



**Minutes
General Committee
December 8, 2015
Meeting Number 33**

Finance & Administrative Issues

Chair: Deputy Mayor Jack Heath
Vice Chair: Councillor Colin Campbell

Community Services Issues

Chair: Councillor Alan Ho
Vice Chair: Councillor Alex Chiu

Environment & Sustainability Issues

Chair: Councillor Valerie Burke
Vice Chair: Councillor Karen Rea

Building, Parks, & Construction Issues

Chair: Councillor Colin Campbell
Vice Chair: Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong

Alternate formats are available upon request.

Attendance

Mayor Frank Scarpitti
Deputy Mayor Jack Heath
Regional Councillor Jim Jones
Regional Councillor Joe Li
Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong
Councillor Valerie Burke
Councillor Don Hamilton
Councillor Karen Rea
Councillor Colin Campbell
Councillor Amanda Collucci
Councillor Logan Kanapathi
Councillor Alex Chiu

Andy Taylor, Chief Administrative Officer
Jim Baird, Commissioner of Development Services
Trinela Cane, Commissioner of Corporate Services
Brenda Librecz, Commissioner of Community & Fire Services
Catherine Conrad, City Solicitor
Joel Lustig, Treasurer
Mohammed Hosseini-Ara, Director of Culture
Meg West, Manager, Strategic Initiatives
Asare Kester-Akrofi, Executive Coordinator
Alida Tari, Council/Committee Coordinator

Regrets

Councillor Alan Ho

The General Committee meeting convened at the hour of 12:43 PM with Deputy Mayor Jack Heath in the Chair.

Disclosure of Interest

None disclosed.

**1. TO2015 PAN AM/PARAPAN AM GAMES
- SUMMARY REPORT (6.0)**

[Report](#) [Attachment A](#)

Brenda Librecz, Commissioner of Community & Fire Services and Ms. Elizabeth Plashkes delivered a PowerPoint providing a summary of the T02015 Pan Am/Parapan Am Games.

The Mayor on behalf of all Members of Council congratulated and thanked everyone involved with the Pan Am/Parapan Am Games. It was an absolute pleasure to celebrate sports, culture and diversity in our Community. The Committee thanked Brenda Librecz for an outstanding job.

It was suggested that the appointments for the Markham Sports Hall of Fame Board of Directors be finalized at the December 15, 2015 Council meeting.

Moved by Mayor Frank Scarpitti
Seconded by Councillor Amanda Collucci

- 1) That the report “TO2015 Pan Am/Parapan Am Games – Summary Report” be received; and,
- 2) That Sponsors and Funding Partners for Markham Pan Am/Parapan Community Activation be acknowledged and thanked for enabling the Markham Host Advisory Committee, related subcommittees, and the City of Markham to complete the Markham Community Activation Plan; and,
- 3) That Markham Pan Am Host Advisory Committee, Subcommittee Members, Markham Pan Am Volunteers, the Regional Municipality of York, York Regional Police, and other community partners be acknowledged and thanked for contributing to the success of the Markham Pan Am Community Activation Plan; and,
- 4) That Staff be recognized for program and service excellence in the City of Markham’s role in the TO2015 Pan Am/Parapan Am Games; and,
- 5) That Council appoint Mayor and up to two Council representatives to the Markham Sport Hall of Fame Board of Directors; and further,
- 6) That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Carried

**2. BUILDING MARKHAM’S FUTURE TOGETHER 2015
– 2019 STRATEGIC PLAN (16.23)**

[Presentation](#) [Report](#) [Appendix A](#)
[Appendix B](#) [Appendix C](#)

Meg West, Manager, Strategic Initiatives and Asare Kester-Akrofi, Executive Coordinator delivered a PowerPoint presentation regarding Building Markham's Future Together 2015 - 2019 Strategic Plan.

The Committee discussed the results of the satisfaction survey and strategic objectives. It was suggested that staff report back with a memo providing more detail with respect to the results for "growing old" and "economic opportunity."

Moved by Councillor Logan Kanapathi
Seconded by Mayor Frank Scarpitti

- 1) That the presentation by Ms. Meg West, Manager, Strategic Initiatives and Mr. Asare Kester-Akrofi, Executive Coordinator entitled "Building Markham's Future Together 2015 – 2019 Strategic Plan", be received; and,
- 2) That the report entitled, "Building Markham's Future Together 2015 – 2019 Strategic Plan", be received; and,
- 3) That the Building Markham's Future Together 2015 – 2019 Strategic Plan, attached as Appendix A, be endorsed for adoption by the City; and further,
- 4) That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Carried

**3. MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 27, 2015
SANTA CLAUS PARADE COMMITTEE (16.0)**
[Minutes](#)

Moved by Councillor Colin Campbell
Seconded by Councillor Valerie Burke

- 1) That the minutes of the October 27, 2015 Santa Claus Parade Committee meeting be received for information purposes.

Carried

**4. LIBRARY STRATEGIC PLAN
- RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS ASKED AT
MEETING OF GENERAL COMMITTEE ON
OCTOBER 9, 2015 (3.19)**
[Memo](#) [Extract](#)

Moved by Councillor Colin Campbell
Seconded by Councillor Valerie Burke

- 1) That the memorandums dated October 22, 2015 entitled "Responses to Questions Asked at Meeting of General Committee on October 9, 2015" be received for information purposes.

Carried

**5. STORMWATER MANAGEMENT
FACILITIES RETROFIT STUDY
CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (5.7)**
[Report](#) [Attachment A-C](#)

Moved by Councillor Colin Campbell
Seconded by Councillor Valerie Burke

- 1) That the report entitled "Stormwater Management Facilities Retrofit Study Class Environmental Assessment" be received; and,
- 2) That Asset Management staff be authorized to file the Notice of Completion for the Environmental Study Report with the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) and post it for the 30 day public review; and,
- 3) That Council endorse the recommended stormwater management facilities retrofit implementation plan to retrofit existing and construct new stormwater management facilities as detailed in the Environmental Study Report; and further,
- 4) That staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Carried

**6. CELEBRATE MARKHAM GRANT
- Q1 2016 FUNDING APPROVALS 97.6)**
[Report](#) [Attachment 1-5](#)

Mohammed Hosseini-Ara, Director of Culture addressed the Committee and summarized the details outlined in the report.

There was discussion regarding the proposed grant amounts for Moksha Canada Foundation and Centre for Tamil Heritage & Culture.

Moved by Mayor Frank Scarpitti
Seconded by Councillor Karen Rea

- 1) That the report titled, "Celebrate Markham Grant Program – Q1 2016 Funding Approvals" be received; and,

- 2) That Council approve the recommendations of the Interdepartmental Staff Review Committee to fund eight (8) Celebrate Markham applicants, totaling \$21,500 as identified in Attachment 1; and,
- 3) That the following Celebrate Markham grants be approved for the Cultural Events and Programs Category (as per Appendix 1):
 - i) Unionville Theatre Company be awarded \$5,000 for a theatre production (5 shows);
 - ii) Moksha Canada Foundation be awarded \$2,000 for Moksha Fest;
 - iii) Centre for Tamil Heritage & Culture be awarded \$4,000 for Markham Thai Pongal Vizha Cultural Celebration;
 - iv) Markham African Caribbean Canadian Association be awarded \$3,000 for Black History Month volunteer recognition; and,
- 4) That the following Celebrate Markham grants be approved for the Major Community Festivals Category (as per Appendix 2):
 - i) Federation of Chinese Canadians of Markham be awarded \$2,500 for their 2016 Lunar New Year celebration; and,
- 5) That the following Celebrate Markham grants be approved for the Seniors' Clubs Category (as per Appendix 3):
 - i) AMICI Association be awarded \$1,000 for 2016 for seniors' activities;
 - ii) Milliken on the Move Older Adults' Club be awarded \$3,000 for seniors activities;
 - iii) Dorcas Senior Interest Club be awarded \$1,000 for seniors' activities.
- 6) That subject to approval by Council, this report showing recommended applications be posted on the Celebrate Markham website for applicants and the public's information, along with Council's resolution; and,
- 7) That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Carried

7. SYRIAN REFUGEES (12.2.6)

There was discussion the government's plan to bring in 2500 refugees by the end of the year. The Committee discussed the importance of ensuring that proper security screening on the refugees will be conducted prior to the refugees arriving in Canada.

The Committee suggested that staff prepare some communication/messaging for Members of Council that can be provided to any constituents who are inquiring about Syrian refugees.

It was suggested that the offices of Health Minister Jan Philpott and Immigration Minister John McCallam be contacted to discuss issues such as timing, what housing would be available, potential sponsorships of families, etc.

8. IN-CAMERA MATTERS (8.6)

General Committee did not resolve into an in-camera session to discuss the following confidential matter.

Moved by Regional Councillor Nirmala Armstrong
Seconded by Councillor Valerie Burke

That staff be authorized to place the following on the December 15, 2015 Council agenda for consideration:

- (1) A PROPOSED OR PENDING ACQUISITION OR DISPOSITION OF LAND BY THE MUNICIPALITY OR LOCAL BOARD (VARIOUS WARDS) (8.6)
[Section 239 (2) (c)]

Carried

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Karen Rea
Seconded by Councillor Logan Kanapathi

That the General Committee meeting adjourn at 2:52 PM.

Carried