



Council/School Board Liaison Committee

- Date: Tuesday, September 28th, 2004
Place: Anderson Room
Richmond City Hall
- Present: Councillor Evelina Halsey-Brandt, Chair
Councillor Derek Dang
School Trustee Debbie Tablotney
School Trustee Sandra Bourque
School Trustee Linda McPhail
- Also Present: B. Beairsto, Superintendent of Schools, School District No. 38 (Richmond)
K. L. Morris, Secretary-Treasurer, School District No. 38 (Richmond)
G. McLean, Manager, Facilities
Cathy Volkering Carlile, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
K. Sparrow, Director, Recreation & Cultural Services
M. Redpath, Manager, Parks – Programs, Planning & Design
R. Allueva, Director of Development
D. Pearson, Manager, Community Outreach
F. J. Ashton, Executive Assistant, City Clerk's Office
- Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

1. It was moved and seconded
That the agenda for the meeting of Tuesday, September 28th, 2004, be adopted with an amendment to add under New Business, as Item No. 4.3 – Sidaway School, and to add to Item No. 4.5, "Fireworks Regulation Bylaw No. 7801"; and that the order of the agenda be varied to deal with Item No. 4.5 at the beginning of the agenda.

CARRIED

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MINUTES

2. It was moved and seconded

That the minutes of the meetings of the Council/School Board Liaison Committee held on Tuesday, May 11th, 2004 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

4.4 Parking Program – Delivery of Notices of Bylaw Violation

(Report: June 3/04) (File No.: 12-8060-20-7724/7725/2004 – Vol 01) (REDMS No. 1297676, 1230543)

The Manager, Community Outreach, Don Pearson, reviewed the on-going traffic situation around local schools, noting that Bylaw Enforcement Officers now had the ability to mail tickets to parking violators. He also provided information on, and circulated samples of, a pamphlet which would be mailed out with each issued ticket.

Discussion then ensued on the broader issue of why parents felt it was necessary to drive their children to school rather than allowing them to walk to school, with comments being made about the need to reassure parents that their children would be safe on city streets. A suggestion was made that children attending kindergarten be given staggered times to leave school as a means of reducing traffic in the area. The Chair suggested that the School District examine the feasibility of this suggestion.

In concluding the discussion on this matter, the Chair stated that while she did not know what the solution might be, the City and School District would work together to resolve the parking problem.

The Chair advised that Council, at its September 27th, 2004 meeting had adopted a new Fireworks Regulation bylaw. The new regulations and corresponding fine schedule were then reviewed.

Discussion continued, with information being provided on the coordinated process followed by the City and School District to reduce damage to schools and parks on Halloween night. The suggestion was made by the Chair that any events which occurred on that night should be reviewed to improve the process for 2005.

Reference was made to the proposed signage, and questions were raised about whether the signs would be printed in other languages. The suggestion was also made that a telephone number be provided to which violators could be reported. In concluding the discussion, the Chair advised that this matter could be handled administratively by Mr. Pearson.

Mr. Pearson then left the meeting.

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3. BUSINESS ARISING

Nothing to report.

4. NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Olympic Oval

(Oral report)

Project Team Leader Denise Tambellini-Abraham, accompanied by Research Officer Jason Kita, gave a short video recap of the submission made to the Vancouver Olympic Committee (VANOC), and which resulted in the City being awarded the Olympic speed skating oval.

Ms. Tambellini-Abraham and Mr. Kita, through a PowerPoint presentation (a copy of which is on file in the City Clerk's Office), then provided an overview of the Richmond Olympic Oval, during which discussion ensued on:

- the functionality of the Olympic sized ice rink and the flexibility of the facility to provide space for local, regional, national and international events
- the intention of the City to keep the building as flexible as possible with all types of sports being considered to ensure that the maximum benefit to the community as a whole was achieved
- whether any contact was being made with UBC or Kwantlen College regarding use of the facility for hockey or other types of sports which universities or colleges might require
- whether any consideration was being given to include non-traditional sports groups, such as gymnastics, table tennis or-girls soccer, as potential users of the facility
- whether this new facility would be intended to replace the ice sheets at the Minoru Arenas
- whether common school/city programming currently taking place at the Minoru Arenas would be displaced
- the relocation of River Road and the impact which this relocation could have on school vehicles which travel along the road
- the ability of the facility to accommodate elite and non-elite athletes, and the challenges faced by the City in getting children to participate in events at the Olympic Oval
- City staff's intention to work together with the School District to resolve problems.

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In concluding the discussion, the Chair spoke about the legacy programs which would be developed as a result of the new oval, and stated that it would be beneficial to have the participation of the School Board in the endeavour. Cllr. Halsey-Brandt also thanked staff for a very focussed and concise presentation.

4.2 Parks, Recreation & Culture Master Plan Update (Oral report)

It was moved and seconded

That consideration of the Parks Master Plan Update be tabled to the next meeting of the Council/School Board Liaison Committee.

CARRIED

4.3 Sidaway School

Supt. Bruce Beairsto advised that the Board had passed a motion to consider the closure of Sidaway School. During the brief discussion which ensued, he stated that the school met three criteria to warrant closure: less than 100 students, classroom space existed at two other schools, and it was not financially responsible to maintain a school for only 60 students.

The Chair asked that School District staff contact the City about the closure to determine if it would be possible to address the needs of the community through the use of the building for other than school uses.

4.4 BCSTA Survey on Municipal/School District Relationship (School District material: Letter: Sept. 10.04; File No.: 0155-02)

Mr. Beairsto spoke about the need for communication between the City and the School District, and suggested that a survey be prepared to determine (i) what could be done to enhance the City/School District relationship, and (ii) if there were issues emerging which should be addressed. He stated that he and Cathy Volkering Carlile would assume responsibility for the survey and would report to a future meeting with a summary of the questions and implications.

(Cllr. Dang left the meeting at 11:15 a.m. during the above discussion, and did not return.)

Discussion continued briefly on the need to be accountable to the public and the need to ensure that the stakeholders, Council and the School Board, and not just staff, were aware of any changes to policy, and the difficulty in accomplishing that.

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- 4.5 Parking Program – Delivery of Notices of Bylaw Violation**
(Report: June 3/04) (File No.: 12-8060-20-7724/7725/2004 – Vol 01) (REDMS No. 1297676, 1230543)

Please refer to Page 2 of these minutes.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

- 5.1 School Planning and Construction Schedule**
(Report: September, 2004) (File No.: 0155-02)

The Manager, Facilities, Garry McLean, reviewed the schedule with the Committee, stating that sketch plans for the new Steveston Secondary School would be ready in the middle of this month. He also advised that the demolition of the old Richmond High School was now completed.

6. PENDING ITEMS

None.

7. FUTURE MEETING DATES

The next meeting of the Council/School Board Liaison Committee is scheduled to be held at 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, November 30th, 2004, in the Anderson Room.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded
That the meeting adjourn (11:22 a.m.).

CARRIED

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the meeting of the Council School Board Liaison Committee held on Tuesday, September 28th, 2004.

Councillor Evelina Halsey-Brandt
Chair

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