

Council-in-Committee Minutes

Council Chamber City Hall 14245 - 56 Avenue Surrey, B.C. MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2010

Time: 5:06 p.m.

Present:

Mayor Watts

Absent:

Chairperson – Councillor Martin Councillor Bose Councillor Gill Councillor Hepner Councillor Hunt Councillor Rasode Councillor Steele Councillor Villeneuve

Staff Present:

City Clerk
City Manager
City Solicitor
Deputy City Clerk
Deputy City Manager
General Manager, Engineering
General Manager, Finance and Technology
General Manager, Human Resources
General Manager, Investment & Intergovernmental Relations
General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture
General Manager, Planning & Development
Manager, Area Planning & Development, North Division
Manager, Area Planning & Development, South Division
Manager, Land Development, Engineering

A. DELEGATIONS

 Al Cleaver, Treasurer & Ursula Maxwell-Lewis, President Friends of the Surrey Museum and Archives Society (the Friends)

File: 0250-20; 0550-20-10

Were in attendance before Council to report on the proposal submitted in November 2007 to sponsor free admission to the Surrey Museum, and the funding provided to the City in October 2007 towards the capital costs of Phase Two of the Surrey Museum.

The following comments were made:

- It was noted that the Friends have conducted several museum sponsorship drives and hope to continue offering free admission.
- In 2007 the Friends presented the City of Surrey with \$200,000 to support the Museum's Phase II expansion program. Three years have passed since the funding transfer and the Museum was not included in the Build Surrey Capital Project Program. The Board of Directors of the Friends is concerned about the City's commitment to expanding the museum. The society has requested information on interest accrued on the \$200,000 currently held in capital reserve. The Friends request that the Museum Phase II expansion be included in the Build Surrey Program so that the construction can be completed.

The Friends hope that the goals of the society and the City are aligned and that the efforts of the society can be formally acknowledged in the Build Surrey Program and on the city's website.

Council thanked the delegation and committed to looking at the museum expansion proposal and requested a detailed report from Staff concerning projected Phase II expansion costs.

2. Owen Croy, Manager Parks, Recreation & Culture with Patrick Klassen, Beautification Coordinator

File: 0350-01; 0550-20-10

Note: See Corporate Report, Item No. R249 of the Regular Council - Public Hearing agenda.

Were in attendance before Council to report on the Civic Beautification Program.

The Civic Beautification Program consists of the following:

- 1. **City Banner Program with 18 unique designs**. Creative art designs were placed on 750 Street Poles and 1350 Banners.
- 2. **Graffiti Mitigation Initiative** Wrapping items that have been subject to graffiti with artwork. 105 City Traffic Cabinets, 25 BC Hydro Kiosks, 20 Telus SAC cabinets. The initiative is also being rolled out for larger features such as storage containers.
- 3. **Preventative Landscaping** Screen planting techniques are used to prevent graffiti on some of the City's larger walls.
- 4. **Seasonal Lighting Program** Seasonal lighting displays will be placed across the city, LED lights and pole mounted lights will be used. Special lighting displays will be featured in City Centre and the Newton Bus Loop.
- 5. Community Enhancement Partnership Program Funds from the 2010 program have been used for a number of initiatives. Grants have been awarded to a range of different groups including, non-profit, community advisory, and youth groups. One of the first projects was undertaken from the Rotary Club of Surrey. Staff shared that 15 applications have been received and 9 grants have been awarded to date. The program was advertised through newspaper, brochures and special events.
- 6. Area & Property Improvements Specific properties in need of revitalization have been undertaken. Peterson Hill has been selected as an area for art installations and various site works, excellent results have been achieved. Positive work has been done to revitalize vacant city properties. Undeveloped ravine parkland enhancements have been completed and through 2011 staff will continue to identify further areas of improvement on Peterson Hill.
- 7. **Newton Town Centre Esthetics** Improvements include transit loop esthetics, painting of civic infrastructure and an expanding the seasonal lighting display.

- 8. **Hanging Baskets and Planters** Innovative designs have been explored on all city streetscapes. All new planters will have self-watering irrigation systems. Any future locations where baskets and planters are placed, self-watering irrigation systems will be part of the landscape design.
- 9. **Brown Field Management** Involves screening buffer areas of decommissioned sites. A vinyl mesh screening process is currently being tested. Staff will conduct further investigation in areas within Surrey that are candidates for brown field beautification.
- 10. Other Focus Areas Parks staff have implemented street furniture cataloguing, beautification of civic buildings through signage and look forward and seeing how the beautification program can be further enhanced. Staff will explore the advantages of dressing up vacant windows to animate the streetscapes.
- 11. **Future Planning** Recently a survey and a best practices document was created on what other cities around the world are doing. As a result, Surrey's seasonal lighting program was expanded and some of the streetscapes and public plazas have been further addressed. More animated street furniture has been developed to engage pedestrians. Staff is exploring ways to further green the public realm from green bus stops to rainwater gardens. The programs currently running will be continued into 2011.

Council requested before and after photos of the beautification efforts for the downtown core and shared that the wrap programs were very well received by the public. Mayor and Council were pleased with the improvements and encouraged staff to keep up the good work.

Council noted that some private sector construction sites are not well managed in containing debris. Many of the sites have a metal security fences and some of them are appalling in terms of accumulated garbage and construction materials. Parks, Recreation and Culture Staff will put together a best practices program for site management and share with the Planning and Development Department.

- B. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL
- C. CORPORATE REPORTS
- D. DELEGATION REQUESTS
- E. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS
- F. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

G. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by

Seconded by

That the Council-in-Committee meeting do

now adjourn.

Carried

The Council-in-Committee adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

Councilor Martin, Chairperson