



City of Surrey

Parks & Community Services Committee Minutes

Boardroom
City Hall West
7452 - 132 Street
Surrey, B.C.
**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15,
2004**
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Present:

Chairperson: Councillor Steele
N. Beuk
R. Soares
Councillor Villeneuve
Councillor Tymoschuk
Trustee Glass

Absent:

M. Martin
M. Connor
B. Sandhu

Also Present:

G. McKinnon, Interim General Manager,
Parks, Recreation & Culture
L. Cavan, Manager, Community & Leisure
Services
O. Croy, Manager of Parks
J. LaMontagne, Manager, Planning, Research
& Design
S. McKinnon, Manager Arts & Community
Development Services
J. McLeod, Manager Long Range
B. Sommer, Manager, Heritage Services
Planning & Policy Development
K. Swaele, Legislative Services

The agenda was varied until quorum was established.

C. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1. Delegations to Parks & Community Services Committee requesting letters of support for funding.

Memorandum from the City Clerk attaching Council Procedure By-law 15300 Part 13, which deals with delegations to Council.

The Committee discussed delegations to the Parks & Community Services Committee which request letters of support, and noted:

Trustee Glass arrived 7:10 p.m. and quorum was established.

- That there may be other organizations working in the same area of service that are equally as deserving of support, but do not make a request for support from the Parks & Community Services Committee.
- That in some cases supporting an organization without background information, may put the Committee in a difficult position.
- That when an organization requests support, the Committee would like staff to provide background information at a subsequent meeting so that the Committee has more information with which to make a decision.
- That this would be in line with Council practice (Council Procedure By-law Part 13, Item 48.)

The regular agenda resumed.

A. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

It was

Moved by Councillor Tymoschuk
Seconded by Trustee Glass
That the Agenda of the Parks & Community Services Committee of September

15, 2004 be adopted.

Carried

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

It was Moved by Councillor Tymoschuk
Seconded by R. Soares
That the minutes of the Parks & Community Services Committee
meeting held on July 21, 2004, be adopted.

Carried

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C. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

2. Allocation Schedule – Cloverdale Artificial Turf Field

The Parks & Community Services Committee held a discussion on the difficulty that has arisen with allocation of the Cloverdale Artificial Turf Field. The Committee noted that Football appears to feel that it has been put in a second place position and not received the premium time promised.

The Acting Director, Parks, Recreation and Culture commented:

- That staff have tried to come up with a compromise so that Saturday practice time is available for the football group.
- That in reviewing the issue, it does not appear that football was guaranteed specific times.
- That during negotiations as recently as last weekend, staff were trying to arrive at a compromise to get football time on Saturday.
- That they are still attempting to arrive at a compromise.
- That this may be a one-time bump and once South Surrey is built, the issues will resolve.
- That it is difficult to go back and take time away from the other groups at this point.

Councillor Villeneuve arrived 7:30 p.m.

The Manager of Parks noted:

- That the City has 35,000 registered sport participants and 220 athletic facilities for the City.
- That this equates to over 3,000 teams belonging to dozens of organizations.
- That staff has a complex job to meet the allocation needs of as many groups as possible, working within the policies and any commitments that have been made.
- That football has been allocated 14 out of 35 prime time hours, and the policy has been followed.
- That it may be a question of interpretation as to what football understood and what staff understand to be an interpretation of the policy.
- That the City has made a better than average allocation for football.
- That looking at it on a pure number basis, the commitment has been honored.

The Parks and Community Services Committee felt that this is an issue for staff to deal with and that it does not want to limit the ability of staff to deal effectively with the broader picture. It was agreed that the issue be left to the Acting General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture to review and provide a decision.

D. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

1. Learning & Discovery Centre

The Manager, Heritage Services provided a power point presentation on the new Learning and Discovery Centre.

The Manager, Heritage Services noted that she wanted to update the Parks & Community Services Committee on the construction of the new Surrey Museum which will be part of a large complex along with the Cloverdale Library and Archives Building, and known as the Surrey Learning and Discovery Campus.

The Manager, Heritage Services reviewed the history, site plan, building layout, floor plan and amenities included in the project, and noted:

- That ground was broken for the project on Friday September 10.
- That the 1912 Municipal Hall is currently home to the Cloverdale Seniors Center.
- That the new facility will be 2-storey with 24,000 square feet over 2 floors, with a third floor mezzanine housing mechanical equipment and some storage space.
- That the site façade will blend with the 1912 Municipal Hall.
- That the archives will be located in the 1912 Municipal Hall with shared services for youth and volunteers, and offices on the second floor.
- That in total there will be 34,000 square feet, which is double the existing 17,000 square feet for the Museum and Archives.
- That the new facility will allow them to run 3 school programs at one time.
- That currently they are able to serve only 5,000 students in school programs.
- That there are 70,000 students in the school system and the new facility will allow them to accommodate up to 15,000 of these students.

- That the orientation theatre is perfect to accommodate school and lecture groups, small musical performances, etc.
- That they are working with museum designers to accommodate as much of the permanent collection as possible which will look at Surrey history, past and present.
- That they are working on not having a stereotypical museum, but providing a dynamic, engaging, interactive facility.
- That the center will include a section on Surrey civic history, community participants and community associations.
- That some new features will be fishing, logging, and transportation exhibits.
- That they will look at the evolution and development of community voices due to those who have spoken through headlines, community celebrations, cultural and historical festivals.

The Manager, Heritage Services reviewed the purpose of museum and archives to serve the public, provide access to historical collections and archival information, facilitate educational and experimental opportunities, and collect and preserve the history of the City of Surrey.

The Manager, Heritage Services noted that they will achieve their goals and vision through working with volunteers and community partners through presentation of exhibits, provision of reference services, public programs, school and special events, physical, intellectual and virtual access to collections and information.

The Manager, Heritage Services reviewed the service level action plan, quantitative and qualitative impacts of the new museum and the hope that people will have fun with the past and how it impacts the present.

The Manager, Heritage Services concluded:

- That construction will take place over the next 10.5 months, with an expectation of moving in June 2005.
- That the move-in will take 3 months with an opening of approximately October 2005.

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. Cambridge Elementary School and Park

Memorandum from the Manager, Planning, Design & Corporate Facilities regarding development of the Cambridge Elementary School park, and seeking input from the Committee on trees on the park site.

The Manager, Planning, Design & Corporate Facilities reviewed the proposed site plan and noted:

- That they have been working with the school for 6 months, and the layout stems from preliminary work done by school planners.
- That the school is proposed for 2 storeys for a smaller footprint to preserve some of the trees.
- That they have shifted the parking lot and sports field to accommodate the tree preservation.
- That there will be a sharing of maintenance with the School District.
- That Parks will take care of maintenance of the fields, with the school handling other maintenance such as public washrooms.

The Parks & Community Services Committee commended staff and the School District for the example of sharing of services and facilities, and noted that working closely maximizes resources to the benefit of the community as a whole.

Trustee Glass will meet with The Manager of Parks to look at other areas where enhancements may be needed in working within the joint use agreement.

2. Request for Delegation – Development of South Surrey Athletic Park

A request was submitted by Barb and John Hoholuk and Sabina and Rob Malli to present concerns to the Parks & Community Services Committee on the new running track at the South Surrey Athletic Park.

The Parks & Community Services Committee approved the delegation to be received at their next meeting to be held October 27, 2004.

F. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

There were no items referred by Council.

G. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Semiahmoo Trail

Letter from Wendy Burns expressing concern at destruction of the green corridor along Semiahmoo Trail.

The Manager Long Range Planning and Policy Development advised:

- That this is an area just north of 32nd Avenue where a townhouse development is being built.
- That the trees that have been logged are mostly cottonwood and alder.
- That the portions of the trail owned by the City have been put under heritage designation.
- That an additional 15 meters will be added to the trail so the trail will be widened through this area.
- That they are in a period of construction and that some of the trees that have come down are on a private site, as well as some where stream mitigation is being done by the Engineering Department.
- That there will be no access by the townhouse development onto the trail.
- That once the development is finished and the replanting is done, the area should be quite attractive and retain the quality of the Trail.
- That previous development on the trail has been handled sensitively with native species being replanted.

The Planning and Development Department will respond to Ms. Burns concerns.

H. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Plan for the Social Well-Being of Surrey Residents

The Manager Long Range Planning & Policy Development provided an update on the City of Surrey Social Plan, and noted:

- That a Staff Task Force has been formed to oversee the work on the Plan for the Social Well-Being of Surrey Residents.
- That the Task Force has met on a number of occasions and includes a good cross section of departments.
- That the Request for Proposals was sent to 7 consultants with 3 responses received.
- That the Social Planning and Research Council of BC (SPARC) was selected to do the work.
- That the next step will be for the consultants to meet with specific advisors from community and government groups.
- That following these meetings, the consultants will conduct a broader public consultation and report back to Council before the end of the year.
- That there will be opportunities for broad consultation through open houses.
- That they are still working with the consultant on structure and they are directed to be as inclusive as possible.

The Parks & Community Services Committee commented:

- That the process for the Plan for the Social Well Being of Surrey Residents is a process that is in the hands of Council as a whole.
- That there is a concern with the process in that the information in the press release should have gone to Council as a progress report so that all Council is aware of what is happening.
- That it might be helpful to create a list of key people in agencies in the City so that they are aware of the process, and know what is going out and feel involved and kept up to date.

2. Review of Zoning By-law Related to “Community Service Use

The Chair distributed a memorandum to Council from the General Manager, Planning and Development recommending that Council authorize staff to undertake a review of the “community service” definition and other relevant aspects of the Surrey Zoning By-law with a view to providing a report to Council.

The Chair noted that this presents an opportunity for Council to look at the uses permitted under the “Community Service” use definition, on a community-wide basis.

3. Success by Six and Make Children First Initiative

Memorandum from the Interim General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture, providing history and progress on the Success by Six and Make Children First initiatives.

The memorandum noted:

- That there will be an upcoming Public Partners meeting to be held October 15 at Surrey Memorial Hospital.
- That the release of the findings on the 2004 Early Development Indicator Results for Surrey would occur September 29.
- That the report on 2004 Early Development Indicator Results for Surrey has been done by Dr. Clyde Hertzman from the UBC Human Early Learning Partnership.

The Manager of Arts and Community Development noted:

- That the Parks & Community Services Committee had been provided with the Executive Summary of the report “*Valuing our Children – Taking First Steps Together*”.
- That the report contains Surrey specific research and has been prepared by the Make Children First Initiative.
- That copies of the full report are available for those who wish to receive it.
- That the Make Children First Initiative would be presented to Council at the October 4, Council in Committee meeting.

The Parks & Community Services Committee asked that staff explore taping the September 29 release of the results.

I. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

Community Events

N. Beuk asked that members of the Parks & Community Services Committee be made aware of openings and other community events they may be interested in attending.

Surrey Lake

Trustee Glass commented on the difficulty in accessing Surrey Lake from 152nd Street and that it may deter people from visiting.

The Manager, Planning, Research & Design noted that Traffic Operations have been working with Parks to resolve the issue, and the Parks & Community Services will be kept apprised of the situation.

Holland Park

The Manager, Community & Leisure Services advised that the Holland park sod turning would be held at 1:30 September 17, and that Newton Family Fun would be held on Saturday, September 18.

South Surrey Athletic Park Running Track

The Manager, Planning, Research & Design reviewed the public process for the South Surrey Athletic Park running track, and noted:

- That the process began in 1997 with a Master Plan approved by the Parks, Recreation & Culture Commission, which outlined development of the Park.
- That staff have worked with a group on a running track for a considerable period of time.
- That Council recently approved the expenditure for the track and directed staff to implement the South Surrey running track project as per the Master Plan.
- That the track is well away from the residents and will have no impact whatsoever on the existing buffer.
- That they have hired a consultant to design a light system with no spiltage.
- That well over 40 to 50 people attended an open house on September 14 and most were in favour of the development.
- That 35 comment sheets were received and mostly positive.
- That they are now looking at the detail design and have prepared a Request for Qualification.
- That they are hoping to have the track constructed as soon as possible.
- That the residents are concerned with on-street parking and public washrooms, however there is room to expand existing parking, and they will be requesting washroom installation.

J. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parks & Community Services Committee will be held Wednesday, October 27, 2004.

K. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by Councillor Tymoschuk
Seconded by Councillor Villeneuve
That the meeting do now adjourn.
Carried

The meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Margaret Jones, City Clerk

Councillor B. Steele, Chair,
Parks and Community Services Committee