



## Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Committee

Date: Tuesday, May 28, 2002  
Place: Anderson Room  
Richmond City Hall  
Present: Councillor Harold Steves, Chair  
Councillor Linda Barnes, Vice-Chair  
Councillor Lyn Greenhill  
Councillor Sue Halsey-Brandt 4:06  
Councillor Bill McNulty  
Call to Order: 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 Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee held on Tuesday, April 23, 2002, be adopted as circulated.*

**CARRIED**

The Chair requested that the matter of the proposed artificial turf at Minoru Park be added to the agenda as Item 7.

### DELEGATIONS

2. (1) *Donna Laviolette, President, Richmond Fitness Association, to report on a recent significant change within the Association.*  
Ms. Laviolette read a written submission which is attached as Schedule 1 and forms a part of these minutes. A brief discussion then ensued on several options the Association had explored as a means of maintaining its service to the Community. The Chair thanked Ms. Laviolette and the Richmond Fitness Association for their efforts.

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- (2) *Mr. Oskar Kwieton to discuss his displeasure and concern related to the power poles located on the right of way in back of his property.*

Mr. Kwieton, 12291 Hiyashi Court, said that his property backs onto the Y trail with a view of the poles, and he questioned why the poles would be considered of heritage value. It was of concern to Mr. Kwieton that the poles would pose a long term risk and liability issue for the City. Mr. Kwieton distributed photographs of the poles and the railroad ties, the latter of which he noted to be sinking into the pavement posing a hazard for rollerbladers.

Mr. Graham Turnbull, a member of the Heritage Commission, said that the commission was of the opinion that the poles should remain as an indication of what was as the impact of the interurban tram in Richmond was of major significance. Interpretative signage is planned for the poles. Mr. Turnbull noted that the poles do not have, nor are intended to have, a heritage designation.

Mr. Bob Ransford, also a member of the Heritage Commission, said that the poles, and their alignment, are an important replication of an important landscape feature of the area which provide a representation of what once was. The interpretative signage, which will include photographs, will be informative as to the reasons for the alignment.

## PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION

### 3. **RICHMOND TALL SHIPS 2002**

(Report: May 13/02, File No.: 7400-20-TALL1) (REDMS No. 709813, 713504, 701328, 686587)

The Manager, Richmond Tall Ships 2002, Elenore Kubik and Janice Podmore, Event Chair, Richmond Tall Ships, were present to provide the Committee with updated information on the Tall Ships project. Ms. Kubik briefly reviewed the information contained in the report.

The discussion that ensued included the following information:

- the Steveston Harbour Authority were supportive of the event but wanted to ensure that their concerns, including those of liability, were not only recognized but were being addressed. It was requested that Council be provided with copies of the letters received from the Harbour Authority;
- the size of the co-ordinating committee and sub-committees had grown considerably;
- sponsorship is lively and ongoing but will conclude in approximately one month;

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- the print program will be underway soon. Media media and television sponsors have been confirmed;
- the presale ticket response has been stronger than expected and may have to be capped. A limited edition ticket, the Admirals Club, which would allow priority boarding, will be offered for sale in early June;
- it was hoped that the underestimated cost of ship recruitment would be offset by areas on the operation side that may have been overbudgeted. The sponsorship estimates could be over achieved. In addition, in kind donations could offset budget items;
- construction on the No. 3 Road pier will start immediately with the dredging set to commence in mid June. The boardwalk is in progress.

In concluding her comments, Ms. Kubik again acknowledged the great team that is in place and said that she had no concerns in any specific area that the City would not be prepared for the event.

It was moved and seconded

*That the report, dated May 13, 2002 from the General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, be received for information.*

**CARRIED**

#### 4. **SOUTH ARM CHILD CARE FACILITY - OUTDOOR PLAY AREA IMPROVEMENTS**

(Report: May 15/02, File No.: 2345-20-SARM1) (REDMS No. 718308, 720776)

The Manager, Parks Administration and Programs, Mike Redpath, briefly reviewed the report. Mr. Ross Adamson and Mr. Ray Jurczak, both of the South Arm Community Association, were also present.

A brief discussion ensued on i) the use of youth volunteers, and ii) the proposed use of the area from which the equipment was being removed.

It was moved and seconded

*That:*

- (1) *the outdoor play area improvements as proposed by the South Arm Community Association (detailed in attachment 1) be approved;*
- (2) *prior to undertaking any work, a contribution agreement between the South Arm Community Association and the City be developed that outlines the terms of funding, the design, and construction.*
- (3) *staff continue to work with the Community Association to ensure the project is in line with the overall objectives for South Arm Park as described in this report.*

**CARRIED**

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## 5. FUNDING AGREEMENT FOR THE DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTRE

(Report: April 8/02, File No.: 1000-10-051) (REDMS No. 682485, 706788)

The Director, Recreation and Culture, Kate Sparrow, reviewed the report. Special Needs Co-ordinator, Sean Davies, was also present.

Ms. Frances Clark, Richmond Committee on Disability, said that RCD had been very involved in the process and that it was satisfied with the results.

Councillor Greenhill left the meeting.

In response to a question regarding the social service mandate and the recreational mandate of the Disability Resource Centre it was agreed that the centre provided both social and recreational programs. In addition, Mr. Davies said one of the roles of the centre was to provide services in a manner that supported physical and attitudinal accessibility to programs.

It was moved and seconded

*That:*

- (1) *the Agreement for funding of the Disability Resource Centre between the Richmond Committee on Disability and the City of Richmond be approved and that staff be authorized to proceed with the signing of the agreement.*
- (2) *staff report back on the Pilot Project in September 2003.*

**CARRIED**

## 6. SERVICE LEVEL REVIEWS

(Report: May 14/02, File No.: 7000-01) (REDMS No. 720779, 722081)

The Director, Recreation and Cultural Services, Kate Sparrow, briefly reviewed the report. The dates chosen for the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services review process were June 25<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.; June 26<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.; and, June 28<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

It was moved and seconded

*That the report, dated May 14, 2002 from the General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, be received for information.*

**CARRIED**

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## 7. PROPOSED ARTIFICIAL TURF AT MINORU PARK

The Manager, Parks Administration and Programs, Mike Redpath, reviewed the information contained in the memorandum.

It was moved and seconded

*That the memorandum, dated May 24, 2002 from the Manager, Parks, Administration and Programs, be received for information.*

**CARRIED**

## 8. MANAGER'S REPORT

The Manager, Parks Administration and Programs, Mike Redpath, i) reported that 30% using the facility at MacDonald beach were using the credit card system; ii) thanked the Committee for attending and supporting the launch of the Bike Terrain Park at the foot of No. 2 Road; iii) reported that the Annual Sports Awards had recently been held; iv) advised that redesign of the Steveston Town Square site was currently underway. Mr. Graham Turnbull thanked Parks staff for informing the public of the City's intent and for marking the tree.

The Director, Recreation and Cultural Services, Kate Sparrow, reported that the City had recently been awarded the 2002 BC Medical Award for Health Promotion. The award is to be presented in the middle of June.

The Manager, Parks Operations, Gord Barstow, reported that above average growth was generating some negative public comment, however, positive comments were being received about the flower program which is 75% complete. Mr. Barstow advised that a position would be created that would respond to public comments received on Parks issues.

The Manager, Cultural Services, Jane Fernyhough, reported that the last instalment of the Millennium Grant for the Britannia Shipyard and the front dock, had been received. The work will take place between July 1 – 31, 2002 with the dredging to be completed prior.

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## ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded

*That the meeting adjourn (5:48 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, May 28, 2002.

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Councillor Harold Steves  
Chair

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Deborah MacLennan  
Administrative Assistant

Presentation to the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee  
May 28, 2002

### **Brief History**

The Richmond Fitness Association is one of several organizations that are registered as not for profit societies and have a Board of Directors that governs a City of Richmond owned facility. RFA has existed since 1984 and has successfully provided a range of fitness activities and health and wellness education at the Minoru Sports Pavilion and various other venues within the City of Richmond. RFA was started when there was a need in the early 1980's for fitness classes in the community and were not offered at that time by other community centres. The other associations soon grew and offered fitness classes. RFA was driven to maintain itself as a Citywide based association reaching out to areas of health and wellness within the community. With the exception of Adventure Camp (formally called Sports' Camp), RFA offers only fitness related programs and services unlike the other associations who are involved in a broader range of activities for the citizens of Richmond.

In 2001 with declining revenues and increasing costs for program delivery, the Board of Directors commissioned a feasibility study to look at the various options available in terms of refocusing the Richmond Fitness Association to a Wellness Centre. The research conducted and feasibility study was to examine the options for operational mandates for the Richmond Fitness Association, up to and including discontinuation of the Society. In December 2001 RFA contracted the Benchmark Group, a consulting firm.

### **Current Status**

The Benchmark Group presented the results of their study and research to the Board of Directors on March 25 2002. A final report was submitted in April 2002. The report provides detailed documentation of the research conducted by the consultants as well as two options for the board to examine. The Board voted to dissolve the Richmond Fitness Association based on many factors. The stark reality was written in the study prepared by the consultants. With increasing costs for qualified instructors, staff and equipment, we struggle to keep afloat with our basic fitness classes. These programs are not exclusive to the RFA as they are offered in all the community centres. The goal to become a wellness centre, educational providers for instructors and branch out in other areas of health and wellness is cost prohibitive as we exist now. The duplication of services and programs within the city prevent the RFA from being unique and because fitness is all we provide, we are unable to raise the revenue needed for equipment and resources.

The Richmond Fitness Association will continue to operate until August 2003. We will be discussion and contact with the other community associations to discuss the possibility of transferring some of our larger classes to another centre so as not to disrupt the patrons. As well, the instructors are being notified of this change in advance so that they may secure instructor positions within the City with other associations.