



MINUTES

**PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL
SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Date: Tuesday, April 10, 2001
Place: Anderson Room
Richmond City Hall
Present: Councillor Harold Steves, Chair
Councillor Derek Dang, Vice-Chair
Councillor Malcolm Brodie
Councillor Linda Barnes
Councillor Bill McNulty
Absent: Councillor Ken Johnston
Also Present: Mayor Greg Halsey-Brandt
Councillor Greenhill
Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

1. It was moved and seconded
That the following items be added to the PRCS Committee Agenda for April 10, 2001:
 - (4) The MOT Lands;
 - (5) Scotch Pond and the Britannia Seine Loft;
 - (6) The BC Packers 45;
 - (7) Bike Terrain Park;
 - (8) Tall Ships

CARRIED

MINUTES

1. It was moved and seconded
That the minutes of the meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee held on Tuesday, March 13, 2001, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

DELEGATIONS

2. ***Volunteer Richmond Information Services – to provide an overview of the International Year of Volunteers (IYV) 2001 and the work of the Richmond IYV Steering Committee; and to request the Committee's input and feedback to Volunteer Richmond's initiatives.***

Ms. Elizabeth Duda, Executive Director, Volunteer Richmond, provided a comprehensive report on the work of Volunteer Richmond, the Richmond IYV Steering Committee and the International Year of Volunteers, which is attached as Schedule 1 and forms a part of these minutes. Ms. Duda also acknowledged a number of the Steering Committee members that were present.

Ms. Duda then responded to the Committee on such issues as:

- (a) an invitation to School District 38 to participate on the Steering Committee to advise of ways to engage youth in volunteering;
- (b) the possibility of a standardized syllabus, on the topic of volunteer training, being made available as a resource;
- (c) the current trend of episodic volunteers;
- (d) the possibility of a liaison for the Committee. It was suggested that a staff review of current liaisons take place;
- (e) the number of volunteers presently working in the City. Ms. Duda suggested that the actual figures might be available later in the year.

Councillor Barnes, noting the benefits the community receives from volunteers, requested that the benefit to the volunteer also be reported upon.

It was moved and seconded

That the presentation and materials provided by Elizabeth Duda on behalf of Volunteer Richmond be received for information.

CARRIED

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION

3. **SPORTS COUNCIL SUB-COMMITTEE - "SPORTS FIELD ALLOCATION, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES"**

(Report: March 2/01, File No.: 0100-20-RSP01) (REDMS No. 300774,271763)

The Manager, Parks, Mike Redpath, briefly reviewed the report and provided the Committee with an update to Page 21 of the staff report. Mr. Redpath then introduced the representatives of the Sports Council who were present: Cheryl Taunton, Chair; Bonnie Beaman, Secretary; Kevin Greig, President Girls Soccer; and, Debbie Judd, President Richmond Youth (Boys) Soccer.

Cheryl Taunton came forth and thanked the Committee and staff for their involvement noting that the preparation of the report had been a valuable exercise. Ms. Taunton felt that at some point the growth of sports was going to be restricted and that monitoring of the growth and future needs was required. Ms. Taunton stated that there was a need for facility upgrades, such as lights, and quality practice fields.

A discussion then ensued which included the provision of the following information: (i) at present a booking system for outside teams was not available; (ii) field upgrades such as lights and turf would provide additional practice fields; (iii) pay for play facilities are not available in Richmond; and (iv) staff was in receipt of Affiliation Policies from seven municipalities and would be working to revamp the City's Affiliation Policy.

Mayor Greg Halsey-Brandt expressed concern over the fact that senior men's soccer had no time on the sand cell fields. Discussion then took place on field usage in Richmond with the note that youth have first priority on the sand cell fields. Mr. Redpath also said that adults are known to use unprogrammed space. Cheryl Taunton said that adult soccer users tend to be much harder on the fields, which was one of the concerns of scheduling.

Mr. Redpath noted that the report prepared in response to the Committee referral on girl's soccer would be presented in July in preparation for the fall/winter season.

While artificial fields were noted to reduce the wear on regular fields and, if lit, provide maximum use as there is no worry about inclement weather, the Director, Parks, Dave Semple advised that the City has 18 sand cell fields of which 10 are lit. Mr. Semple said that team preference was for grass fields.

In response to a request by Councillor Barnes, the Home Field concept was described as a possible means of minimizing the impact on fields, and the definition of "opportunity for all" was given as the need for create the opportunity for everyone to have equal access based upon user group need, for example are facilities provided to ensure that the user groups have an opportunity to develop in equality.

The Manager, Parks Operations, Gord Barstow, advised that, due to the finite use of a field, the addition of an extra day to the scheduling might be too much unless a move is made to artificial turf.

Mr. Semple then said that the cost of lighting a sand cell field would be \$250,000 unless the conduit is already in place which would see the cost reduced to \$180,000.

It was moved and seconded

That:

- (1) ***the Report "Sports Council Sub-Committee-Sports Field Allocation, Policies and Procedures," prepared by the City of Richmond Sports Council be referred to staff for review to develop necessary policy and procedure changes affecting the use and allocation of sports playing fields in Richmond***
- (2) ***staff report to the Committee on those policy and procedure changes in July, 2001.***

CARRIED

4. **MOT LANDS**

Councillor McNulty referred to a letter received from the Richmond Sports Council, which is attached as Schedule 2 and forms a part of these minutes.

It was moved and seconded

That the Sports Council be supported in their endeavor to obtain the MOT/DOF/DND lands and that the Sports Council be involved in discussions pertaining to the use of the lands.

Prior to the question being Councillor Greenhill was concerned about using the MOT lands only for sports fields and green areas as per the Sport's Council's request, and Councillor Brodie expressed concern that Council was already considering the Tourism Richmond proposal which involved a Trade Exhibition Centre, high tech industry, and some recreational uses on these same lands and questioned whether additional staff comments were required. Councillor McNulty suggested that Council should be proactive in obtaining the MOT lands as it could then determine the most acceptable uses. Councillor Steves said he did not support the Tourism Richmond plan for the lands and therefore did not want the Tourism Richmond and Sports Council initiatives tied together. At this point the motion on the floor was **WITHDRAWN**.

It was moved and seconded

That the Sports Council's concerns be referred to staff for review and coordination with other initiatives on the MOT lands.

Prior to the question being called the Manager, Policy Planning, Terry Crowe advised the Committee that as a report is already being prepared by Policy Planning staff to go to Planning Committee in May, 2001, the concerns of the Committee could be addressed in that report. The question was then called and it was **CARRIED** with Councillor McNulty **OPPOSED**.

5. **SCOTCH POND AND THE BRITANNIA SEINE NET LOFT**

Councillor McNulty reported that he was in receipt of a memo from Smith and Company in which it was noted that activity on the structure at Scotch Pond should be severely restricted.

David Naysmith advised that a warning had been posted that continued use of the wharf posed a risk as the structure was in serious condition and in danger of collapse. Mr. Naysmith was in the process of preparing a report which would address immediate remediation measures that would allow for time to address a permanent solution. The short term solution, at a cost of \$20,000, would see the building stabilized. A complete restoration would be completed over a period of months.

Mr. Naysmith reported that the sub floor and actual building were in good condition, however, the piles presented the problem. Some piles were completely missing and a number along the wharf had collapsed.

Councillor Greenhill left the meeting.

Councillor McNulty questioned whether the structure was on the Heritage Inventory.

Discussion then ensued on the Britannia Seine Loft, specifically that certain staff had been advised that equipment could not be moved across the ramp. Mr. Naysmith and Pat Hartney were not aware of this and Mr. Naysmith said he would undertake to determine where the information was originating.

6. **BC PACKERS 45**

Councillor Steves reviewed the report noting that the City should work to acquire the BCP45, the seine boat previously depicted on the five dollar bill, and currently owned by the Maritime Museum.

The Manager, Cultural Services, Jane Fernyhough, advised that the Britannia Shipyard would be able to complete the necessary repairs to the boat.

It was moved and seconded

That the matter of the BCP45 be referred to staff for investigation of the potential of:

(1) obtaining the boat; and

(2) the Britannia Shipyard undertaking the repairs.

Prior to the question being called the Mayor requested a report on the current operation status of the Britannia Shipyard which would include what authority was held by the City. Councillor Barnes questioned the cost to the City.

The question was then called and it was **CARRIED**.

7. **BIKE TERRAIN PARK**

Councillor McNulty advised that he was in receipt of a letter from a member of the community who was concerned that BMX riders were using the lit skateboard facility.

Mayor Halsey-Brandt left the meeting.

It was moved and seconded

That the matter of the bike terrain park be referred to staff for suggestion as to how and where the City could challenge BMX bike riders with a small course.

Prior to the question being called a discussion ensued on the type of land that would be suited to this endeavor. The Director of Parks, Dave Semple, suggested that youth must be involved in the process of setting the criteria for the course, after which a location would be identified. The question was then called and it was **CARRIED**.

Councillor Steves reviewed the report a copy of which is on file in the City Clerk's Department.

It was moved and seconded

That the matter of the Tall Ships be referred to staff for a report on:

- (1) the economic impact;***
- (2) what community structure would be required to support the venture;***
- (3) whether the available moorage would be sufficient.***

CARRIED

8. **MANAGER'S REPORT**

The Director, Recreation and Cultural Services, Kate Sparrow, provided an update on the process of "one stop shopping" registrations for programs offered by the City noting that general support had been given, at three recent stakeholder meetings, for moving the project ahead. Feedback gathered from customers regarding the current registration process indicates that the proposed changes will significantly improve service. It is also anticipated that this will also improve easy access to new users which should result in an overall increase in participation. The Association Boards that attended the stakeholder sessions also saw the benefits of moving in this direction; however, loss of identity for individual Associations was of concern to some. Staff will work with the Associations to develop a strategy which will raise the profile and promote the valuable contribution they make to the community. The addition of touch tone phone and internet registrations for aquatics programs was proposed for fall 2001. Arenas will be added later in the fall. In addition to this, in January 2002 all facilities in Richmond would be capable of taking registrations for any program offered in City facilities.

During the ensuing discussion information was requested on the following:

- (1) the costs that have been and will be incurred;
- (2) the future role of the community centre associations;
- (3) the future of volunteers and employees of the community associations;

- (4) the affect the new process will have on the historical independence of the associations;
- (5) the lack of equitability for the City;
- (6) what impact there would be on staff.

In response to questions regarding the logistics of the program, Ms. Sparrow said that the monies collected at each facility would be deposited into one central account and then transferred electronically on a weekly basis to the individual accounts for each facility (via the Book It and Point of Sale systems). Ms. Sparrow offered to provide a more detailed presentation on the financial aspects of the porcess if the Committee so desired.

The Manager, Parks Operations, Gord Barstow reported that he had recently attended a seminar, "How to be a Judge for Communities in Bloom", in Saskatoon. Mr. Barstow also provided a photoboard which evidenced recent damage caused by a vehicle to a row of trees along the walkway in the Terra Nova Neighbourhood Park.

The Manager, Parks, Mike Redpath, announced the opening date for the Western Indoor Tennis Centre – Friday, April 27, 2001 at 7:00 p.m. The presence of the Mayor and Council was requested.

Mr. Redpath also provided a report on the extension received for the Millenium Project.

The Manager, Cultural Services, Jane Fernyhough reported on recent events involving the Steveston Post Office, after which the following motion was introduced:

It was moved and seconded

That the status quo for postal services at the Steveston Postal outlet be supported.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded

That the meeting adjourn (6:27 p.m.).

CARRIED

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the meeting of the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Committee of the Council of the City of Richmond held on Tuesday, April 10, 2001.

Councillor Harold Steves
Chair

Deborah MacLennan
Administrative Assistant

**SCHEDULE 1 TO THE MINUTES OF
THE PARKS, RECREATION AND
CULTURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY,
APRIL 10, 2001**

SPEAKING NOTES

Presentation to Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee

April 10th, 2001

**VOLUNTEER RICHMOND AND THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF
VOLUNTEERS STEERING COMMITTEE**

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Mayor, Members of Council, City Staff, - on behalf of Volunteer Richmond and the International Year of Volunteers Steering Committee – thank-you for the opportunity to provide an overview of the work we are doing to strengthen the voluntary sector in Richmond.

INTRODUCE BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

As I'm sure most of you are aware by now, 2001 was declared International Year of Volunteers (known as IYV) by the 52nd session of the United Nations General Assembly.

The main objectives of the Year are the recognition, promotion, facilitation and networking of volunteer contributions worldwide. The choice of the first year of the new millennium is not coincidental: it represents an eloquent message from the General Assembly as to the paramount importance of volunteer contributions to the welfare and progress of all nations, and to their role in helping address problems of global concern in the future.

In addition to the 123 governments who initially supported the proclamation of IYV 2001, hundreds of organizations and scores of individuals worldwide have expressed their support for the Year and have been preparing for it. The greatest part of the activities and events are taking place at the local and national level, and will be facilitated by national and local committees.

This declaration has created a framework within which each country, community and organization could determine its own form of celebration. For Volunteer Richmond, the community volunteer centre, this means the development of a yearlong agenda of community events and activities that celebrate and raise awareness of volunteerism. It means a program that recognizes the tremendous efforts that individuals, groups, associations and businesses contribute each year to our community, and one that supports and develops the infrastructure needed to continue capacity building in the voluntary sector.

REVIEW INTERNATIONAL VALUES, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES – IN THEIR HANDOUT

THE CANADIAN OBJECTIVES, AS OUTLINED IN DETAIL IN THE FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION WORKBOOK, ARE:

- 1. Celebrate Volunteerism**
- 2. Promote Volunteerism For All**
- 3. Expand the definition of Volunteerism in Canada**
- 4. Improve Voluntary Infrastructure**
- 5. Develop Voluntary Sector Knowledge Base**

To this end, we established a Steering Committee, representative of the community, to assist us not only with our Volunteer Centre plans, but also with

the development of community initiatives that would work towards the main objectives and eliminate duplication of efforts. This committee is an excellent example of the community working together, and I feel privileged to be able to work with this group – many are here today and I would like to take a moment to introduce them –

And those not present include:

COMPLETE LIST OF STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS IS HANDOUT PACKAGE

And we are still growing.

After reviewing and adopting the objectives for the year, the Steering Committee developed an action plan that broke out into three areas: Community Education and Promotion, Training and Recognition, and I'd like to take a moment to highlight each.

Community Education and Promotion – one of our goals this year is to broaden people's understanding of who volunteers are and the types of volunteer opportunities that are available in the community. The Richmond Review, showing their support of the community, agreed to provide weekly articles highlighting a volunteer and the agency or area that they represent. We are grateful for this support, and the articles have generated interested and follow-up from individuals looking for opportunities. We would also like to acknowledge the Richmond Savings Foundation, who agreed to sponsor these articles to help offset the cost.

We have also launched monthly Volunteer Orientation nights – promoted through the Review articles, and the two held so far attracted 14 people per session.

We are doing presentations to various groups, including Council of Community Associations, Table 38, the School District student council, and have been working with the Library on public displays.

During National Volunteer Week, April 22-28, we will be hosting an agency trade show in Richmond Centre Mall – to which so far, over 30 community agencies have responded. We hope you are able to visit this community display at Richmond Centre on April 21st.

We approached the Chamber of Commerce for endorsement of our initiatives, and they agreed to sponsor us by way of a newsletter article that appeared in their latest edition of the Chamber News, an opportunity to speak at their upcoming AGM about corporate volunteerism, and several opportunities to display our information. It is our goal to raise the awareness of the importance of volunteerism in the corporate sector, to encourage companies to create employee volunteer programs, to support and recognize the employees who volunteer and to encourage their financial and sponsorship support to the non-profit community.

While we know that over 7.5 million Canadians volunteer, and over 1 million in BC, the story that is yet to be told is the value and contribution of volunteers in Richmond. We have applied for an HRDC Summer Career Placement grant to conduct a research project that will gather, analyze and report data on the economic and social impact volunteers have in our community.

Training - much is happening and will happen in the way of training. As the local volunteer centre, agencies look to us to provide capacity building resources and materials to assist in their work with volunteers. We recognized that not only do we need to encourage people to get involved in their community and volunteer, but also we need to ensure those that are working with volunteers are prepared and trained to do so.

We have launched our Volunteer Management Training Series, thanks in part to a grant received from InVolve BC. This program will run three times this year and is geared towards managers, coordinators, and supervisors of volunteers.

We are planning, with great assistance from Marg Elfstrom, the I Volunteer Community Volunteer training day, to be held October 27th at City Hall. This will be a coming together of Richmond volunteers, to network, share and learn on a variety of topics on volunteerism.

We will be launching a bimonthly coming together of coordinators of volunteers from various agencies, to discuss and review current issues and opportunities in the volunteer sector. We anticipate that future training needs would be identified at such meetings.

Recognition – lastly, and by no means least – we are putting the wheels in motion to launch Richmond's First Annual Volunteer Recognition Event – to be held December 5th, which is International Day of Volunteers.

This dinner event will be a coming together of Richmond Volunteers and the community that supports them. A nomination process will take place and category winners will be announced. Possible categories include Leadership, Leaders of Tomorrow for youth, Caring Companies, Community Service and Innovation. We will be looking towards the business community for support, and have included this event in our request to the City for Casino Funds.

Also in recognition, we are exploring the potential of linking in with the City Celebrations Day to recognize volunteers.

In addition, his Worship Mayor Halsey-Brandt officially declared the year on December 5th, 2000. Volunteer Richmond also chose this year, appropriately enough, to change the society's name – formerly Richmond Connections. Even

though on an annual basis we refer over 5000 volunteers, and assist over 300 agencies, we still suffered from a lack of identity. Our new name has been received with a great deal of positive response.

We are distributing IYV resource kits, prepared by Volunteer Canada to all community agencies and groups. Volunteer Richmond is also the clearing house for IYV recognition pins.

I think that sums up our plans to date. I say to date, as this really is work in progress. It is our goal that International Year of Volunteers doesn't lend itself to a one year project – rather, is a framework for us as a community to continue to build the capacity and create the awareness of the volunteer sector for years to come.

Like most non-profit organizations and agencies, funding and the need to find creative solutions to accomplishing our mandates and objectives continually challenges us. An IYV and the outcomes and future activity represents a significant amount of additional work, and need for resources. The Steering Committee has committed some of the most important resources of all – time, expertise and their passion to work with and strengthen the voluntary sector in Richmond. It is our hope that business will follow, supporting our efforts by way of financial sponsorship, and of course we anticipate a successful response to our casino grant application to the City – which was specific to IYV.

We wanted to present today not only as part of our community promotions plan, but also to seek your comment and input on our ideas and strategies. We also would like to request a Council liaison for the IYV Steering Committee, so that we can continue to keep in touch with Council as we progress with our plans, and call upon our liaison to represent Council at various events.

International Year of Volunteers is an unprecedented opportunity for Richmond to recognize the tremendous efforts our volunteers contribute each year, an excellent framework to continue to build the capacity in this invaluable area.

Once again, I would like to recognize the incredible contribution the members of our Steering Committee are making and also thank the City staff, Marg Elfstrom, and Kate Sparrow for providing invaluable support to our agency and committee.

We hope that you will endorse our plans and we look forward to hearing your feedback.

Thank-you.

Elizabeth Duda
Executive Director
Volunteer Richmond

Richmond Sports Council
c/o 6331 Bouchard Court
Richmond, BC
V7C 5W3

Mayor and Councillors
City of Richmond
6911 No 3 Road
Richmond, BC
V6Y 2G1

Dear Mayor and Councillors;

At the February 27, 2001 Monthly Meeting, the Richmond Sports Council passed two motions with direction to forward them to Richmond City Council and copy to other levels of government. These motions are:

To reaffirm Sport Council's desire to have the City obtain MOT/DOF/DND Lands for sport facilities and green space.

That Sports Council request when ideas for any development of the MOT/DOF/DND lands take place the sporting community will be represented through the Richmond Sports Council.

The Richmond Sports Council was a partner in Richmond's bid for the 1988 Canada Summer Games and the 1994 Commonwealth Games. The MOT/DOF/DND lands were an integral part of the Commonwealth Games bid as a location for sport facilities. Sports Council continues to have a vision for the use of these lands and we ask that we be included in any discussions involving their use.

Sincerely,



Cheryl Taunton
Chair

cc: Members of Parliament
Members of Legislative Assembly for British Columbia