



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 38 (RICHMOND)

**COUNCIL/BOARD LIAISON COMMITTEE
PUBLIC MINUTES**

Date: Tuesday, October 4, 2005
9:30 a.m.

Place: 4th Floor Meeting Room
School District Administration Office

Present: Trustee L. McPhail, Chair
Trustee S. Bourque
Trustee D. Tablotney
Councillor D. Dang
Councillor E. Halsey-Brandt

Also Present: B. Beairsto, Superintendent of Schools
K. Morris, Secretary Treasurer
D. Semple, Director, Parks Operations
K. Sparrow, Director, Recreation & Cultural Services
E. Thorleifson, Manager of Facilities
T. Crowe, Manager, Policy Planning
M. Redpath, Manager, Parks – Program Planning & Design
S. Groves, Project Engineer

**1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED**

THAT the agenda for the Tuesday, June 14, 2005 meeting be adopted as circulated.
CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the agenda for the Tuesday, October 4, 2005 meeting be adopted as amended.

Add: 4.4 Garden City Park Opening

CARRIED

**2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES
IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED**

THAT the minutes of the Tuesday, April 12, 2005 Council/Board Liaison Committee meeting be approved, as circulated.

CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the Tuesday, June 14, 2005 Council/Board Liaison Committee meeting be approved, as circulated.

CARRIED

3. BUSINESS ARISING

3.1 UBC Rowing Facility

Mike Redpath updated the committee regarding the status of construction of UBC's rowing facility that will be built near to the new Oval on the middle arm of the Fraser River. It is anticipated that the facility will be built in 2006. Board Chair and superintendent had met with UBC to discuss the possibility of the programming of that facility. Mr. G. Kishi is the Board's representative to further discuss this matter with UBC and the City of Richmond.

3.2 Status of the Mitchell School Site

Ken Morris, Secretary Treasurer, led the discussion and advised the committee that the Board, by resolution, had decided to defer the painting of Old Mitchell until such time as it has been determined that the Continuing Education programs would continue beyond 2006. This matter will again be considered by the Board in the fall of 2006. There was general discussion regarding the appearance of the facility and for the Board to act as "a good neighbour". This matter will be discussed by the Council Board Liaison Committee later in 2006.

4. NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Richmond Teachers Withdrawal of Service

The Secretary Treasurer indicated that he has been in close contact with staff from the City of Richmond regarding the withdrawal of service by the Richmond Teachers Association and the potential impact on City services. He went on to describe the complexity of the relationship between the City and the School District during any work stoppage. Bruce Beairsto, Superintendent of Schools, described in detail the three phases of job action that had been initially contemplated by the B.C. Teachers Federation and the fact that only phase one had been approved by the Labour Relations Board. Yesterday Bill 12 had been introduced in the Legislature and given first reading. This Bill extends the existing contract until June 30, 2006 and effectively prevents the union from striking and placing pickets in front of schools. Mr. Morris advised the Committee that the School District would contact the City when more is known about the possible actions by the teachers.

4.2 Flag Protocol

The Secretary Treasurer advised the committee that there have been a number of instances when flags have been flown at half-mast by one party and not the other. He indicated that there is a need for the City and the School District to communicate more effectively regarding issues of flag protocol.

10:00 AM Bruce Beairsto and Eric Thorleifson left the meeting.

Dave Semple, Director, Parks Operations, indicated that he would place this matter on the General Purposes Committee of Council.

4.3 School Community Connections Program

The Secretary Treasurer advised the Committee that the School District had recently received an announcement from the Ministry of Education detailing the criteria for projects related to the province's School Community Connections Program. He advised the Committee that he had been one of 2 secretary treasurers in the province who had been asked by the BCSTA to review the criteria and the application process. He commented that, in his opinion, there were limited opportunities for the community to avail themselves of these funds. However, it was probably for City and District staffs to review, critically, the criteria and determine if there were any potential needs for these funds to be used in Richmond. Kate Sparrow, Director, Recreation & Cultural, advised that she had met with Bruce Beirsto prior to this meeting and they were in agreement that a committee should be formed to review these materials in detail and proceed with Phase 1.

4.4 Garden City Park Opening

Trustee Sandra Bourque questioned why Trustees had not been formally invited to the opening of the Garden City Park. She advised that the Richmond School Board and Richmond City Council had been endeavouring to establish an extensive school park site in the area for the past 15 years. The Board had completed all of its land acquisition and had built an elementary school, Anderson Elementary, and a secondary school, A.R. MacNeill Secondary, and had recently completed the rezoning of the school site. She further advised that, as a courtesy to Richmond City Council, the Mayor and members of City Council are invited to all school openings, whether Council has contributed to the project or not. The Secretary Treasurer commented that there is an established protocol in board policy as to who is invited to these openings. He advised that he would provide a copy of this protocol to City staff. Councillor Evelina Halsey-Brandt indicated that this matter will be placed on the General Purposes Committee of Council and apologized for the over-site of not inviting Trustees. She indicated that all Trustees would be invited to attend the opening of the park at 11:00 am on Saturday, October 8th. Mike Redpath, Manager, Parks – Program Planning & Design, indicated that an invitation would be sent to trustees via e-mail.

5. PROGRAMS

Kate Sparrow reported that School District staff and City staff have been meeting on a regular basis to develop a common vision for initiatives that could be developed between the City of Richmond and the Richmond School District. She advised that there is a school health liaison committee but their mandate is evolving to be broader than the title of the committee would indicate. The committee has representatives from the School District, Richmond Health Services, the Ministry of Children and Families, and the RCMP. All of the partners have agreed to adopt the Vision "to be the best place in North America to raise children and youth". A joint grant application has been submitted under the Health Promotion program being administered by UBCM to mobilize the community around this vision and to educate the community about Asset Development. Ms. Sparrow went on to advise that the city had recently completed the *Parks Recreation and Cultural Services - A Master Plan for 2005-2015* and the importance of this document to the School District and to the

community at large. Ms. Sparrow went on to describe the opportunities that are related to the 2010 Olympics and in particular the post-game opportunities.

6. FACILITIES

6.1 City School Land Planning Committee

City of Richmond School Board Land Liaison Group

The Secretary Treasurer indicated that a meeting of the City School District Land Committee was held on Monday, Sept. 19th and that the following items were discussed.

Items brought forward by the City of Richmond:

- a) Proposed draft land exchange of Steveston/London site:
The Secretary Treasurer indicated that there is a need for a land exchange on this school park site in order to improve traffic circulation pattern.
- b) Future development of the Old Mitchell site:
As discussed previously.
- c) The future of Steveston Secondary School:
The Secretary Treasurer indicated that the school is still operational has made no decision regarding the future of that facility.
- d) Rezoning of the Anderson-MacNeill development:
The Secretary Treasurer indicated that the rezoning of the Anderson MacNeill school site had been completed and that a number of houses would be demolished in the next few weeks in order to provide additional parking and playing fields on the site.
- e) Sidaway closure – adventure playground:
Mike Redpath advised the Committee that the Kingswood PAC had approached the City to relocate the adventure playground from Sidaway Annex to City land at the Kingswood Elementary school/park site. Mr. Morris advised that the estimated cost to relocate was in the order of \$15,000.
- f) Present utilization of Rideau Park:
The Secretary Treasurer advised that Rideau Park is presently being used for adult graduation/completion and that it is anticipated that the facility will be fully utilized in the months to come. In the past traffic had been a concern of the local neighbours.
- g) Steveston/London construction:
The preload is completed and it is anticipated that the construction will be underway in January 2006 and the project will be completed by June 2007.

Items brought forward by the School District:

- a) Whiteside Elementary replacement:
The Secretary Treasurer advised that District staff were hopeful that the Ministry of Education would fund the replacement of Whiteside Elementary School. The best location for the replacement school would be immediately west of the existing school on City land and therefore the need for a land exchange between the City of Richmond and the Richmond School District.
- b) West Cambie update:
The Secretary Treasurer advised that there had been a discussion by the Land Committee regarding the future developments in the West Cambie area. This area is bounded by Cambie Road (North), #4 Road (East), Garden City (West) and Alderbridge Way (South). There had been a general discussion regarding the capacity of the school to accommodate any school-aged

children that might arise from such a development. Mr. Morris commented that there is likely to be capacity within the school to accommodate school aged children that would arise from such development. To the south, A.R. MacNeill presently has the capacity to accommodate any secondary aged children.

c) Garden City lands:

The Secretary Treasurer indicated the School District was interested in receiving any information on residential developments that are planned in this quadrant and would appreciate receiving any information in a timely manner.

d) Minoru Park plan:

Mike Redpath indicated that the public would be consulted regarding the Minoru Park Plan. As part of this discussion, Mr. Morris commented that, as a possibility, perhaps a public safety building could be built on the existing RCMP offices site and School Board offices site if appropriate financial arrangements could be made between the City of Richmond and the Richmond School District.

6.2 OCP Bylaw Preparation Consultation Policy

Terry Crowe, Manager, Policy Planning, advised the Committee that the Local Government Act had changed in January 2001, specifically sections 778 and 781. He advised that historically the City of Richmond had telephoned the Secretary Treasurer to advise him of major developments that were taking place within the community. Mr. Crowe advised that there has been consultation on major projects. Councillor Halsey-Brandt said that the Board has a fiduciary responsibility to look beyond the capacity of schools and to look at the education of the whole child and the educational needs of the community as a whole.

10:30 AM Bruce Beirsto re-joined the meeting.

Trustee Bourque commented that the Board represents the public in matters of public education. She advised the Board is the bridge between the managers and provincial policy. Mr. Crowe went on to describe in detail the levels and extent of consultation that takes place with regard to the Official Community Plan, amendments to the OCP and rezoning and development application permits. Bruce Beirsto, Superintendent of Schools, commented that it is important to look at the “ends” not just the “means” of what we are discussing. The Board Chair, Trustee McPhail, asked that this matter be referred to the Board’s Personnel and Finance committee for further discussion.

7. INFORMATION/STANDING ITEMS

7.1 School Planning and Construction Schedule

A copy of the Planning and Construction Schedule was provided. Preloading was done at the London site over the summer. The project is to be completed by Summer 2007 and the approximate cost is \$16 million.

The seismic upgrading will go ahead at Brighthouse and Garden City and will continue, as funds are available.

The playing fields are in at Richmond Secondary and are now complete and in use.

Have completed the re-zoning of the MacNeill site.

7.2 2010 - City's Olympic Planning Committee

Kate Sparrow introduced Scott Groves, Project Engineer for the Olympic Oval. She advised that they were at the schematic design stage and that it has been decided that parking will be provided underneath the Oval. She also advised that River Road was to be closed for an extended period of time effective today. Mr. Groves advised that the new road was not anticipated to be under construction until at least January 2006. He indicated that the general public was not viewing this closure positively. Councillor Derek Dang commented that the trees had received a "stay of execution". Mr. Semple advised that trees greater than 6 inches in diameter would be recycled.

The Secretary Treasurer enquired as to the status of the residential developments associated with the Oval. Ms. Sparrow advised that there is an Open House at City Hall where this information is available. Ms. Sparrow went on to discuss the various committees that are associated with the Oval including the Spirit of BC - Richmond Committee where Glenn Kishi is the School District's representative. She indicated that the focus is on Building the Spirit of Richmond and that the committee has identified 3 key focus areas: Communication, Building Volunteer Capacity, and Community Initiatives. The committee is the liaison with *Legacies Now* and will communicate to the community any funding opportunities available. Trustee Debbie Tablotney asked Ms. Sparrow about the various initiatives associated with *Get Richmond Moving*. Ms. Sparrow said that she would provide this information to Dr. Bruce Beirsto and that he would forward the information to Trustees.

Trustee Bourque asked about the cost for the Oval and whether or not the parking and the land costs are factored into those costs. Councillor Dang commented that they were not. Trustee Bourque asked whether the amount of manpower that is being devoted to the Oval in any way affects the City's existing programs. Councillor Dang said there would be no impact and no adverse affect to existing programs.

7.3 School Use/PRCS Use

No report.

10:45 AM Councillor E. Halsey-Brandt left the meeting.

8. NEXT MEETING

January 17th, 2006, 9:30 am, City Hall.

9. ADJOURNMENT

10:50 am

Respectfully Submitted,

L. McPhail, Chairperson