



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 38 (RICHMOND)

**COUNCIL/BOARD LIAISON COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

Date: Tuesday, May 6, 2003
9:30 a.m.

Place: 4th Floor Meeting Room
School District Administration Office

Present: Trustee A. McKitrick, Chair
Councillor E. Halsey-Brandt
Councillor D. Dang

Regrets: Trustee P. Whittaker

Also Present: K. L. Morris, Secretary-Treasurer
D. Semple, Director Parks
K. Sparrow, Director, Recreation & Cultural Services
T. Crowe, Manager, Policy Planning Department
G. Hackenbruch, Recording Secretary

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the agenda for the Tuesday, May 6, 2003 meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

2. MINUTES

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the March 11, 2003 Council/Board Liaison Committee meeting be approved, as amended.

CARRIED

3. BUSINESS ARISING

3.1 Grass Cutting/Block Booking Arrangements

Standing item. Mr. Morris noted that the financial arrangement between the City Council and the School Board is reviewed periodically. This arrangement has proved to be financially viable for both parties and the arrangement continues to work extremely well. Mr. Semple provided background to the City's provision of grass cutting at schools in exchange for the use of the school gymnasiums. Mr. Semple referred to vandalism issues that had been experienced in the Thompson/Burnett neighbourhood and provided information on how the School Board and the City solved the problem by jointly working together.

Councillor E. Halsey-Brandt commented that the issue of vandalism may be re-appearing in the Maple Lane Elementary School area. Mr. Morris noted that some years ago serious vandalism was being encountered in this area and a task force was set up and subsequently dealt with these challenges. Mr. Morris advised that Trustee Hobbs has been tasked with investigating vandalism at various schools as he has a wealth of knowledge and experience in this area. Mr. Morris advised that Trustee Hobbs has been tasked with investigating vandalism at various schools as he has a wealth of knowledge and experience in this area and that Trustee Hobbs had attended a meeting in Maple Ridge and that he would be available to share his knowledge. Mr. Morris then commented that, in an attempt to reduce vandalism and theft, a draft policy on video surveillance is under review by the Board at this time.

Mr. Crowe entered the meeting at 9:55 am.

Discussion ensued around the land at MOT lands at Garden City and the densification in the City core. Mr. Crowe commented that a presentation on population projections may be a useful visual tool in communicating statistics and plans going forward and provided details on information that could be presented.

Councillor Evelina Halsey-Brand closed by commenting that it would be informative for the City's Planning Department Staff to provide a brief presentation on population growth to the School Board. After discussion it was decided that City staff would provide a detailed presentation at a future meeting of the Facilities & Building Committee, a standing committee of the School Board. In addition, it was agreed that a short presentation be given at a future meeting of the Board of School Trustees.

4. NEW BUSINESS

4.1 PRCS Service Delivery System Renewal Plan

Ms. Sparrow provided an update on the process. She referred to the Council resolution on Monday, April 14, 2003, contained in the agenda package. She noted that this working group will be providing recommendations on a framework for a new Recreation Service Delivery System, identifying weaknesses in the current system and potential improvements, as well as an implementation strategy for the new model. Ms. Sparrow provided an update on the public meeting held last week, commenting that the Renewal Plan process includes future workshops, a series of focus groups, facilitated by consultants, looking at the vision over the next 10 years and providing an opportunity for involvement and input through this committee.

The Chair commented that Trustees had expressed an interest of being closely involved with the Plan and suggested that a member of the School Board be included in the Community Working Group.

Councillor E. Halsey-Brandt commented that the School Board fits best into the Master Plan in a focus group that will target youth, and those living in poverty unable to access available services.

The task of the youth focus group will be to obtain youth's views on the type of activities they enjoy and the type of services they would like to see the City offer. Councillor E. Halsey-Brandt noted that one of the guiding principles includes accessibility for all.

Trustee McKitrick commented that the City could hold a focus group with Table 38, a group comprised of student leadership in the District.

Trustee McKitrick requested that previous minutes of the Working Group be sent electronically to the School Board to keep Trustees aware of developments.

Councillor E. Halsey-Brandt requested that this item be included on future agendas of this committee until further notice.

Trustee McKitrick closed by commending the City for the work they are doing with the PRCS Service Delivery System Renewal Plan.

4.2 BC Disability Games

Councillor E. Halsey-Brandt advised that the City has declined to host the games. Some considerations around the decision included the number of volunteers required to be trained, necessary time for training, budget requirements, fundraising and planning requirements.

4.3 ParkPlaying Field - Maintenance cost for Anderson and MacNeill

Mr. Semple advised that the City and Board are currently working together on the cost of maintenance for park playing fields at Anderson and MacNeill schools.

4.4 Potential Cost Share for Artificial Turf for Minoru/Richmond High

Mr. Semple commented that the cost of the artificial turf field is \$1 million. He advised that cost sharing discussions between the School Board and the City would be held and it was envisaged that a 50/50 cost share and 50/50 profit share between the City and the School Board could be achieved.

It was noted that a discussion should take place between the City and the School Board on available funding to take this item forward.

4.5 Development of Long Term Maintenance and Reconditioning Plan

Mr. Semple provided background on this item including connections to storm drains. He advised that a report would be available for review in October 2003.

4.6 Investigating Strategies to Reduce Addictive Gambling and Enhance Support for Problem Gamblers

Mr. Morris advised that the School District's District Management Committee, comprising senior management, had considered the request and decided not support the request from the City to become involved in investigating strategies to reduce addictive gambling and enhance support for problem gamblers.

Councillor E. Halsey-Brandt commented that resources and assistance are available to students in the Richmond who require guidance with positive behaviour choices.

Mr. Crowe advised that the City had spoken to RADAT regarding the design of a program on the prevention and treatment of gambling. Mr. Crowe commented that he anticipates that this program, once received by the City, will ultimately be forwarded to the Province with a request for any additional funding that may require to be put in place to enhance support for problem gamblers. Mr. Crowe advised that he would share the program, once developed, with the School District.

Concern was expressed by Trustee McKitrick around increased gaming by the youth in our community.

4.7 Status of Seismic Mitigation Funding

Mr. Morris provided an update noting such items as non-structural seismic mitigation including the installation of film on windows to prevent slippage during a possible earthquake. He also noted that only five elementary gymnasia in the district remain to be seismically upgraded and these upgrades will be completed by the summer.

4.8 Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee Community Consultation Interim Report

Mr. Crowe noted that this Committee has been re-constituted with the mandate of consulting with the community to gather information and build relationships around intercultural issues. He advised that focus groups will be held to identify intercultural solutions by addressing cultural barriers, youth and community involvement issues. Based on the findings of these focus groups, a strategy going forward will be prepared. Mr. Crowe anticipates that the finalized strategy will be presented by Fall 2003.

Trustee McKitrick advised that Tony Carrigan, District Curriculum Co-Ordinator, represents the School District on this Committee.

Councillor E. Halsey-Brandt noted that it was encouraging to see so many faith groups involved in this consultation process.

Mr. Crowe and Ms. Sparrow departed the meeting at 11:05 a.m.

4.9 Disposition of Facilities

Mr. Morris commented that on March 3, 2003 the Board of School Trustees made the decision to close 4 school facilities. He advised that at its May 5, 2003 Public Meeting, resolutions were passed to dispose of the Garratt facility and to lease the Kilgour facility with its current zoning. He further advised that Rideau Park would be used by the school district's Continuing Education Department. Discussion took place around potential uses for the 2 acre site, zoned ALR, on which the current District Incentive facility is located at Shell Road.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

5.1 School Planning and Construction Schedule

A copy of the Planning and Construction Schedule was included with the agenda package. Mr. Morris provided a brief update on this item.

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, October 7, 2003 in the 4th Floor Meeting Room at the school district administration offices.

7. ADJOURNMENT

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the May 6, 2003 regular meeting of Council/Board Liaison Committee be adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted,

A. McKittrick, Chairperson