



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 38 (RICHMOND)

## Council/Board Liaison Committee Public Notes

**Tuesday, JULY 7, 2009**

**9:30 a.m.**

**School District Administration Offices  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room**

**Present:** Trustee Donna Sargent, Chair  
Trustee Carol Day  
Councilor Greg Halsey Brandt  
Councilor Linda Barnes

**Also Present:** L. McPhail, Trustee, SD 38  
B. Beairsto, Superintendent of Schools, SD 38\*\*  
K. Morris, Secretary Treasurer, SD 38  
T. Crowe, Manager, Policy Planning, City of Richmond\*\*  
D. Semple, Director Parks and Public Works Operations, City of Richmond  
E. Ayers, Manager, Community Recreation Services, City of Richmond\*\*  
G. Young, Director, Legacy and Integration, City of Richmond\*\*  
B. Jackson, Director of Development, City of Richmond  
R. Toda, Manager, Customer Service, City of Richmond\*\*  
N. Brennan, Assistant Superintendent, SD38  
K. Littlewood, Executive Secretary, SD 38

**Regrets:** E. Thorleifson, Manager of Facilities, SD 38

\*\* Joined the meeting in progress

**Call to Order:** The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:32 am.

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### **1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

It was moved and seconded

**That the agenda for the meeting of Tuesday, July 7, 2009 be approved as circulated.**

### **2. MINUTES**

It was moved and seconded

July 7, 2009

**That the minutes of the meeting of the Council/Board Liaison Committee held on Wednesday, May 6, 2009 be adopted as circulated.**

### **3. BUSINESS ARISING**

#### **3.1 Brighthouse Elementary Replacement**

- The Secretary Treasurer advised the Board approved the sketch plan stage of the project and it is hoped the Neighbourhoods of Learning will be approved by the Government.
- Mr. Semple advised Serena Lusk is the liaison for the Brighthouse facility. The City noted the joint use agreement and what the City is responsible for in regard to grounds maintenance.
- The Board advised they were appreciative of the City's input in the process.

Ms. Ayers, standing in for Vern Jacques, joined the meeting at 9:35 am

- The City congratulated the Board on the plans and design of the school. There were questions concerning the wetlands and community gardens.
- It was noted there will not be a pond but a natural wetland on the site.
- The City suggested working with the Board concerning a community garden and noted the difficulty with summer upkeep of such a garden. It was noted City staff have been involved in the design process with the landscape architect.
- There was discussion on grey water and natural slough pathways.
- To date no discussion has taken place with regard to community gardens on the site.

Mr. Crowe joined the meeting at 9:40 am

- It was noted the current gymnasium will be kept as part of the new structure and building will be done in phases.
- Councillors had questions concerning funding and the LEED process. Government funding for LEED gold certification and the difficulty getting the certification was noted.

### **4. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **4.1 River's Edge Development and Tait Elementary**

- Mr. Jackson provided a graphic of the River's Edge development and noted that the revised proposal lists 75% of the 1,000 units will be bachelor or 1-bedroom suites. A daycare for approximately 45 children is also being proposed. There was discussion on a community facility and the possibility of this space being located at Tait elementary school.
- The school district's concerns in regard to the number of children moving into the area in the initial proposal were provided by the Secretary Treasurer. The change to the proposal allows the school to accommodate the number of children coming into the area.

- The challenges of a joint use facility at the elementary school, the funding for the facility, and the parking in the area, were discussed.
- The District does not feel it requires more than approximately \$800,000 to build the facility and the City will assist in increasing the size as much as it can.

Mr. Beairsto and Mr. Toda joined the meeting at 9:55 am.

- The Secretary Treasurer discussed the possibility of changing school boundaries to alleviate traffic flow.

Mr. Young joined the meeting at 9:58 am.

- The possibility of a Strong Start Centre being able to be put into the school was discussed.
- Trustees had concerns that development plans would be altered in the future and would affect the number of children attending Tait Elementary. The City noted they do not typically consider room size during zoning but site specific zoning bylaws could be enacted in this case.
- There were questions on public consultation and it was noted the residential hearing will take place in September, 2009. An addition to the school would take place at informal meetings.
- The City noted a zoning bylaw amendment would be necessary if the developer increased the number of 2-bedroom units by more than 25%.
- Trustees had concerns on public amenities in the area and building prior to amenities being in place.
- The trails and walkways as part of public consultation, the site planning process, a joint use agreement, current community need and future requirements were discussed.
- Mr. Jackson noted the report will be available on-line Friday, July 17, 2009.

Mr. Jackson departed the meeting at 10:15 am.

#### **4.2 School Trips to Wakayama, Japan**

- Assistant Superintendent Brennan noted the importance of exchange trips and the decline in the number of students that take such trips.
- It was noted the Sister City committee has made this project a priority.
- The District is asking for a consistent Sister City committee representative to sit in on initial discussions at the District level in order for this project to succeed.
- The Board is proposing a district level approach and the difficulties associated with that were noted.
- There was discussion on the changes that have taken place in Richmond and the current interests of students.
- Meetings with secondary principals will take place to determine the feasibility of future trips. The home stay format of the exchange is not a popular choice any longer and it was felt changes will have to be implemented.

- The importance of friendships with Sister Cities and Friendship Cities was noted.

Mr. Toda and Ms. Brennan left the meeting at 10:35 am.

## **5. STANDING ITEMS**

### **5.1 Joint School District / City Management Committee**

- There was discussion on availability of City staff for future Council Board Liaison committee meetings.
- The Superintendent noted there was nothing of urgency and explained the importance of the meetings for both staffs.

### **5.2 City Centre Area Plan**

- The City is waiting for the province to approve the CCAP and anticipates this to be in September.
- The Secretary Treasurer noted the joint report to be written concerning an elementary school in City Centre. It was felt there is not a sense of urgency for this given that development has slowed down.

### **5.3 LAND - OCP Bylaw Preparation Consultation Policy**

- By way of example, Mr. Crowe cited Tait Elementary and noted the policy appears to be working.
- The Chair reiterated that changes should be sent to the Board in a timely manner.

### **5.4 LAND - City School Land Planning Committee**

- There is currently no update.

### **5.5 PROGRAMS**

- The Superintendent noted the good working relationship with the City in these areas.
- The City noted the presentation by Glen Bussey concerning sustainability and commented on all the on-going initiatives.

### **5.6 2010 - Olympic Planning Committee / Olympic and Paralympic Support**

- Mr. Young noted the productive meetings that have taken place.
- The Transportation Plan has been approved by Council and every attempt was made to keep "business as usual" in the city.
- Cultural activities, sponsorship opportunities, community activation, and the joint staffing letter have all been discussed.
- The possibility of a permanent District presence at the O-Zone was discussed.
- There was discussion on the process for the Transportation Plan and Mr. Young noted there will be 3 public meetings and on-going opportunities for citizen's comments through the web.

**ACTION:** Mr. Young to send the meeting dates to the District.

- Trustees had questions concerning funding, timing, planning, sponsorship and a District tent at the O-Zone.
- Councilors noted that City staff will be consulting with District staff and the Board concerning the Transportation Plan.
- Options for the District other than a tent at the O-Zone were suggested. Mr. Young noted that even though the Administration Building is not directly in the O-Zone, there is pedestrian flow past the District Administration Building. The Winterfest celebration was cited as an example for crowd management.
- Trustees asked that O-Zone planning be brought to the District's Education Committee in the fall.
- The Secretary Treasurer noted the need to see the Transportation Plan in order for school buses to navigate around the city.

Mr. Young left the meeting at 11:00 am.

## **5.7 SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE INITIATIVES**

- No report.

## **5.8 LAND – Redesignation of South McLennan Lands**

- The Secretary Treasurer noted other opportunities were being investigated.

Mr. Crowe left the meeting at 11:02 am.

## **5.9 School Planning and Construction Schedule**

- The Secretary Treasurer noted a number of building envelope projects are currently underway in the District.
- The Chair commented on the District Literacy plan that was included in the agenda package.
- Councilors had questions regarding poverty line statistics noted in the report. The Superintendent explained the source of the data was a United Way study.
- This item will be added to the next Council Board Liaison agenda.
- Councilors had questions on the 3 priorities and how they were arrived at and how they are measured; action plans and new immigrant families; and utilizing City resources.
- It was noted the Literacy report was included in the package in support of Neighbourhoods of Learning at Brighthouse Elementary.

## **6. NEXT MEETING**

### **6.1 2009-2010 Meeting Dates**

- Wednesday, September 16, 9:00 am

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved and seconded

**That the meeting adjourn at 11:15 am.**