



City of Surrey

Council-in-Committee

Minutes

Council Chamber
City Hall
14245 - 56 Avenue
Surrey, B.C.
MONDAY, JULY 16, 2001
Time: 5:00 p.m.

Present:

Mayor McCallum
Councillor Tymoschuk
Councillor Steele
Councillor Bose
Councillor Watts
Councillor Hunt
Councillor Higginbotham

Absent:

Councillor Eddington
Councillor Villeneuve

Staff Present:

City Manager
Acting City Clerk
Manager, Area Planning & Development
City Solicitor
General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture
K. Swaele, Administrative Assistant

A. DELEGATIONS

1. Mr. Bob Ashton Fraser Valley Heritage Railway Society File: 0065-012; 0035-028

Mr. Bob Ashton, Chair of the Fraser Valley Heritage Railway Society was in attendance to present the 2001/2001 Business/Work Plan to bring the BCER 1220 to the City of Surrey and further to develop a site for the railway car barn, to achieve the objective of Council approval for the expenditure of \$200,000 that has been reserved for this project

Mr. Bob Ashton, introduced Directors of the Society who were in the audience, and stated:

- That subject to Council approval, the Society proposes to assist the Steveston Interurban Restoration Society with a one-time payment of \$150,000.
- That the funds would be used for restoration of BC Electric Car 1220 by May 2002, and which would have value of 1.5 million dollars.
- That \$600,000 has been put into restoration of the car to date, and that the funds have been received through grants.
- That the City of Surrey would have use of car 1220 for 12 years for \$150,000. That the cost of \$150,000 will be more than offset from the fare box, and will be returned fourfold.
- That the operating car revenue is estimated at \$60,000 per year or over \$600,000 over the term of the lease.
- That they are proposing a rate of \$5.00 per round trip.
- That historic railways in Vancouver and Edmonton have been very successful.
- That volunteers would be used to operate Car 1220, and operational costs are estimated to be minimal.
- That Southern Rail has agreed to let the Society use their tracks at no cost.
- That without an agreement with Steveston, it will be impossible for the Fraser Valley Heritage Railway Society to obtain access to the use of a car for a long time.

- That subject to Council approval, a Project Manager/Coordinator has been selected.
- That one of the tasks of Project Manager will be to see that car 1220 is completed on time and on budget by May 2002, and to locate a car barn for storage.
- That the Project Manager will energetically promote the project and secure additional funding.
- That they have had booths at the Cloverdale Rodeo and at Sullivan Days which produced new members.
- That they are actively seeking additional grants from the Federal and Provincial Governments and private institutions.
- That the Project Manager will actively follow up on grant applications and seek additional funding through sponsorships.

Mr. Ashton continued by reviewing progress of the Fraser Valley Heritage Railway Society to date, and expressed appreciation to the City of Surrey for funding to kickstart the project. He noted that the entire five-year project will cost 5 million dollars and when completed will have up to 4 restored interurban cars, offer trips from Cloverdale to Brownsville Bar, and will link the heritage rail to the new PNE site. He stated that they anticipate the City of Surrey will have the finest electric interurban system in all of North America.

Mr. Ashton concluded by asking that Council approve the release of \$200,000 earmarked for the society, and presented Council with the following documents:

- A detailed Business Plan for the remainder of 2001, which will result in the presence of an operating Interurban Car in Surrey with a secure car barn and a short stretch of operational trackage (possibly by a supplemental electric traction unit).
- A general Business Plan which sets out the entire project.
- A detailed Marketing and Communications Strategic Plan.
- List of Directors.
- Newsletters and other promotional material.

It was

Moved by Councillor Hunt

Seconded by Councillor Steele

That the Committee recommends to Council

that the funds be released upon the receipt of the City Manager's examination of the lease for the car.

Carried

2. Duncan Williams, Director
Kids Coach Transportation Service for Children
File: 0065-012

Duncan Williams, Director, Kids Coach Transportation Service for Children was in attendance to present a proposal to change the by-law regarding transportation of children where children are picked up from home to school and school to home.

Duncan Williams introduced his partner, Wendy Birks, and stated:

- That Kids Coach was started in 1990 by Wendy Birks.
- That they have 4 vans in Richmond, chauffeuring children to and from school.
- That children are walked directly to the classroom.
- That children are not dropped off unless there is someone at home.
- That they have a lot of Surrey residents asking for the service.
- That they have business licenses for White Rock, West Vancouver, District of North Vancouver and Delta
- That most of the drivers are single mothers, one grandmother, and one male driver.
- That they do not require Motor Carrier permission.

Wendy Birks stated:

- That Kids Coach is all about security so that parents do not have to worry.
- That they make sure children are transported to a designated drop off point.
- That all drivers are RCMP security cleared.
- That the majority of children are between 6 and 14 years of age.
- That in Richmond they are classified as a charter mini bus.
- That there are schedules posted each week outlining routes.
- That the vans carry eight passengers.
- That parents are required to fill out an application form.
- That it is \$6.50 one way, or \$12.00 two ways, with reductions for additional children in the family.
- That they do not charge if parents phone to cancel prior to pick up time.

3. Sonia Nijjar, Supervisor
Human Resource Centre for Students
File: 0065-012

Sonia Nijjar, Supervisor, Human Resource Centre for Students was in attendance to make a presentation to raise awareness regarding their services, and distributed brochures to Council.

Ms. Nijjar advised:

- That in June the Resource Centre held an open house for the community to allow them to learn more about the Centre.
- That summer jobs are an essential complement to formal educational training and provide financial support to allow students to continue their training.
- That finding a summer job is hard work, but the Human Resource Centre makes this easier.
- That clients come from Cloverdale, White Rock and North Delta, and skills range from casual labor to information technology.
- That summer employment officers are also students.
- That they help with resume writing, cover letters, fax and internet services.
- They have posted 1230 job vacancies.
- That the main concern this year has been not having enough students to fill vacancies.
- That due to recent transit labor disputes only 40% of vacancies have been filled.
- That they have recently created a street team to visit youth in the youth and recreation centres.

Ms. Nijjar concluded that as the program ends in August, it would be helpful if Council could assist by spreading information to the community about the Human Resource Centre for Students.

B. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

C. CORPORATE REPORTS

1. The Corporate Report, under date of July 16, 2001, was considered and dealt with as follows:

Item No. C007 Official Community Plan (OCP) Review - Status Report
File: 2302-000

The General Manager, Planning & Development submitted a report to update Council on the progress of this year's major review of the OCP.

General Manager, Planning & Development was recommending that the report be received for information.

It was

Moved by Councillor Hunt
Seconded by Councillor Watts
That Corporate Report No. C007 be

received for information.

Carried

D. DELEGATION REQUESTS

E. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

F. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

G. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by Councillor Hunt

Seconded by Councillor Watts

That the Council-in-Committee meeting do

now adjourn.

Carried

The Council-in-Committee adjourned at 5:53 p.m.

Chairperson