



Council/Board Liaison Committee Public Minutes

Wednesday, February 13, 2013
9:00 a.m.

School District Administration Offices
4th Floor Conference Room

Present: Trustee Donna Sargent, Chair
Councillor Linda Barnes

Also Present: M. Pamer, Superintendent of Schools, SD 38
M. De Mello, Secretary Treasurer, SD 38
W. Lim, Assistant Superintendent **
C. Mason, Director, Facilities Maintenance, SD 38
K. Champion, Director, Instruction Learning Services, SD 38
D. Semple, General Manager, Community Services, City Of
Richmond
V. Jacques, Senior Manager, Recreation Services, City Of
Richmond
S. Lusk, Manager, Parks Programs *
V. Wei, Director, Transportation
J. Foster, Manager Community Social Development *
K. Somerville, Manager, Arts Service, City of Richmond **
M. Redpath, Senior Manager Parks, City of Richmond **
W. Plante, Executive Assistant, SD 38

Regrets: Trustee R. Belleza
Councillor Linda McPhail

* present for a portion of the meeting

** joined the meeting in progress

Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:04 am and began
by having everyone introduce themselves.

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Move Item #4.4 to follow Item #2.

Move Item # 3.3 to follow Item #4.5

It was moved and seconded

**That the agenda for the meeting of Wednesday, February 13, 2013
be approved as amended.**

2. MINUTES

It was moved and seconded

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council/Board Liaison Committee held on Wednesday, October 10, 2012 be adopted as circulated.

4.4 Social Strategy

The Manager Community Social Development spoke to a presentation on a draft report called "Building Our Social Future" - A Social Development Strategy for Richmond 2013-2022.

He noted that the City has a proud legacy of social development and planning initiatives and that there is a need to be more strategic by building sustainable partnerships.

Guiding principles of supporting the vision, gathering strategies and developing a framework was also outlined.

He also indicated that finalizing comments from the gathering process would be set for mid March, with a target date of July to develop work plans.

The Manager Community Social Development noted that roughly 28% of Richmond's population was aged +55 in 2011 and added that study circles provided very rich input and discussion targeted people that otherwise would have felt excluded.

Discussion followed regarding dropping numbers of enrollment in schools, and a need for a balanced community was shared.

Councillor Barnes questioned whether trustees should have a more in depth opportunity to review the report.

ACTION: 1. Copies of the report were provided for distribution to all trustees. 2. To refer the social strategy report "Building Our Social Future" to Personnel & Finance Committee and then on to the Board for input.

Mr. Foster departed the meeting at 9:24 am.

3. STANDING ITEMS

3.1 Joint School District / City Management Committee

No update provided.

3.2 Programs

The issue of the school district offering competing summer programs at schools at no charge was raised. The Director, Instruction Learning Services advised that some programs are fee paying and some are not.

Superintendent Pamer noted that the legislation has changed so that School Districts are not allowed to charge fees for summer programs that have curriculum based learning outcomes.

Councillor Barnes commented on gaps in service, as the city and district work closely, we need to investigate where those gaps exist.

Discussion ensued on the importance of building our future together for the needs of the community are met.

ACTION: Both City and School District staff will continue to work more closely together to provide service that we offer and identify any gaps.

Mr. Redpath joined the meeting at 9:30 am.

3.4 School Planning and Construction Schedule

The Director, Facilities Maintenance provided an update on projects that are currently underway. The opening of the Richmond Learning Centre an Errington Elementary is anticipated by next September. Also noted will be the completion of 2nd phase building envelope program at Boyd by next school year.

The Secretary Treasurer added that we are also planning a seismic upgrade project at Gilmore and expansion of Blair in conjunction with Ministry staff.

ACTION: That both staff from the City and School District work together to assess any playground opportunities and accessibility for special needs children at Errington.

4. BUSINESS ARISING & NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Characterization of Playgrounds

The Manager, Parks Program provided information on development priorities of existing playground equipment and identified necessary upgrades that will be conducted in 2013 and beyond.

Discussion took place of the importance of physical literacy and all children having equal opportunity.

Trustees questioned on how is communication being relayed.

It was noted that a sidewalk process pamphlet has already been distributed to all schools making principals and parents aware of the process already being done.

ACTION: A presentation is being coordinated as a communication that will be presented to principals.

Mr. Redpath and Ms. Somerville joined the meeting at 9:41 am.

4.2 Social Services Wellness Programs in Elementary School Gyms

The Senior Manager, Recreation Services provided background on the need to identify social services, seasonal type programming criteria. It was agreed of the importance of extending to groups that are having difficulty finding space.

The General Manager, Community Services advised that he is working with the School District to expand opportunities and co-ordinate the ability for other groups to use facilities.

It was agreed that Community needs vary and there is a willingness for both parties to work together and look at specifics at opportunities for social service groups.

ACTION: The target is to look at program cycles for the fall.

Ms. Lusk departed the meeting at 9:52 am.

4.3 2041 Official Community Plan (OCP) Update/Land Use Matters

Updates were provided on developments that have been approved and that are moving ahead.

The Senior Manager Parks spoke on a 4.2 acre major neighborhood land exchange for 2015. A public conference will be initiated for March.

ACTION: Arrange a joint meeting prior to the summer break with ministry officials, City officials and District officials to highlight the major development projects that are underway.

ACTION: Councillor Barnes requested to remove the old Standing Item #4.3 and replace with a Development Update.

4.5 Maintenance Updates for Sidewalks at Tomsett and Lee Elementary Schools

The Director, Transportation provided more detailed information on identifying sections, and timelines of completion.

Copies of the School Area Walkway Improvement Program have been distributed to elementary schools throughout the district.

The Secretary Treasurer noted that the safety priority for busing children will need to be re-evaluated at the end of construction in 2014.

3.3 Traffic Safety Advisory Committee

No update provided.

Mr. Wei departed the meeting at 10:13 am.

4.6 Adolescent Support – Gaps in Service

The Director, Instruction Learning Services provided background on the creation of the Adolescent Support Team (AST) which is comprised of a District Mental Health Consultant, Community Outreach teachers,

Adolescent Mental Health Outreach Workers and Youth Connections Workers.

Primary focus is the provision of a continuum of services to support adolescents at risk.

Some gaps in service in the community are:

- Insufficient job placement opportunities for teens with one on one support
- Access to various programs (financial support)
- Mental health focused groups for adolescents with mental health illnesses, and support groups for their parents
- Insufficient supported recreational opportunities for students with complex needs

The AST will continue its support to secondary schools/students and will continue to refine its support mechanisms in response to the needs from schools in partnership with community agencies.

ACTION: Appendix 2, a Summative Report "A Gap Analysis on Mental Health and Addictions Support Services in Richmond British Columbia will go to city staff for comment and forwarded to council for review.

Note: It was learned that the final report was released to the Richmond Community Service Advisory Committee (RCSAC) and they will be presenting to city council.

Ms. Lim joined the meeting at 10:30 am.

4.7 Richmond City Centre Early Child Development Report 2012

Discussion took place on the need and awareness for long range planning and building toward a future in an area that has a high degree of social challenges.

Councillor Barnes advised that grants have been distributed to organizations to help kids. More work needs to be done and working jointly together will help serve the needs in this community.

Ms. Champion departed the meeting at 10:43 am.

4.8 Erase Bullying Strategy Report

Assistant Superintendent Lim reported that the Ministry has announced a strategy that echoes on what the district has already implemented in the 2012/13 school year.

The strategy builds on our code of conduct of social responsibility, positive behavior support with an added focus of ensuring our schools are safe.

A five year multi-level training program for educators and community partners to help them proactively identify and assess threats will take place

Update was given by the Manager, Arts, Services on ideas that will be implemented to promote anti bullying such as wearing anti bullying t-shirts and banners being placed throughout the community.

Ms. Lim departed the meeting at 10:50 am.

4.9 Richmond Addiction Services Status Update

It was noted that the 2nd year of a 3 year grant was approved last by Council.

4.10 Sale of Steveston Site

The Secretary-Treasurer reported our formal request has been submitted to the Ministry.

Public consultation will be conducted. This project is of tremendous strategic importance to the school board and more importantly a win-win opportunity for the community.

4.11 Sister City Committee

It was suggested that some of the terms of reference that relate to Trustee membership on the Committee needs to be revised.

ACTION: Councillor Barnes will take the notification of issues forward.

4.12 Vancouver Biennale Sharing BIG IDEAS Arts in Action

The Manager, Arts Service, reviewed the program and shared insight to the 8 large pieces of art displayed throughout the community in 2009-2011 which raised art awareness.

Councillor Barnes indicated there will be opportunities in 2014-2015 for schools to sign up to BIG IDEAS to become involved.

Councillor Barnes presented a letter of invitation to the Richmond REaDY Summit Green Ambassador Students from The David Suzuki Foundation (DSF) to participate in their parade team in the Vancouver Chinatown Chinese New Year parade this year.

5. NEXT MEETING

Two meeting dates were set to take place at the School District Administration Office 4th floor.

- Wednesday, April 10, 2013, at 9:00 am – 12:00 pm.
- Wednesday, June 5, 2013, at 9:00 am – 12:00 pm.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:09 am

DRAFT