



Council/School Board Liaison Committee

Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2014
Place: Anderson Room
Richmond City Hall
Present: Councillor Linda Barnes, Chair
Councillor Linda McPhail
Trustee Donna Sargent
Trustee Grace Tsang
Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

AGENDA

It was moved and seconded
That the Council/School Board Liaison Committee agenda for the meeting of Wednesday, February 5, 2014, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

MINUTES

It was moved and seconded
That the minutes of the meeting of the Council/School Board Liaison Committee held on Wednesday, November 27, 2014, be adopted as circulated, with the following amendment:

That the title of Item 4.5 read as follows: Nature Park, Aquatics and Arenas.

CARRIED

1. **JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT/CITY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**
(COR – Cathryn Volkering Carlile; RSD – Monica Pamer)

Mark De Mello, Secretary-Treasurer, Richmond School District (RSD), noted that the last Joint School District/City Management meeting held was to discuss programs.

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Discussion ensued regarding the potential to re-instate the Fine Arts Committee as noted at the September 24, 2013 Joint School District/City Management Committee. As a result of the discussion, the Chair requested that Serena Lusk, Senior Manager, Recreation and Sport Services, enquire about the Fine Arts Committee to determine which organization (the City or the RSD) administers it, and report back at the next Council/School Board Liaison meeting.

2. PROGRAMS

A. CHILD POVERTY ISSUES AND INITIATIVES – UPDATE

(RSD – Wendy Lim)

None.

B. SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AT THE RICHMOND NATURE PARK & AQUATIC CENTRES

(COR – Serena Lusk) (For Information)

Monica Pamer, Superintendent of Schools, RSD, noted that many school children are currently utilizing private swim lessons, which has resulted in a decrease in enrollment for school swim program such as “Get Wet.”

C. SOCIAL SERVICES WELLNESS PROGRAMS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GYMS

(COR – Sean Davies) (For Information)

Sean Davies, Diversity Services Coordinator, distributed a memorandum dated February 3, 2014, titled “Social Services Wellness Programs in Elementary School Gyms” (is attached to and forming part of these Minutes as Schedule 1). He advised that the Richmond Community Services Advisory Committee (RCSAC) and City staff conducted a survey to determine why non-profit organizations were not utilizing the elementary school space available for their activities. He noted that the survey identified three barriers: (i) access is needed during weekday and daytime hours, (ii) access is needed to classroom type settings, and (iii) access is needed during school breaks (i.e., spring break).

Mr. De Mello stated that providing access to elementary schools during daytime hours and school breaks would be challenging as maintenance activities typically take place during these times. However, Mr. De Mello noted that if any non-profit literacy organizations need elementary school space, this would be provided at no cost to them.

3. TRAFFIC SAFETY

A. SCHOOL BUS SERVICE FOR TOMSETT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

(For Discussion)

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Discussion ensued regarding bus service to Tomsett Elementary School and it was noted that construction in the area has made it unsafe for children to walk to school. Also, it was noted that the School District has informed parents of Tomsett Elementary School children that said bus service will be re-evaluated at the end of the 2013/2014 school year to determine its need.

The Chair requested that the Director, Transportation consult with staff to identify the approximate end date of construction activities in the area and share said information with School District staff.

B. RICHMOND ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE – PROPOSED 2014 INITIATIVES

(COR – Victor Wei) (For Information)

Victor Wei, Director, Transportation, thanked Trustee Sargent for her letter dated January 24, 2014 to City staff regarding staff's presentation on the City of Richmond-ICBC Road Safety Partnership initiatives.

Mr. Wei commented on "Ride the Road Bicycle Education for Students" initiative and highlighted that the City anticipates expanding the program for another year.

Also, Mr. Wei noted that the Active Transportation Committee is currently seeking volunteers, including students and a representative from the Parent Advisory Council. Notices have been placed in the local newspaper to advertise these vacancies.

4. SCHOOL PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

(RSD – Clive Mason)

Clive Mason, Director of Facilities and Planning, RSD, stated that there are no construction projects currently in process. However, he indicated that the Ministry of Education has allocated funds for the design portion of Tait Elementary School, as well as the seismic assessment of all Richmond schools.

BUSINESS ARISING

5. SELECT STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES

(For Discussion)

Discussion ensued regarding consistent funding for ongoing maintenance of Richmond schools. As previously noted, the Ministry of Education is currently evaluating the seismic standards of Richmond schools and three schools in particular are being more critically examined.

Discussion further ensued and reference was made to a memorandum dated January 22, 2014, titled "Recent Seismic Studies" from the Director, Engineering, and Committee requested that the Director, Engineering attend the next Council/School Board Liaison meeting.

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6. **HAMILTON AREA PLAN**

(COR – Terry Crowe)

Terry Crowe, Manager, Policy Planning, spoke of the Hamilton Area Plan and commented on recent changes to the proposed Plan.

Mr. Crowe noted that public consultations found that the Hamilton residents wished to see a new library and a new police station in their community. Discussion ensued regarding the potential future location of the library.

Also, he advised that the City of New Westminster is currently re-developing their Queensborough area, which is adjacent to the Hamilton area, and that this activity may generate partnership opportunities. Mr. Crowe then commented on the potential for the School District to purchase land in the Hamilton area to build a new school.

Also, Mr. Crowe advised that as part of the Hamilton Area Plan amendment, the School Board will be asked to provide feedback for the proposed Special Public Hearing scheduled for Tuesday, February 25, 2014.

NEW BUSINESS

7. **COMMUNITIES AND COAL**

(COR – Peter Russell)

Peter Russell, Senior Manager, Sustainability and District Energy, advised that the Fraser Surrey Docks Direct Transfer Coal Facility is under the jurisdiction of Port Metro Vancouver. He provided background information and noted that the findings of the health assessment were uninformative.

Also, Mr. Russell indicated that only New Westminster community members were consulted; however, Metro Vancouver has been requested to also consult with Richmond community members, particularly those residing in the Hamilton area.

8. **RCSAC COMMUNITY SOCIAL SERVICES EMPLOYER'S ASSOCIATION COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT UPDATE**

(For Information)

Discussion ensued regarding the Community Social Services Employer's Association Collective Agreement and it was noted that as a result of the new Agreement, services will be decreased.

9. **CITY OF RICHMOND 2022 PARKS & OPEN SPACE STRATEGY**

(COR – Mike Redpath) (For Information)

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, Mike Redpath, Senior Manager, Parks, highlighted the 2022 Parks and Open Space Strategy.

10. **COMMUNITY ENERGY AND EMISSIONS PLAN (CEEP)**

(For Information)

Mr. Russell provided background information and noted that the CEEP aims to reduce the City's greenhouse gas emissions, which is in keeping with the City's 2041 Official Community Plan.

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Mr. Mason stated that the City's CEEP report would be shared with the School District staff.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

The Chair advised that the next Council/School Board Liaison Committee is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, April 30, 2014.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded

That the meeting adjourn (10:25 a.m.).

CARRIED

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the meeting of the City of Richmond Council/School Board Liaison Committee held on Wednesday, February 5, 2014.

Councillor Linda Barnes
Chair

Amelia White
Acting Department Assistant II
City Clerk's Office



City of Richmond

Memorandum Community Services Department

To: Council / School Board Liaison Committee **Date:** February 3, 2014
From: Sean Davies
Diversity Services Coordinator **File:** 99-Community
Services/2014-Vol 01
Re: **Social Services Wellness Programs in Elementary School Gyms – For information only.**

At the September 25, 2013 Council / School Board Liaison Committee meeting, staff were asked to consult with Richmond Community Services Advisory Committee(RCSAC) organizations to determine why some groups are not accessing the elementary school space available for use.

This memo is to provide a brief update on the process to date, the feedback from RCSAC, and the role that City staff will continue to play.

As of the start of January, one organization, the Richmond Centre for Disability (RCD), has booked a regular series of activities. The RCD ran a fall program and has re-booked for a series in the winter session (January to March). There has been one additional information meeting with an organization interested in using the space.

Staff undertook a brief survey with RCSAC organizations to determine whether they:

- had any space needs for recreation purposes
- could utilize gymnasium space
- had any barriers to participating in the available gym spaces.

In total, ten organizations responded, with four organizations indicating a need for space for recreation programs. The six organizations which have previously met with staff understand the process for accessing space and will work with staff when the need arises.

The identified barriers were:

- Access to weekday and daytime hours.
- Access to classroom space where tables and chairs are available.
- Access to no-cost space during school breaks (e.g. winter, spring and summer breaks)

Some of the organizations indicated that they can work within the current guidelines; they are preparing to program activities and will be working with staff to request space in the near future.

As we have now an established process in place for groups to access the elementary school gym spaces, staff will continue to work with these groups to facilitate their access.

Sean Davies
Diversity Services Coordinator
604-276-4390