



# City of Surrey

## Social Planning Committee

### Minutes

Executive Boardroom  
City Hall  
14245 - 56 Avenue  
Surrey, B.C.  
**THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2007**  
Time: 7:07 p.m.  
File: 0540-20

#### **Present:**

Chairperson – Councillor J. Villeneuve  
Councillor Gill  
L. Alexander  
K. Ardawa  
R. Campbell  
G. Gill  
Dr. Z. Malik  
H. Parhar

#### **Staff Present:**

L. White, Manager Community & Leisure Services  
A. Murphy, Social Planner, Long Range Planning & Policy Development  
L. Anderson, Legislative Services

Chairperson, Councillor Villeneuve welcomed all members back to this meeting of the Social Planning Committee.

#### **A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

It was

Moved by G. Gill

Seconded by K. Ardawa

That the minutes of the Social Planning

Committee meeting held on April 19, 2007, be adopted.

Carried

#### **B. DELEGATION REQUESTS**

##### **1. Social Planning and Research Council of BC (SPARC BC)**

**File: 0250-20; 0550-20-10**

Emese Szücs, Manager Accessibility Programs, Social Planning and Research Council of BC (SPARC BC) requests to appear before the Social Planning Committee on June 28, 2007 to make a presentation on making communities accessible for all of its citizens. -

She made a presentation to Surrey Council and it was very well done and she was asked to come to the Social Planning Committee.

It was

Moved by Lara Alexander

Seconded by Councillor Gill

That Emese Szücs, Manager Accessibility

Programs, Social Planning and Research Council of BC (SPARC BC) appear before the Social Planning Committee on June 28, 2007 to make a presentation on accessibility.

Carried

## C. STAFF PRESENTATION(S)

### 1. Social Plan Programs

#### File: 5080-01

Lisa White, Manager Community & Leisure Services (CLS), provided a report on the Parks, Recreation and Culture Social Plan programs. The following information and comments were provided:

2006 was the first year that CLS was able to utilize funds from the Social Plan budget (about \$175,000) for the provision of either new services or the expansion of existing services.

- Social Plan priorities that CLS programs are focusing on include:
  - Child & youth friendly cities
  - Making programs accessible for people with low income
  - Ethno & culturally appropriate services and opportunities
  - Enhancing safety at facilities and in parks.
- CLS programs that respond to the Social Plan priorities include:
  - Parent Resource Guide - The guide was developed in partnership with the Early Years Partnership Group: It provides information to assist parents in choosing quality recreation programs for their children such as summer camp opportunities, and free summer park play. The guide was circulated within the Surrey School District and recreation facilities.
  - Expansion of Youth Week, City Jam and Youth Recognition Awards
    - MOYO (Mobile Youth Outreach Project) –
      - Outreach workers provided youth who were hanging out in parks at night with a Youth Posse Pass (free rides).
      - Last summer MOYO connected with over 600 youths.
    - Late night youth programming includes –
      - Band Night
      - Coffee Houses
      - Girls on the Go for 20
      - Family Movie Night
      - Free BC Lions Games
      - Expanded Youth Lounge Hours
      - Drop-In Cook Night
      - MC/Break Dance Competitions
      - Youth Swing Dance Night
    - Intervention: Rethink, Refocus and Reintegrate (iR3) – iR3 is a pilot project operated out of the Tom Binnie Youth Centre. It is for youth who have been suspended from school and offers a constructive alternate to the suspension program by assisting with homework, counseling and physical activities. iR3 represents a partnership between the Surrey School District, RCMP, Surrey Fire department, Options, and Surrey Parks,

Recreation & Culture. “iR3” is hoping that senior governments will provide the funding to enable this program to be offered throughout the city.

- Surrey Youth Council – unites diverse youth in our community and empowers youth.
- Quality assurance – High Five Training - Surrey is the first city in BC to have all of its instructors fully trained through the High Five program.
- *Chill* program is the opportunity for youth that wouldn't normally have the chance to participate in outdoors activities such as going snowboarding, etc.
- *Lend-a-Hand* Program
- *It's a Girl Thing*
- *Community School Partnership Initiative (CSP)*– The CSP started this year. The Surrey School District and the City of Surrey are the two main partners. Three community school coordinators have been hired for Newton, Guildford and Whalley. The CSP is working to build a sense of neighbourhood identity using a community development approach. Schools are waiving the rental fees so that CLS can offer free and low cost recreation programs in the schools. Programs will be continuing through the summer.
- *Drop in* programs – A BC Housing grant is funding the Strawberry Hill Youth Drop-In Program and Greenbrook Afterschool Drop-In. Programs are free and provide positive recreational activities for at-risk pre-teens and teens, with an emphasis on social and life skills.
- *Partnership with the Alouette Correctional Centre for Women* CLS is partnering with the Correctional Centre to develop a program for women from Surrey who have been in the correctional centre and want to connect with positive people and positive experiences once they are released back into the community. This program is a buddy system program, taking place in Whalley at the community development office. It provides women with access to emotional and psychological support systems and community resources.
- *Value Programs & Pricing* – This program provides qualified individuals/families with reduced or no fees for recreation programs. It is very popular.
- *Community Kitchen* – In partnership with the Food Bank, the community kitchen program offers low cost weekly cooking classes, targeted for youth and families. Classes take place at Guildford Recreation Centre and Tom Binnie Youth Centre. The program incorporates a variety of ethnic cooking styles.
- Ethno & Culturally appropriate services and opportunities have been enhanced by:
  - Have hired a part-time Diversity Coordinator

- Have hired a multi-lingual weight room attendant (Newton)
- Cultural Games Neighbourhood Celebrations (Bolivar Heights)
- Cultural celebration (Guildford)
- Cultural Programming (Guildford)
- Refugee Workshop
- *Active City* – with the social well being funds we were able to offer a lot more programs such as *Go for 20 walking challenge*. Volunteers are in parks to walk with people in the park's trail systems. Information is on the website.
- *Sport Fit* – a partnership with Sport BC and Surrey School District. Obtaining surveys of what people want to do at the schools and then we get the programs going. Deliver Sport Fit testing to schools and the City of Surrey Recreation centers. Applied for Bell Sport grant as a phase 2 to Sport Fit to introduce and discover less traditional sports.
- *Safety Facilities* – a lot of work has been done to look at the landscaping, lighting, and pathways to make them more open, safer, with better lighting. There is a safety audit currently being completed at the Newton Recreation Centre, and scheduled for the Surrey Recreation Centre.

Chairperson Villeneuve thanked the Manager, Community & Leisure Services for their very informative report.

Discussion ensued and the following questions and concerns were noted:

- Before and after school child care – Lara Alexander stated that there is a demand for before and after school childcare for school-aged children in Surrey. Lisa White responded that CLS is working with Penny Coates, Office of Early Childhood Development & Care, to explore CLS's role.
- It was suggested that schools could get a private agency to go into the schools to provide the help.
- It was noted that the community schools programs would open up a lot more after-school opportunities for children and youth in the participating schools.
- A community school program may make it possible for available space to be used for day care. The challenge is finding the staff with diplomas, that the community can afford to pay more than \$10 per hour.
- Gurtej Gill stated that the Social Plan is a wonderful document with much useful information for the community; however, two segments of the community not reflected in this document are seniors and people with disabilities. He suggested that the Social Well Being Plan must incorporate what the City of Surrey can do for people with developmental disabilities. Gurtej Gill noted that we should respect the seniors who in so many incidents have given a lot to their community and now it is the time to pay them back.
- The Chairperson noted that it is important for everyone to understand what the City's role is in the provision of social services. It is the federal

and provincial governments' responsibility to provide social services. The City can be a partner, but cannot be the sole provider of such services. The City can also bring the issues forward and lobby the senior levels of government. We as a committee can identify the social service needs in Surrey and make recommendations to Council, but should not set unreasonable expectations.

- The Manager Community & Leisure Services has another presentation on CLS's outreach, seniors programs and adapted services for people with disabilities. She can provide this presentation at a future Social Planning Committee meeting.
- Gurtej Gill noted that the City of Vancouver is currently working in conjunction with 50 agencies on a long-term accessibility plan. He suggested that it may be of value to this committee to review the document for future discussion. It is available at [www.2010legaciesnow.com](http://www.2010legaciesnow.com).
- The Manager, Community & Leisure Services provided a CLS Program Guide on table.

Chairperson Villeneuve thanked Lisa White, Manager, Community & Leisure Services for her presentation and all the work that is being done towards Social Planning. She added that Surrey is a city of families, and we as a City, need to continue to enhance their well being. The Chairperson requested that Lisa White provide a presentation on the services provided for seniors, etc. at a future meeting of the Social Planning Committee.

Lisa White, Manager, Community & Leisure Services left the meeting at 7:50 pm.

## 2. Sustainability Charter Process

**File: 6950-30**

Aileen Murphy, Senior Planner (Social) provided an overview of the Sustainability Charter Process. The following comments were made:

- Aileen Murphy noted that this presentation would provide a little bit of a preview for the next meeting. The agenda package contained a corporate report and an update from Mark Allison on the Sustainability Charter process. The timeline is to prepare a draft charter over the summer so that it is ready to go to Council in the fall. This will be followed by the development of an implementation strategy.
- The Charter will integrate environmental, economic and social sustainability.
- A few years ago the GVRD prepared documents that provide a framework for social sustainability. Components of social sustainability include: living, working, sense of place, playing, engaging, learning, and moving. Copies of the GVRD Social Sustainability documents were distributed to the Committee.
- To date staff has been working on the Sustainability Charter. After the last Council meeting the suggestion was made that Mark Holland be brought in as a consultant to provide advice.

- The Environmental Advisory Committee has the primary responsibility for overseeing the development of the Sustainability Charter.
- Friday, June 8/9, 2007 – “Let’s Talk Sustainability” – Lecture, Public Open House and Workshop Event.
  - Saturday is an Open House with display boards, etc., and workshops on economic, social and environmental sustainability.
  - Surrey’s new Youth Participation Coordinator, David Sadler, will be facilitating a workshop for youth.

The Social Planning Committee has been invited to appoint a representative to the Sustainability Charter Steering Committee. The Committee requested that more information be provided at the next meeting regarding the steering committee (eg. number of meetings, time of day for meetings etc.).

Chairperson Villeneuve noted that the Sustainability Charter will probably be the main project of the Social Planning Committee over the next six months. She suggested that the committee members take the opportunity of attending the public open house weekend of June 8-9, 2007 as it will be very informative. It is also important for committee members to get out into the community.

The next Social Planning Committee, scheduled for June 28<sup>th</sup>, will include a workshop on the Charter so may be longer in duration.

Aileen Murphy noted that the annual report on the social plan implementation was included in the Committee’s package and covers the information that she presented at the last meeting.

Chairperson Villeneuve recommended that the information provided with today’s agenda be placed in a binder for future reference, as this information will likely be a valuable reference tool.

## 1. Surrey Homelessness and Housing Fund

Chairperson Villeneuve provided an update on the establishment of the Surrey Homelessness and Housing Fund.

- The Homelessness Fund Interim Advisory Committee will be making recommendations to Council on June 11 regarding the selection of a foundation to house the Fund (approx. \$9 million) and also a governance structure for a new Society that will oversee the Fund. The Fund will aid with housing and homeless issues in the city. Chairperson Villeneuve chairs the advisory committee and Tom Gill is also on the committee.
- *Homeless in Surrey, October 2006 – April 2007 Update* that was included in the meeting package is a good report that covers the work that is being done by the City in the area of homelessness.
- By the next meeting you will receive a copy of the report being provided to Council recommending the transfer of the City’s Affordable Housing Reserve Fund to establish the Surrey Homelessness and Housing Fund.

Discussion ensued and the following comments and concerns were raised:

- Councillor Gill wanted to draw attention to the fact that “homelessness” is the responsibility of the senior levels of government, but we as a City, need to be able to do something to encourage them to respond to the issue in our city.
- A member asked whether there is currently a by-law or regulation stipulating that if a large development project is constructed the developer be required to develop a proportionate number of housing units for the less fortunate?
- The Chairperson advised that the City is looking at developing a bonus density policy that may allow developers to contribute to the provision of affordable housing in exchange for increased density.
- Aileen Murphy, Social Planner advised that the decision would be whether all or part of funds generated through bonus density would go toward affordable housing.
- “*Supported Housing*”, page 27 of the agenda (page 1 of the Homelessness in Surrey report)
  - Cloverdale site – BC Housing has issues an RFP for the development of supportive housing on this site.
  - Atira Women’s Resource Society .
  - The Maxine Wright project did not win the Vancity \$1 million award so unsure of the current status of the project.
  - The Fraserside Community Services Society is looking for a building to purchase.
  - Kla-how-eya has applied for an additional site, but is also looking at other potential sites.
  - Chairperson Villeneuve will know more about these projects in the future as she is on the GVRD Housing Committee. She commented on how Surrey receives little funding in comparison to other communities and requested that a copy of the “*Distribution of Subsidized Housing*” be provided as information at the next meeting of this committee.

## D. NEW BUSINESS

1. Schedule of 2007 meetings of Social Planning Committee.
    - Scheduled dates:
      - May 24
      - June 28
      - July 19 (Gurtej Gill will be in India during July)
      - September 27
      - October 25
      - November 29
      - December – TBD closer to that date.
- (Perhaps we will have a meeting in November and a little Christmas social at that time.)

2. Chairperson Villeneuve requested suggestions or new business items committee members would like for future meetings. The following comments were made:
  - It was suggested that there be more discussion time whereby committee members can provide feedback and input rather than having presentations.
  - Chairman Villeneuve responded that the first two meetings of the Social Planning Committee were filled with the presentation of information in order to provide enough background information so that everyone on the committee will know where the City is at. This offers a learning experience for all. The next meeting will provide a good opportunity for discussion.

**E. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Social Planning Committee is scheduled for Thursday, June 28, 2007 at 7:00 pm in the Executive Boardroom and will possibly go until after 9:30 pm due to the Sustainability Charter Workshop.

**F. ADJOURNMENT**

It was  
  
meeting do now adjourn.

Moved by Lara Alexander  
Seconded by Robin Campbell  
That the Social Planning Committee

Carried

The Social Planning Committee adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

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Margaret Jones, City Clerk

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Chairperson, Councillor J. Villeneuve  
Social Planning Committee