



PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES
COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP

Held Thursday September 18, 2003
Room 2.004
Richmond City Hall

In Attendance:

Working Group

Danielle Aldcorn
Olive Bassett
Joann Wong Bittle
Nicky Byres
Julie Halfnights
Jim Lamond
Bill McNulty
Sharon Meredith

Vince Miele
Bob Ransford
Greg Robertson
Linda Shirley
Harold Steves
Jim Tanaka
Kuo Wong

Facilitator

David Roach

Recorder

Mary Lou Phillips

City Staff

Greg Buss
Cathy Volkering Carlile
Simon Johnston
Dave Semple

Absent:

Shawkat Hasan
Michael McCoy
Kate Sparrow

1.0 Opening Remarks

David Roach welcomed the CWG. The significant exercises of tonight's meeting are to sign off on the values statement and the vision statement that emerged from the last meeting.

2.0 Record of Meeting No. 4

The Record of Meeting of the August 21, 2003 session was adopted as circulated.

3.0 Project Presentation

3.1 Gateway Theatre – An Overview

Simon Johnston, on behalf of Gateway Theatre, gave a powerpoint presentation and handout to the CWG, a copy of which is attached to this Record of Meeting. He then answered questions about funding, sponsorship, grants, focus of Gateway shows, marketability of shows, promotion of local artists. He finished by inviting the CWG to remember the excellent work done over the last 20 years and include Gateway's vision and strategies in their future plans.

4.0 Creating the Future Vision

4.1 Confirm Values Statements / Sign Off

David Roach presented the compilation of value statements by way of powerpoint presentation. He also distributed a hard copy to each member of the CWG for their perusal. There was general discussion with overall agreement that the values were captured accurately. The 8 values are: community engagement; volunteerism; choice; diversity; healthy lifestyles; safety and security; environment; sustainability.

Three of the statements were reworded as follows:

“**Choice**” reworded to “We strive to provide accessible affordable, equal, opportunities that respond to the diverse needs of the community”.

“**Environment**” reworded to “We are committed to responsible stewardship of the natural environment, including protecting community amenities, and we are committed to stewardship of our cultural heritage, and maintaining the urban/rural balance and our island setting”.

“**Safety and Security**” reworded to “ We believe that people feel safe and secure through well-planned, strong, connected neighbourhoods and a sense of caring and belonging.”

The 8 values statements are attached to this Record of Meeting.

4.2 Confirm Vision Statement / Sign Off

The proposed vision statement “Richmond! Connected, healthy communities...where neighbours cooperate to create a dynamic and sustainable quality of life” was discussed. After input from all CWG members, the following vision statement was agreed to by consensus:

“Richmond! Striving for a connected, healthy city where we cooperate to create and enjoy a dynamic and sustainable quality of life”.

5.0 Community Presentation

5.1 A Healthy Community Strategy for East Richmond

Nora Wright, Balwant Sanghera and Selena Schroeder (Healthy Community Coordinator) from the East Richmond Community Association made a presentation to the CWG. A hand-out was included with the Agenda package. Their powerpoint presentation gave a current snapshot of East Richmond’s neighbourhoods, shopping areas, health services, King George Park, Cambie High School/Community Centre, East Richmond Community Hall. Their “Healthy Community Strategy”, which began two years ago, is to have a new library; community police station; neighbourhood house; village centre; programs and activities; beautification around No 5 Road & Cambie; better transportation; “mini-Ironwood Mall”. After consulting with the community, the focus group identified the key elements of a “healthy community” as services; safety/lack of safety; improvement in quality of life. The ERCA believes one of the steps in achieving their goal is bringing the community together.

6.0 Understanding Current Reality

6.1 Richmond Profiles – An Introduction

David Hewko presented a report prepared by CannonJohnston and Recreation Solutions which is a series of profiles of Richmond’s changing demographic base. The information has been sorted into 15 planning areas in the City of Richmond. The presenter drew attention to the fact that in 2021 the average age of the population will be older; the ratio of seniors to work-force age will double; and there will be proportionally fewer children than today. Richmond’s population is projected to grow to 212,000 by 2021. This report can be used as a tool for looking at the City’s changing population and the effect it will have on programs, facilities and sustainability.

7.0 Business Arising

The Community Working Group identified an initial list of key topics for discussion at future meetings. The following list was produced.

- ◆ Take the six guiding principals and the values and create a matrix
- ◆ Find out more about arts and culture; heritage, seniors’ services, services the community centres currently provide (programming and governance)
- ◆ Best practices, comparisons
- ◆ Finances and sustainability – balance the budget, pay-as-you-go/subsidies
- ◆ Programs and services
- ◆ Indoor/outdoor users - sports, nature, adopt-a-street, tourism

- ◆ Integration of physical/social planning
- ◆ Special events

If members of the CWG have any other ideas they can be emailed to Cathy Volkering Carlile.

8.0 New Business

Cathy Volkering Carlile commented on the process – we know where we’re going and are a little more comfortable now. She also commented on how remarkable the CWG is in terms of synergy. We have come up with the most important piece of work – we are now understanding the challenge and the need for give and take - good work.

Bob Ransford brought up the question “is there a need for more meetings?”. Cathy Volkering Carlile stated that city staff would look at clustering a couple of meetings together. Staff will look at a format for the upcoming October and November meetings.

9.0 Summary and Closing

The two highlights from tonight’s meeting were a feeling of accomplishment at having established a vision statement; and delight at seeing the community group’s presentation.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held Thursday October 16, 2003 at 5:30p.m. in Room T.8.150.

David Roach, Facilitator