

RICHMOND SPORTS COUNCIL

Tuesday September 14, 2010

Present: Jim Lamond (Chair), Roger Barnes, Annie Watson, Winnie Hon, Peter Mitchell, Fred Pawluk, Serj Sangara, Warren Karsgaard, Pat Weatherhill, Barbara Norman, Bob Jackson, Don Fennell, Donna Marsland, Don Fisher, Eric Stepura, Paul Morizawa, (City staff)

Regrets: Councillor Bill McNulty

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm.

1. Approval of July 2010 minutes.
Moved: Pat Weatherill, Seconded: Serj Sangara, Carried.
2. Business arising from minutes – None.
3. Introduction of guest: Alice Wong MP

Mrs. Wong thanked the sports organizations for their contribution to the community and as an ex Physical Education Teacher from Hong Kong, she supported sports organizations whenever she could. Mrs. Wong also would like to be on the guest lists for sporting events and she would be pleased to attend. Coming to the meeting was to introduce herself to everyone and answer any questions.

Bob Jackson asked what the Federal Government would be doing to help more young kids become physically active as a lot of funding had disappeared. Mrs. Wong responded that the government is giving tax breaks to families, however, there does need to be discussion with educators to encourage physical education as part of the curriculum. Bob was requested to send a letter in this regard direct to Mrs. Wong.

Roger referred to the Sport for Life Strategy and the support for elite level sports, however, the community grass roots program was critical and there needed to be support for volunteers who are promoting sports in the community.

Peter commented on the requirement for volunteers who would be working with vulnerable people to undertake finger printing and also referred to the rigorous screening for innocent volunteers due to criminals changing their names to avoid detection. Again, Mrs. Wong requested that a letter be sent to her directly on this issue so that she can follow up.

Annie brought up the subject of lack of efficiency within three levels of government and the cost for kids to become fully involved in sports was a challenge. Annie was requested to send a letter to Mrs. Wong in this regard.

As there were no more questions, Jim thanked Alice Wong for her attendance and for the lawn bowling grant received from the federal government.

7:15 pm – Alice Wong MP left the meeting.

4. Sport for Life Strategy & Endorsement

Eric provided a brief overview of the two year process to pull the strategy together as to where sports wanted to go in the next 5 years. The feedback received from the workshop held on June 23rd has been incorporated into the strategy. Copies of the strategy were circulated for reference.

Roger continued by stating that the strategy was a long term development program investment for sports together with an implementation plan and requested that Sports Council endorse the strategy.

Comments were received as follows:

- very well done but rather overwhelming
- would like to see a condensed version or a précis for the public which would be very beneficial
- “sense of achievement” has been identified as the driving force for kids to participate in sports
- production of a flyer to hand out to the public is a good idea
- a lot of work has gone into the strategy and we need to move forward now
- hold a Field Day at the Oval and introduce a variety of sports to the kids

Roger confirmed that October 5th was the next meeting of the work group and then the Sport for Life Strategy would be going forward to the Parks & Recreation Committee and then onto Council for resources and direction. Target date mid October 2010.

Motion:

That the Richmond Sports Council endorses the Sport for Life Strategy.

Moved: Barbara Norman, Seconded: Donna Marsland, Carried.

5. Staff Update

Eric drew attention to the new basketball court opening on September 17th at 5:30 pm at South Arm Park and encouraged everyone to attend.

Eric continued by explaining the new initiative by the City in regard to a new system for developing energy to heat the buildings at South Arm Park. using bio mass fuel.. This was in response to reducing energy costs and also receiving a carbon credit as a result.

6. Sport Hosting

It was confirmed that 18 projects had been approved to a total of \$29,000. Everyone was encouraged to submit their applications for funding. The next meeting of the Task Force to review the next group of applications will be held on September 21st.

7. KidSport

Bob circulated the financial information and reviewed the current status of the account. Bob drew attention to five stale dated cheques. More funding is definitely required to meet the demand of applications. It was noted that should a tax receipt be required this must be processed through KidSport BC.

8. Trust Fund

Sammy provided an update on the account.

9. Correspondence

The issue of the display of Non Smoking signs in parks and sports areas was discussed and Eric committed to following up on the signs as the smoking issue is still presenting a challenge.

Jim confirmed that he had sent a letter of invitation to John Yap MLA to attend the Sports Council meeting with regard to community gaming grants and Jim has received a response from Mr. Yap's office that he may be able to attend the October 12th meeting, however, it may be November before he is available.

Enquiry received with regard to a Sports Wall of Fame being established and Jim commented that this had been discussed for year and that Minoru Pavilion may be an ideal place as Sports Council now have an office there for the use of sports council members. There are two computers and a small meeting space available for 10-12 people. Fred suggested that a corporate sponsor should be sought for a Sports Wall of Fame.

10. New Business

Highlights as follows:

- Gaming Grants, no information received to date with regard to three year terms.
- Sports Strategy - initial discussion with City staff with regard to integration of schools, recreation and community associations and sports group to promote the link
- Volunteer data base at Volunteer Richmond may be beneficial as records are kept on completion of criminal record checks
- Provincial funding for participation in sports in the future will be results based to develop excellence for national teams
- Club Enhancement workshop held to improve the quality of clubs – details provided
- Submission for Trust Fund applications encouraged

- Deadline for City Grants October 15th
- Winterfest will occur in February 2011 – report going to Council shortly
- Richmond Gymnastics represented at Singapore Olympic Games by two members who will also be going forward to the Commonwealth Games. Registration is currently underway.
- Richmond Centre Mall are looking for dates for events in 2011 (more information???)
- Handball National Championships will be held in May 2011 at the Oval
- Bantam Girls National Championships, Gold Medal Game Softball
- Baseball from 4 pm to 9 pm at the Oval and 7 pm to 9 pm for Midget Team
- RACA AGM held. Female Ice Hockey Team “Red Devils”. Registration week of Sept. 20th
- Community teams and school teams are causing conflict between game times. Policy has been in place with regard to this issue from 2000 (Policy will be circulated separately)
- Competitive Track and Field ended. Cross Country season now started
- Curling Club up and running. AGM September 15th. League curling starts week of September 20th
- National Wheel Chair Rugby at the Oval September 21 – 26
- Garry Point Park – Terry Fox Run 30th anniversary Sept. 19
- Jim commented on the Open House for Gymnastics at Sportstown – poor facility no heat, “disgrace”
- Congratulations to Jim Lamond on the success of the BC Senior Games
- Jim commented on the \$24,000 profit of which \$12,000 would be sent up in a Trust Fund for Seniors to travel to sporting events.

No further business.

Meeting adjourned at 9 pm.

Nora Wright
Recording Secretary

Next meeting: Tuesday October 12, 2010