



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 38 (RICHMOND)



Tuesday, SEPTEMBER 18, 2007
9:30 a.m.

School District Administration Building
4th Floor Board Room

Present: School Trustee Donna Sargent, Chair
 School Trustee Linda McPhail
 Councillor Linda Barnes
 Councillor Derek Dang

Also Present: T. Crowe, Manager, Policy Planning*
 D. Semple, Director, Parks & Public Works Operations
 K. Sparrow, Director, Recreation & Culture*
 E. Stepura, Manager of Sports and Community Events
 W. Mercer, Manager, Community Bylaws
 G. Buss, Chief Librarian, City of Richmond
 B. Beairsto, Superintendent of Schools
 K.L. Morris, Secretary Treasurer
 E. Thorleifson, Manager of Facilities
 K. Littlewood, Executive Secretary, SD 38
 *Not present at the start of the meeting

Call to Order: The Chair called the open meeting to order at 9:31 am

The Chair asked for Introductions of all those present.

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

It was moved and seconded:

That the agenda for the meeting of Tuesday, September 18, 2007, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

2. MINUTES

It was moved and seconded:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council Board Liaison Committee held on Tuesday, May 8, 2007 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

3. BUSINESS ARISING

Item 3.1 moved to later in the agenda

4. NEW BUSINESS**4.1 Banning Tobacco and Smoking in Public Places and Schools**

The Superintendent provided background to the legislation that prohibits the consumption of tobacco on school grounds. The Board, Superintendent and Principal are now liable for those found to be smoking on school grounds unless they can prove due diligence. The City will notify its users and/or renters of the legislation.

There was a question concerning school board property and smoking pits. The secondary school principals have all been advised of the property lines between city and board property in this regard.

Ms. Sparrow and Mr. Crowe joined the meeting at 9:40 am

Mr. Stepura spoke to the question concerning the City's policy on smoking in public places. Currently there is no policy for prohibiting smoking in outdoor public areas however the public is aware of the non-smoking campaign. A bylaw was created prohibiting smoking on artificial turf fields and no-smoking signs will be posted at Richmond, Minoru and Hugh Boyd playing fields.

Mr. Mercer explained enforcement of the bylaws and indicated the City is waiting to review Bill 10 details. The bylaw office works closely with the health department and they do the enforcement under contract. Regulations in other municipalities were discussed.

The Superintendent noted the importance of both groups working together and initiating tobacco reduction strategies. Mr. Semple indicated the Sports Council has discussed educating children not to smoke.

No-smoking signage at Cambie was discussed and Mr. Morris asked that signage be placed there and at Hugh Boyd. Each principal has been given the responsibility of where to put signage. He noted that the Cambie Community Centre building is located on land that is predominantly owned by the Board. He went on to explain that Section 3 of the Cambie Operating Agreement comments on the fact that the Board and the City of Richmond are Tenants in Common at a ratio of 87% to 13% respectively, of the entire 7 acre site.

Item 3.1 moved to this point in the Agenda

3.1 Traffic in and around Schools

Mr. Semple explained that discussions have taken place with land developers in the Tomsett area and it was felt conditions have improved. The City will speak to new contractors coming onto sites.

There was discussion concerning the information provided to contractors as it pertains to school location. Currently inspectors deal with on-site issues on a complaint basis.

The Superintendent expressed concern with snow on the roadways making the Tomsett site a dangerous situation. Mr. Semple suggested special consideration be given to this area in an emergency.

It was suggested the City's building department ask development application staff to speak to people applying for permits regarding schools in their area and hand out a standard information notice to people seeking a demolition permit.

Mr. Crowe explained the application process as it pertains to traffic plans. There was further discussion on children walking and biking to school.

4.2 Change from Board of School Trustees to Board of Education and How it May (or May Not) Impact the Library and the City, as well as Opportunities that this Change May Present

The chair welcomed Mr. Buss, Chief Librarian, to the meeting.

The Superintendent spoke about community literacy and the involvement of libraries. He explained there is no funding associated with this.

Mr. Buss provided background on public libraries and their operation and mandate. The overlap of users in the library and schools was noted. Richmond is the busiest library in Canada and it was felt the Ministry is looking for cooperation between our two groups.

There was a question concerning library governance and an explanation of the Library board was provided.

The literacy group mandate and structure was discussed. It was suggested that the Community Literacy Plan be brought to the Council Board Liaison Committee. Monica Pamer, Associate Superintendent, will be asked to speak at an upcoming meeting as she is the head of the committee. There is little funding for this group and concern for implementation of ideas was discussed.

The Chair suggested that library staff give a presentation at a Principal's meeting or Pro-D conference to engage teachers. Mr. Buss noted that they attend PAC meetings and welcome more interaction with schools.

4.3 City Centre Area Plan Demographic Study

Mr. Crowe informed the committee that Council endorsed the CCAP on August 8th. There are upcoming meetings with consultants and the Secretary Treasurer to discuss the plan.

The Superintendent appreciated receiving the data and went on to discuss the student population in the plan and how it affects schooling.

Mr. Morris explained that meetings with Ministry staff (ARES) are ongoing and that, according to the Ministry of Education's MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE AREA STANDARDS, currently the Board owns more land than is needed. There are expectations from government concerning land sales and acquisition and it was explained their new policy applies whether land is Ministry owned or Board owned and applies to the status quo, not property that is currently for sale.

It was recommended:

THAT the City Centre Demographic Study be referred for discussion to the next City School Land Planning Committee meeting and then brought back to the Council Board Liaison Committee.

CARRIED

4.4 OCP Referrals

Mr. Crowe has had discussions with the Secretary Treasurer's office concerning OCP referrals and they will continue to be forwarded to the Board.

More information has been asked for by the Board and the City is working on providing information on residential lists and towers as it pertains to City Centre.

5. JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT / STANDING ITEMS

(This is now a standing item for reporting on the City School District Joint Management Committee)

The Superintendent noted that two meetings have taken place and the Joint Management Committee will meet more frequently than originally thought.

Community Initiated Capital Projects were discussed at the last meeting and TAG and DMC lists have been exchanged.

5.1 LAND - City School Land Planning Committee

To date the Land committee has met once.

Councillors and Trustees met recently at the Visioning Session and it was noted that they are very hopeful that the Joint Committee will be a good communication tool and are hopeful that the Joint Committee will be a success. It is felt that a breakdown in communication will occur if there are not frequent, monthly meetings.

5.2 PROGRAMS

Ms. Sparrow noted the initial Program Committee meeting has taken place. The committee was updated on the District Literacy Planning process.

Community School Connections has been an ongoing initiative and the schools being focused on are Cook, Anderson and Hamilton. An explanation of the funding for this program was provided.

Health promotion, Grade 5 Getting Active passes and food and beverage guidelines are some of the items of interest.

A joint Interest is the Olympics and the Superintendent noted that through the program committee an Olympic committee will be formed.

There was a question concerning the Sister City connection within the programming committee. It was noted this had not been identified. Councillor Barnes asked that this be brought forward to the committee.

Trustee McPhall provided an update on the Board's Sister City Committee Involvement. Councillor Dang met in August with the economic development officer and discussed the Sister City Committee and its emphasis on economic friendship. The Board's International Student Program was mentioned as an avenue of expertise that could be provided by the Board. The Board would like to be more involved with this committee.

It was recommended:

THAT the City School District Joint Management Committee discuss the possible co-beneficial opportunities and economic ties that may relate to the Sister City's trip to China.

CARRIED

6. INFORMATION / STANDING ITEMS

6.1 School Planning and Construction Schedule

Mr. Thorleifson provided an update of the move into Steveston-London Secondary.

It was reported that the McKinney Elementary envelope project is nearing completion and the two seismic projects at Brighthouse and Garden City are ongoing.

Mr. Morris noted that 6 portables will be moved to Garden City Elementary next summer and this may impact City programs.

The Steveston-London theatre is large, 165 seats and is available to the City for rental. There will be discussions with the City on the possible rental of the facility. The partnership of facilities and the community rental rate were explained by Mr. Morris.

There was a question concerning the pathway and an outdoor classroom at MacNeill Secondary and the possibility that planning discussions could occur in the future. It was thought that this could be addressed through the Land committee. Mr. Thorleifson noted it would be helpful if schools could be involved

In the planning process as it pertains to outdoor or environmental issues.

6.2 2010 - City's Olympic Planning Committee

Ms. Sparrow provided an update and noted that the Oval is progressing well and is scheduled to open in fall 2008. Over the fall direction on how the community gets engaged will become clear.

Meetings have taken place between the Olympic Business Office and district staff.

Councillor Barnes departed the meeting at 11:40 am

6.3 City Centre Area Plan

A visioning session took place recently. Mr. Crowe noted that an implementation strategy for the CCAP will be forthcoming. A draft area plan and implementation strategy will be shown to the school district.

The School Board will be included in the plan when possible. The Board will discuss the demographic data and send a formal reply to the plan.

Councillor Dang asked about the possibility of a consultant looking at comparable inner city schools to gain a snapshot for acquiring land in the city centre. The GIS system in other communities was explained and could be used to examine inner city schools in other districts.

It was noted that the Board will be under pressure to sell land and some of that land is used in the park percentages for the City's calculations of the CCAP. It was noted that the Land committee's position is to look at the ratios pertaining to this type of development.

6.4 LAND - OCP Bylaw Preparation Consultation Policy

Mr. Crowe noted that the city is hoping to discuss the OCP in November. Consultation with the District will happen all of 2008 and 2009. This length of time is due to the GVRD livable region plan.

7. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Council Board Liaison Committee is scheduled for December 11, 2007, 9:30 am, 4th Floor Board Room, School District Administration Building

8. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded

That the meeting adjourn at 11:28 am