

CULTURE & RECREATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, January 7, 2004

7:00 pm

Attendance: Commissioner Lyndsay Poaps (Chair)
Commissioner Heather Deal
Commissioner Suzanne Anton
Commissioner Eva Riccius
Commissioner Loretta Woodcock
Liane McKenna - Director, Queen Elizabeth District
Lori MacKay - Director, Van East District
Greg Eng, Recreation Manager, Van East District
Booth Palmer, Coordinator, Child and Youth Recreation Services

Regrets: Commissioner Al DeGenova

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the Culture & Recreation Committee meeting held on Wednesday, December 3, 2003.
Adopted as presented.

DISCUSSION:

1. CHILDCARE SERVICES

Booth Palmer provided the Committee members and the other Commissioners with a briefing on the extent of childcare programs and services available in facilities on our parks and Community Centres.

The Committee discussed:

- Bill 73 - proposed legislation which may impact standards of recreation programming for children. BCRPA is considering requesting exemptions on behalf of the recreation field with support from Vancouver Park Board staff.
- 1991 Policy for locating Childcare Facilities in Parks - present policy has no discussion of priorities for various groups.
- City sites for childcare facilities are generally considered first before Parks are considered
- DCL/CAC - eligibility for funding for childcare facility construction
- costs for utilities, maintenance, repair and staff resources are paid by the Park Board in community centres, program revenues and rental fees go to the Community Associations
- rental fees are also received by the Community Associations
- A Draft Protocol for 3 agencies working together - City, Park Board & School Board will be presented for discussion at the Forum

2. **Delegation by Nuralli Adatya, member of the Board of Gingerbread House Daycare Centre**

By April 1, 2004 - the Daycare Centre (20 children) must vacate the facility which is a portable on BC Hydro property at Boundary Road between 45th and 49th Avenues. They would like to have a piece of parkland in the immediate vicinity to which they can relocate their facility. Gingerbread House Daycare serve immigrants and single parents with low fees to reflect need. The program has been offered at the site for approx. 30 years.

- temporary location may be an option
- a new portable has been offered by the Province
- looking at schools, City has also been approached
- staff will approach the Community Associations (Killarney & Champlain) and make them aware of the urgent need
- group wants to remain together rather than integrate into existing childcare programs at the Centres

Recommendation

That the Board send a letter to BC Hydro requesting that they grant an extension until August 31, 2004 to the Gingerbread House Daycare Centre's use of Hydro property in order to allow the organization sufficient time to fully explore other alternatives for the relocation of their childcare program.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, February 4, 2004
7:00 p.m. at 2099 Beach Avenue