



Council/School Board Liaison Committee

Date: January 20, 2016

Place: Anderson Room
Richmond City Hall

Present: Councillor Linda McPhail, Chair
Councillor Alexa Loo
Trustee Debbie Tablotney (entered at 9:11 a.m.)
Trustee Donna Sargent
Trustee Alice Wong

Also Present: Trustee Sandra Nixon (entered at 9:05 a.m.)
Monica Pamer, Superintendent, School District 38 (entered at 9:12 a.m.)
Lynn Archer, Asst. Superintendent, School District 38 (entered at 9:02 a.m.)
Clive Mason, Director of Facility Planning, School District 38
Mark De Mello, Secretary Treasurer, School District 38
Cathryn Carlile, General Manager, Community Services
Phyllis Carlyle, General Manager, Law and Community Safety
Ted Townsend, Senior Manager, Corporate Communications
Michelle Jansson, Acting Director, City Clerk's Office
Alan Hill, Cultural Diversity Coordinator
Mark Corrado, Senior Manager, Community Safety Policy and Programs
Serena Lusk, Senior Manager, Recreation and Sport Services
Kim Somerville, Manager, Community Social Development

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 January 20, 2016, be adopted as amended:

The Chair advised that the order of the agenda would be varied to add:

- (1) Item No. 1A Syrian Refugee Update;
- (2) Item No. 1B Police Services Review; and
- (3) Item No. 4 Canada 150 Committee.

CARRIED

1.

Council/School Board Liaison Committee

January 20, 2016

MINUTES

It was moved and seconded

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council/School Board Liaison Committee held on October 28, 2015, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

Lynn Archer entered the meeting (9:02 a.m.).

PRESENTATION

1A. SYRIAN REFUGEE UPDATE

Alan Hill, Cultural Diversity Coordinator, briefed the Committee on the estimated numbers of Syrian refugees expected to arrive in Canada by the end of February and touched upon the main procedures taken for entry into Canada. Mr. Hill also mentioned many information sources and volunteer opportunities that were available to the public.

Trustee Sandra Nixon entered the meeting (9:05 a.m.).

One of the information sources includes a handout containing information on a Community Meeting for Sponsorship Agreement Holders (attached to and forming part of these minutes as Schedule 1).

Trustee Debbie Tablotney entered the meeting (9:11 a.m.).

Monica Pamer entered the meeting (9:12 a.m.).

The Committee discussed concerns regarding Richmond's role in welcoming Syrian refugees to the community, including (i) housing costs, (ii) school enrollment, (iii) availability of adult language services, and (iv) increasing livability through affordable housing alternatives.

1B. POLICE SERVICES REVIEW

Ted Townsend, Senior Manager, Corporate Communications, accompanied by Phyllis Carlyle, General Manager, Law and Community Safety, presented four police services information handouts (attached to and forming part of these minutes as Schedule 2).

Mr. Townsend noted that the handouts provide the public and stakeholders with information regarding the City of Richmond open houses along with a survey seeking public input regarding the option of a municipal police force. Ms. Carlyle commented that, in order for Council to make an informed decision, it was important to receive the input and advice from Richmond residents. She also commented that the information would be available at City Hall, on the City's website, and translated into Chinese.

Council/School Board Liaison Committee

January 20, 2016

In reply to a query from Committee, Ms. Carlyle commented that a presentation or “information booth” was not considered a favorable option as the presentation may bias the process. Councillor Loo emphasized that the public consultation process was not a referendum and that the objective was to gather public input and to report back to Council. The City would like input from the Board of Education and help in disseminating the information to schools and school parent advisory committees.

STANDING ITEMS

2. JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT / CITY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

There were no questions from the Committee on the Joint School District City Management Committee minutes dated January 11, 2016.

3. SCHOOL PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE

Clive Mason, Director Facilities Planning, School District 38, provided a verbal update on the long range facility plan engagement process and mentioned that data was being collected and reviewed from the open houses held in fall 2015. He further noted that follow up open houses will be held spring 2016 and that the Board was considering the closure of four schools.

Mr. Mason updated the Committee on the 2015-2016 Capital Plan submission stages and noted that they were still waiting for a response from the Ministry of Education.

With regards to construction, Mr. Mason noted that items still progressing included (i) McMath Secondary and General Curry Elementary boiler upgrades, (ii) Tait Elementary building envelope remediation and roof repair, and (iii) a continuation of the Anderson Elementary design stage.

BUSINESS ARISING & NEW BUSINESS

4. CANADA 150 COMMITTEE

Councillor Linda McPhail, Chair, distributed information regarding the Canada 150 activities (attached to and forming part of these minutes as Schedule 3) and briefed the Committee on the recent steps taken to engage the public on the topic.

Discussion ensued regarding the 100th Anniversary, schools that have celebrated their 50th anniversary in recent years and schools performances. Trustees suggested that the aboriginal and ethnic roles that shaped Canada be incorporated and that the recycling of materials from previous anniversaries would be beneficial to the celebration plans.

Council/School Board Liaison Committee

January 20, 2016

Councillor McPhail also spoke of making a call out to the business community regarding landmark events which could be incorporated into the Canada 150 celebration.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

March 30, 2016 (tentative date) at 9:00 a.m. in the Anderson Room.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded

That the meeting adjourn (9:53 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 January 20, 2016.

Councillor Linda McPhail
Chair

Divecha, Shaun
Legislative Services Coordinator
City Clerk's Office