the Chair expressed her appreciation of the willingness of the City and the School District to work together on this important issue.

INFORMATION/STANDING ITEMS

5.1 School Planning and Construction Schedule

A copy of the Planning and Construction Schedule was included with the agenda package. Mr. Morris spoke to receiving appropriate approvals from government to proceed with the replacement of Steveston Secondary School and advised of an anticipated completion date as early as the fall of 2007 for this project. Also discussed was the goal of Sports Council to centralize organized soccer and also retain open space for others to use. It was advised that Sports Council is currently giving consideration to the centralization of 4 artificial turf fields for soccer use and the potential location of these fields. Mr. Semple noted that there were many options available and expected recommendations at the end of the month. Mr. Semple advised that the agreement for an artificial turf field between the City and the School District at Richmond Secondary School would be finalized shortly.

5.2 2010 - City's Olympic Planning Committee

Mr. Semple provided information on the Spirit of BC public skate held recently to mark the five-year countdown to hosting the Olympic Winter Games in 2010. At the February 14, 2005 meeting, Council announced the appointment of three advisory committees that will provide City Council with advice on development of the Richmond Oval, home of the long track speed skating competition for the 2010 Olympic Winter Games. Those committees are: 2010 Olympic Oval Project Steering Committee, of which Chief Administrative Officer George Duncan was named as a member; Richmond 2010 Olympic Oval Project Building Committee, of which Mr. Day is the City's liaison; and the Richmond 2010 Olympic Oval Stakeholder/User Committee. Interest was expressed by the School District in participating in the latter committee. It was advised that Glenn Kishi, District Administrator - Student Placement, is a member of the BC Community Committee.

Mr. Semple advised that it is anticipated that Program Plan for the Oval for March 31, 2005 and stated that the IOC requires construction to be complete by March 31, 2008. Discussion took place on the Oval construction, which will include a major new City Centre park and plaza surrounding the Oval. Apartment development leading to further development of City Centre.

Dr. Beirsto advised of a meeting between school district staff and Mr. Erceg, General Manager of Urban Development, to discuss various issues as they affect the School District and the City. Mr. Erceg had previously advised the School District that a committee would be established for this purpose but to date no advice has been received. Mr. Semple will follow up with Mr. Erceg in this regard.

Dr. Beirsto anticipates being inundated with requests for access to school gymnasiums for accommodation during the 2010 Olympics, for which a change in the City Bylaw in this regard would be necessary, and stated that consideration should be given to planning, policy and bylaw structure and coordination between school

districts as Richmond contemplates its role in this provincial and world event. Ms. Lani Shultz at the City would be the contact for these issues. Dr. Beairsto will contact Ms. Shultz in this regard.

Mr. Semple stated that the Oval would be the province's premier multi-purpose sports, recreation and wellness facility and spoke to the many opportunities for post-Games operation and use of the Oval. It was suggested that the Chair, Dr. Beairsto, Ms. Shultz, Ms. Sparrow and Mr. Semple meet informally to discuss opportunities for students.

Ms. Schultz should attend the next meeting of this committee to speak to this item.

5.3 School Use/PRCS Use

Mr. Semple noted that this had been a high-quality year and that an analysis and report would be brought back to a future meeting.

At this time, the meeting returned to agenda item 4.1.

4.1 Master Plan/Community Working Group

Discussion resumed on this item and included federal funding for playgrounds. Mr. Semple spoke to the Cook Elementary School park site and noted that an amount of approximately \$160,000 was set aside towards Cook. It was advised that the Cook Elementary School PAC has reserved approximately \$25,000 and could apply for a grant through a local foundation. The above information will be directed to Cook Elementary School and the need to meet with parents was noted.

Discussion ensued on various relationships and leadership programs in place between secondary schools and district programs, such as Station Stretch, and the resultant connections between students and seniors. The Chair had a question on how the City perceives the city centre developments keeping up with the need for community centre space as well as how the City envisages schools fitting with this plan. Mr. Semple provided information on the tentative planning underway for this need and creative solutions necessary. Mr. Morris commented on the urgent problem with the overcrowding at Anderson Elementary School from lands being developed in that vicinity. Mr. Semple said that the overcrowding in the Anderson area would be added to the agenda of the committee being formed by Mr. Erceg, which will include representatives from the City and the School District. In concluding this discussion the need to maintain connections in regard to these issues was reaffirmed and the City and the School District will work together to accommodate this.

6. NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council/Board Liaison Committee would be held at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, April 12, 2005 in the 4th Floor Meeting Room at the school district administration offices.

7. ADJOURNMENT

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the February 15, 2005 regular meeting of Council/Board Liaison Committee be adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted,

L. McPhail, Chairperson