



Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Committee

Date: Tuesday, April 29th, 2003

Place: Anderson Room
Richmond City Hall

Present: Councillor Harold Steves, Chair
Councillor Evelina Halsey-Brandt, Vice-Chair
Councillor Linda Barnes
Councillor Derek Dang
Councillor Sue Halsey-Brandt
Councillor Bill McNulty

Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m., and advised that the matter of Tall Ships – 2005, would be added to the agenda as an additional item.

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 25th, 2003, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

DELEGATION

2. **Joan Cowderoy, Executive Director, CHIMO Crisis Services, to make a presentation on the “New Directions in Crisis Prevention and Response Initiative”, a three year community development project which is just beginning in Richmond.** (File No. 3000-01)

Ms. Joan Cowderoy, Executive Director, CHIMO Crisis Services, provided information on the formation of CHIMO and the programs offered by the organization as part of its mandate to undertake crisis response and intervention in conjunction with other organizations in the City. She also talked about the “New Directions in Crisis Prevention and Response Initiative”, and explained how the program had been developed. A copy of her submission is attached as Schedule A and forms part of these minutes.

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Discussion then ensued among Committee and the delegation on the program, and in response to questions, the following information was provided:

- with reference to the survey currently being conducted by the Richmond Community Services Advisory Council (RCSAC), CHIMO would use the available data from that survey as a starting point and build on that information, and did not proposed to 'reinvent the wheel'
- how the initiative was introduced would be dependent on (i) the neighbourhood chosen, and (ii) the issues within that neighbourhood; consideration would be given to perhaps introducing the initiative through community centres and schools, and would be done in conjunction with the partner organizations and established networks
- it was critical that consideration be given to the variety of different ages and cultural issues which exist
- implementation of the initiative would have everybody working together and heading in the same direction; would provide an opportunity to maximize energy, and help to reduce the duplication of services
- CHIMO intended to report periodically to the City throughout the three year life span of the initiative with interim evaluation reports
- CHIMO was a member of the RCSAC and would be reporting on the project to that agency with a request for feedback; it was possible that other community agencies would want to become involved and there would be ways in which that could happen, however, CHIMO needed to start small with key resources; although CHIMO did not intend to participate with the Intercultural Advisory Committee at this time, a copy of the report could be provided to them
- the potential existed for the SUCCESS agency to become involved with the project, and Richmond Family Place had indicated an interest, depending on which community was selected first.

During the discussion, the importance of early intervention was stressed as it was felt that this was the best way to resolve problems. Questions were also raised about, and a brief discussion ensued on, whether the first step should be to catalogue available services to determine those programs were which were already funded by the City.

A brief discussion ensued on the appropriate action to take, and as a result, the following motion was introduced:

It was moved and seconded

- (1) *That the City enter into a partnership with CHIMO with respect to "Crisis Prevention and Response: New Directions in Richmond Initiative", (in accordance with the terms outlined in the correspondence dated April 23rd, 2003, from Ms. Joan Cowderoy, Executive Director); and*

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- (2) *That the matter be referred to staff for comment and the process to follow to implement Part (1) above.*

CARRIED

2A. TALL SHIPS 2005

(Letter: Apr. 28/03)

Ms. Janice Podmore, representing the Richmond Tall Ships 2005 Steering Committee, advised that she wished to provide an update on the activities of the steering committee since Council's approval on March 10th, 2003, "*That the City encourage the establishment of a non-profit society that would combine private sector and community interest, to host Tall Ships 2005.*"

Ms. Podmore advised that the mandate of the committee was to (i) create a 'not-for-profit' society which would combine private sector and community interests; (ii) identify key individuals for the proposed Board of Directors and other positions; (iii) begin the planning process for the 2005 event, including the development of a business plan, negotiation of the ASTA contract, development of print and other materials, possibly including the contracting out of needed expertise; and (v) upon the formation of the Society, inviting the members of the Steering Committee to become Directors of that Society.

Ms. Podmore further advised that the Steering Committee was submitting a request to the City for 'seed funding' in the amount of \$36,000 to cover the cost of the first year of operations, the development of the business plan, the cost of entering into the contract with ASTA, and miscellaneous expenses. She added that the Committee was also approaching Tourism Richmond for a significant amount.

Discussion took place among Committee members, the delegation and staff on the request. Reference was made to a report being prepared by staff on the matter of the City hosting major events. In response to questions, advice was given that the report would be submitted to the next meeting of the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Committee, and that the request of the Steering Committee, if referred to staff, could be returned to the same meeting.

During the discussion, concern was expressed about the request for funding without the existence of a business plan. Reference was made to the problems experienced by the City with regard to the hosting of the 2002 Tall Ships event, and questions were raised as to how 'things would be done differently' for the 2005 event. In response, advice was given that the Steering Committee was proposing that the Tall Ships Society host the event rather than the City; and that the Society be responsible for risk and liability. However, advice was given that the Steering Committee would like the City to be a significant partner in the event.

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With reference to the question raised as to whether the City could host the Tall Ships event in 2005 without ASTA, advice was given that that option could be considered. However, it was the opinion of the Steering Committee that the best opportunity to produce another successful event would be with the assistance of ASTA because of community and sponsorship expectations that the 2005 event would be just as successful, if not more so, than the 2002 event.

Written information was requested during the discussion on the improvements which the Steering Committee would make to improve the manner in which the 2005 event would be organized and managed. Advice was given that the information being requested would be included in the business plan, and Ms. Podmore indicated that she did not want to make assumptions on how the event might be managed before the business plan had been prepared. She stressed that the development of the business plan was critical to the future success of the event.

Discussion continued briefly on the matter, as a result of which, the following **referral** motion was introduced:

It was moved and seconded

That the request for funding received from the Tall Ships 2005 Steering Committee, be referred to staff for the preparation of a report and recommendations on the request, and that the report include:

- (1) *a detailed budget, including the request of \$36,000; and*
- (2) *any other potential financial expenditures, including facility use and management, staff time, etc.*

Prior to the question on the motion being called, staff were asked to liaise with other cities to determine if those cities had sponsored a particular major event for a second time.

The question on the motion was then called, and it was **CARRIED**.

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION

3. 2010 TRAILS STRATEGY

(Report: April 17/03, File No.: 2400-05) (REDMS No. 996915)

The Director, Parks Operations, Dave Semple, accompanied by Park Planner, Yvonne Stich, briefly reviewed the report and provided information on the preparation of the Trails Strategy to the Committee. A PowerPoint presentation, which summarized the strategy, was presented to the Committee.

Following the conclusion of the PowerPoint presentation, staff were congratulated on an excellent report. Discussion then ensued among Committee members and staff on:

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- the challenge of finding the funds to implement the more than 300 recommendations contained within the 20 year strategy; and potential funding sources
- how the strategy would be implemented and the need for a coordinated approach
- the meaning of the word 'infrastructure'
- the proposed 'blue waves' program, eco corridors and increase in passive recreation.

(Councillor Dang left the meeting at 5:10 p.m., during the above discussion, and did not return.)

During the discussion, comments were made that while the members supported the overall initiative, there were specific areas of concern, and questions were raised as to whether adoption of the strategy would automatically approve the projects within the strategy. Advice was given that Council approval would be obtained annually for those projects which were planned within that year, and Committee members expressed satisfaction with that plan of action.

Suggestions were made during the discussion that (i) developers should be encouraged to add greenway treatments which would connect sidewalks and create 'walkable' neighbourhoods; (ii) the City could consider providing assistance to existing residential strata units to add those developments to the 'walkable' neighbourhood trail system; and (iii) staff explore the feasibility of seeking sponsorship of trail signs, etc., through public and private contributions.

The Chair commented on the report, during which he provided information to staff on:

- the request of the Gulf of Georgia Cannery to develop the lane behind Third Avenue as a trail with memorial tree planting, and the interest of other societies in the same area
- the proposed development of the triangular green space on Railway Avenue, south of Moncton Street (suggested that no action be taken until a decision was made on the proposed LRT project)
- the proposal to negotiate with CPR on the future use of the Railway Avenue corridor (again suggested that no action be taken until a decision was made with respect to the future LRT project)
- the proposal to establish a short and long term land use plan in conjunction with the North Fraser Port Authority (suggested that this documentation be referred to the Vancouver Parks Board for its information)
- the bog forest and whether the Boy Scouts camp was to be relocated from its present site to an area of the bog forest as this was not mentioned in the report

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- the proposal to negotiate with the Ministry of Transportation & Highways for a trail in their right-of-way on the east side of Highway 99 (suggested that negotiations be delayed until a decision had been made on the LRT)
- the proposed Sea Island Trails, and the request was made that staff include the 'McDonald Farm Orchard'.

Discussion then ensued on the development of the master plan for park area in the North-west Quadrant of Terra Nova. Information was provided by staff that a public process would be initiated, followed by a report to Council through Committee with an appropriate plan of action on what could be accomplished with available funds.

Also discussed briefly was the feasibility of using 'drop' curbs rather than 'cut' curbs, during which comments were made on the problems caused to pedestrians by 'cut curbs'.

It was moved and seconded

- (1) *That the 2010 Richmond Trails Strategy, (as outlined in the document attached to the report dated April 17th, 2003, from the Director, Parks Operations), be endorsed in principle;*
- (2) *That staff seek public input on the 2010 Trails Strategy.*

CARRIED

COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION

4. FRASER BASIN COUNCIL: STATE OF THE FRASER BASIN REPORT

(Report: Apr. 7/03, File No.: 6150-05) (REDMS No. 991847)

The Assistant Manager, Environmental Programs, Margo Daykin, accompanied by Planner Rob Innes, reviewed the report with the Committee. During the brief discussion which ensued, in response to questions, advice was given that the Advisory Committee on the Environment (ACE) would next update their 'State of the Environment' report beginning in 2004.

It was moved and seconded

That (as outlined in the report dated April 7th, 2003, from the Manager, Emergency & Environmental Programs):

- (1) *a letter be sent on behalf of Council to the Fraser Basin Council (FBC) to:*
 - (a) *commend them on their report entitled, "A Snapshot on Sustainability: State of the Fraser Basin report, January 2003 "*
 - (b) *convey Richmond's continued support for the Fraser Basin Council's work on the comprehensive reporting of the health the Fraser Basin; and*

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- (c) *provide input to strengthen future State of the Basin reporting.*
- (2) *Staff continue to explore and report to Council on strategies for advancing sustainability (i.e. long-term economic, social and environmental well-being) in Richmond.*
- (3) *Staff incorporate relevant findings of the report into the City's Environmental Management Strategy and other relevant strategic initiatives (e.g, Flood Management Strategy, State of Environment (SOE), Economic Development Strategy, Waterfront Development Strategy, Trails Strategy, etc.).*

CARRIED

URBAN DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

5. THE WALKABLE RICHMOND ACCORD

(Report: April 17/03, File No.: 4050-08) (REDMS No. 996176)

It was moved and seconded

- (1) *That the Walkable Richmond Accord (Attachment 2 to the report dated April 17th, 2003, from the Manager, Policy Planning), be approved;*
- (2) *That the Walkable Richmond Accord be referred to the Richmond School District and Richmond Health Services Society for approval and signature, and then to the Mayor and City Clerk for signature; and*
- (3) *That the City work with the Richmond School District and Richmond Health Services to preserve, develop and improve Richmond's pedestrian environment for residents of all ages and abilities by creating a more liveable and safe walking environment in Richmond.*

The question on the motion was not called, as discussion ensued among Committee members, the Manager, Policy Planning, Terry Crowe, and Senior Planner Kari Huhtala, on the report. It was noted that staff proposed working with the School District and Richmond Health Services on the City's pedestrian environment, and questions were raised and addressed about whether this would be extended to include private centres. Staff were also reminded to consider the use of drop curbs in sidewalks, especially as the planning process was now being implemented.

The question on the motion was then called, and it was **CARRIED**.

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PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION

6. SCOTCH POND HERITAGE COOPERATIVE – UPDATE ON 2002 CAPITAL PROJECT WORK

(Oral report) (Delegation: Joe Bauer, President)

Mr. Joe Bauer, President of the Scotch Pond Heritage Cooperative, accompanied by the Coordinator, - Heritage Sites, Connie Baxter, spoke about the work undertaken to repair the Scotch Pond pier. At the same time, sketches were circulated to the Committee, to explain the deterioration of the pier and to help illustrate the work which had been completed to repair the damage. Also circulated were 'before' and 'after' photographs of the pier.

Discussion ensued among Committee members and the delegation on such matters as (i) the work to restore the Scotch Pond pier and building; and (ii) the silting which was occurring in the area and the impact if any, on Scotch Pond. The Scotch Pond Heritage Cooperative was thanked during the discussion for its efforts in restoring and preserving the building and pier. The suggestion was also made that the photographs circulated to the Committee should be erected at the site as 'infostructures' to show how the repair work had been undertaken, and discussion ensued on this proposal.

It was moved and seconded

That the oral report made by Mr. Joe Bauer, President of the Scotch Pond Heritage Cooperative, regarding the repairs to the Scotch Pond Pier be received for information, and that a letter be sent to the Cooperative, thanking the members for their hard work.

CARRIED

7. RICHMOND NIGHT MARKET STREET BANNER SPONSORSHIP

(Report: April 11/03, File No.: 7200-01) (REDMS No. 994792)

It was moved and seconded

That staff develop a contribution agreement with Target Event Promotions for the sponsorship of 26 street banners for the Richmond Night Market from May 2003 to October 2003.

The question on the motion was not called, as discussion ensued on whether the street banner program could be incorporated into local neighbourhoods. Also discussed was the City's adopt-a-street program and whether the City provided equipment to the volunteers to carry out cleanups. The suggestion was made during the discussion that photographs should be taken of the garbage dropped at bus stops and the producers of that product approached about the companies adopting the area around their establishments.

The question on the motion was then called, and it was **CARRIED**.

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8. **SOUTH DYKE COMMUNITY GARDEN**

(Report: April 4/03, File No.: 7200-20-CGAR1) (REDMS No. 977376)

It was moved and seconded

That staff implement the design and construction of a community garden to be located at the vacant land adjacent to the City Tree Nursery at 13871 No. 3 Road.

The question on the motion was not called, as discussion ensued among Committee members and staff on whether the annual rental fee for a garden plot should be increased from \$35 to \$50. The discussion concluded without support for a change in the current rental fee.

The question on the motion was then called, and it was **CARRIED**.

9. **MANAGER'S REPORT**

- (a) The Manager, Parks Operations, Gord Barstow, displayed four bags of bulbs, which represented a total of 4,000 bulbs purchased for a cost of \$3,000 CAN. He stated that the retail value of the bulbs would have been \$48,000 US. The suggestion was made that if Mr. Barstow was looking for assistance in planting the bulbs that he contact the Coordinator, Youth Services Wayne Yee.
- (b) Mr. Barstow reported that due to the recent wet weather and the Easter long weekend, grass cutting was behind schedule and complaints were being received from the public. He stated, however, that every effort was being made to get back on schedule.
- (c) The Manager, Parks – Programs, Planning & Design, Mike Redpath, advised that the official opening of the new children's playground equipment at Steveston Park would take place on Sunday, May 4th, 2003.
- (d) The Manager of Cultural & Heritage Services, Jane Fernyhough, reported that the next topic in the "Lulu Series: Art in the City" series would be a discussion on the revitalization of downtown Tacoma.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded

That the meeting adjourn (6:30 p.m.).

CARRIED

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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 29th, 2003.

Councillor Harold Steves
Chair

Fran J. Ashton
Executive Assistant, City Clerk's Office

SCHEDULE A TO THE MINUTES OF
THE PARKS, RECREATION &
CULTURAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY,
APRIL 29TH, 2003.

April 23, 2003

TO PRCS - Apr 29,
3000-01

Harold Steves
City Councilor and Chair
Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee
City of Richmond
6911 No. 3 Rd.
Richmond BC V6Y 2C1

Dear Harold Steves:

Re: Crisis Prevention and Response: New Directions in Richmond Initiative

Following recent discussions with Kate Sparrow, Director Recreation and Cultural Services and involvement of numerous City staff in planning sessions during the past year, I am submitting, for the Committee's consideration, a summary of the New Directions for Crisis Prevention and Response Initiative. This project will create a different partnership among several key agencies and institutions in the City that have been involved in preventing and/or responding to crises for many years. This demonstration project is designed to build on the good work that is already being done in communities in Richmond.

We would like to invite the City, and particularly City Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services to become a formal partner in this unique and exciting initiative. We believe that by working together collaboratively, we can maximize synergy, minimize cracks in services, and avoid duplications in the current systems of crisis prevention and response in Richmond. And, working alongside the natural helpers and leaders in local neighbourhoods, we can create a greater range of activities to build strong, healthy, safe and resilient communities for everyone – children, youth, singles, couples, families and seniors.

We believe this initiative will also help the City further strengthen neighbourhoods, enhancing what already exists. Some examples of current activities in which the various partner organizations are already involved include:

- Neighbourhood safety programs run throughout the City
- CHIMO's suicide prevention and stress management workshops in high schools
- Stepping Out, a seven session program series, also operated by CHIMO, to help build emotional resiliency among pre-adolescents
- Roots of Empathy, operated in elementary schools by Richmond Health Services
- Community police stations and various community programs arising from these

The "New Directions" initiative would invite Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services staff such as area coordinators, youth outreach workers and library staff to continue to be part of the collaborative community processes in which many are already involved, and to further strengthen and deepen these processes.

Funding for year one of this initiative, beginning this month, is already in place from United Way of the Lower Mainland, the Vancouver Foundation, the National Crime Prevention Centre and CHIMO Crisis Services. Funding will be sought for the second and third years of the project during the next several months. As with all partners, City Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services would be asked to contribute "in kind" resources, such as use of facilities for community meetings and volunteer training.

Along with CHIMO Crisis Services, Richmond School District, Richmond RCMP and Richmond Health Services are confirmed formal partners in the New Directions initiative. We invite City Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services to become a formal partner in this project as an important step in further supporting the City's vision of strong, healthy, safe and vibrant communities.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Joan Cowderoy".

Joan Cowderoy
Executive Director

Attachement
cc Kate Sparrow

Crisis Prevention & Response: New Directions for Richmond Initiative

Introduction

This paper outlines a three-year demonstration project to strengthen crisis prevention and response in Richmond through a partnership among key agencies and institutions in the City.

The overall goal of this initiative is strong, health, safe and resilient communities

The Issue

Most people in crisis turn to an informal network of family, friends and neighbours for help. These are what are called 'natural helpers'. When these informal supports are unable to provide what is needed, people turn to/are referred to the 'formal' crisis response services.

In Richmond, the 'formal' network includes: The City of Richmond, Richmond RCMP and the Fire Department, Richmond Hospital and other parts of Richmond Health Services, Richmond School District, Ministry of Child and Family Development, CHIMO Crisis Services, and the Ministry of Human Resources.

The 'formal' crisis response services find themselves increasingly less able to respond effectively to the demand. There are many reasons for this, including:

- Increasing demand
- No increase or a decline in funding for services
- Restructuring, reductions and changes in provincially provided/funded services
- Inappropriate or repetitive usage of the services
- Minimal coordination of the 'formal' crisis response services
- Increasing complexity of a diverse cultural/language population

The Opportunity

During the past year, representative of CHIMO Crisis Services, the City of Richmond (Recreation and Cultural Services, RCMP, etc.), Richmond School district and Richmond Health Services have been meeting to find ways to work more collaboratively to enhance the capacity of the Richmond community to prevent and respond to crises.

The 'formal' crisis prevention/response services have agreed, in principle to form a partnership to maximize synergy and minimize cracks and duplications in crisis prevention and response in Richmond. To support this direction they will jointly sponsor a *New Directions for Richmond Initiative*.

The Outcomes

The anticipated outcomes of the New Directions project are consistent with the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services benefits and outcomes adopted by City Council in 1998. They include:

- Neighbourhoods that are safe, healthy, and resilient; places where crises are transformed into opportunities for change and renewal
- Individuals, families, neighbourhoods and communities who have a greater capacity to both prevent and respond well to crises
- Reduced self-destructive and anti-social behaviour among children and youth
- Children and youth who have a greater capacity to prevent and respond well to crisis
- A 'formal' crisis response system that is effective and functional
- The 'formal' and 'informal' crisis prevention/response systems working in partnership

Possible Actions

The project proposes to enhance the crisis prevention and response capacity in Richmond in several ways:

- Prevent bullying among children/youth by enhancing interaction skills
- Foster cultural and racial harmony
- Build social skills among children and youth
- Increase positive youth activities and reduce negative ones
- Enhance neighbourhood connections and strengthen families
- Mobilize the community around emerging community issues
- Enhance community resources to be efficient, economic, effective and harmonized
- Promote appropriate and efficient use of emergency services' emphasizing prevention and early intervention

First Steps for the New Directions Initiative

- Design and fund a three-year project which will enhance the capacity of both 'formal' and 'informal' crisis prevention and response systems
- Build a comprehensive database of the current services,, programs and personnel providing crisis prevention and response services to Richmond residents
- Generate data on the incidence of diverse crises by neighbourhood
- Coordinate the 'formal' crisis response services into an effective functional network/system
- Decentralize the 'formal' crisis response network into local neighbourhoods, concentrating on one local neighbourhood in the first year as a demonstration project and adding two more neighbourhoods in the latter two years
- Get agreement of 'formal' services to dedicate existing personnel to work together to enhance the capacity of residents to resolve crises through building awareness, education and strengthening the capacity of 'natural helpers'
- Secure stable funding for the three-year project

The Partners in the Initiative

- CHIMO Crisis Services (Lead agency, confirmed)
- City of Richmond Recreational and Cultural Services (To be confirmed)
- Richmond RCMP (Confirmed)
- Richmond School District (Confirmed)
- Richmond Health Services (Confirmed)

Other Potential Partners

- Ministry of Child and Family Development
- Richmond Family Place
- SUCCESS