



MINUTES
GENERAL COMMITTEE
September 26, 2011
Meeting No. 21

Finance & Administrative Issues

Chair: Mayor Frank Scarpitti
Vice Chair: Councillor Carolina Moretti

Community Services Issues

Chair: Councillor Alex Chiu
Vice Chair: Councillor Howard Shore

Environment & Sustainability Issues

Chair: Councillor Valerie Burke
Vice Chair: Regional Councillor Joe Li

Building, Parks, & Construction Issues

Chair: Councillor Logan Kanapathi
Vice Chair: Councillor Colin Campbell

Alternate formats are available upon request.

Attendance

Mayor Frank Scarpitti
Deputy Mayor Jack Heath
Regional Councillor Jim Jones
Regional Councillor Gord Landon
Regional Councillor Joe Li
Councillor Valerie Burke
Councillor. Howard Shore
Councillor Don Hamilton
Councillor Carolina Moretti
Councillor Alan Ho
Councillor Logan Kanapathi
Councillor Alex Chiu

Andy Taylor, Chief Administrative Officer
Catherine Conrad, Town Solicitor
Jim Baird, Commissioner of Development Services
Brenda Librecz, Commissioner of Community & Fire Services
Joel Lustig, Treasurer
Colin Service, Manager, Planning & Policy Development
John Ryerson, Director Culture
Mary Creighton, Director Recreation
Dennis Flaherty, Director Communication & Community
Relation
Alida Tari, Council/Committee Coordinator

Regrets

Councillor Colin Campbell

The General Committee convened at the hour of 9:05 a.m. with Mayor Frank Scarpitti in the Chair and Councillor Alex Chiu Chaired Community Services related items.

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

None disclosed.

**1. MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 19, 2011
GENERAL COMMITTEE (16.0)**

[Minutes](#)

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu
Seconded by Councillor Valerie Burke

- 1) That the Minutes of the September 19, 2011 General Committee meeting be confirmed.

CARRIED

**2. MINUTES OF THE JULY 20, 2011
ANIMAL CARE COMMITTEE (16.0)**

[Minutes](#)

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu
Seconded by Councillor Valerie Burke

- 1) That the Minutes of the July 20, 2011 Animal Care Committee meeting be received for information purposes.

CARRIED

**3. MINUTES OF THE MAY 18 AND JUNE 15, 2011
BUILDING A CREATIVE MARKHAM
ADVISORY COMMITTEE (16.0)**

[May 18](#) [June 15](#)

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu
Seconded by Councillor Valerie Burke

- 1) That the Minutes of the May 18 and June 15, 2011 Building A Creative Markham Advisory Committee meeting be received for information purposes.

CARRIED

**4. MINUTES OF THE JUNE 27, 2011
PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD (16.0)**

[June 27](#)

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu
Seconded by Councillor Valerie Burke

- 1) That the Minutes of the June 27 2011 Public Library Board meeting be received for information purposes.

CARRIED

**5. MINUTES OF THE MAY 9 AND JUNE 6, 2011
RACE RELATIONS COMMITTEE (16.0)**

[May 9](#) [June 6](#)

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu
Seconded by Councillor Valerie Burke

- 1) That the Minutes of the May 9 and June 6, 2011 Race Relations Committee meeting be received for information purposes.

CARRIED

**6. MINUTES OF THE MAY 10 AND JUNE 14, 2011
SENIORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (16.0)**

[May 10](#) [June 14](#)

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu
Seconded by Councillor Valerie Burke

- 1) That the Minutes of the May 10 and June 6, 2011 Seniors Advisory Committee meeting be received for information purposes.

CARRIED

**7. MINUTES OF THE MAY 9, 2011
VARLEY MCKAY ART FOUNDATION OF MARKHAM (16.0)**

[May 9](#)

Moved by Councillor Alex Chiu
Seconded by Councillor Valerie Burke

- 1) That the Minutes of the May 9, 2011 Varley McKay Art Foundation of Markham meeting be received for information purposes.

CARRIED

**8. UPDATE ON THE COMMUNICATIONS
STRATEGY FOR THE 2012 BUDGET PUBLIC
CONSULTATION PROCESS (7.4)**

Mr. Joel Lustig, Treasurer provided a verbal update with respect to the communication strategy for the 2012 Budget public consultation process. He advised that it will include: weekly advertisement in the local paper; there has been a corporate Facebook page set up; a Facebook icon on the portal; the budget communication process is a lead news item on the portal; advertisement of the meetings will be displayed on all electronic information boards (EIB) and

Corporate Communications is finalizing an e-invite that Members of Council can send to their constituents.

The Committee suggested that staff review the dates of the budget public consultation meetings with the budget Chair, Regional Councillor Gord Landon and confirm his availability.

Moved by Regional Councillor Gord Landon
Seconded by Councillor Logan Kanapathi

That the verbal update from Joel Lustig, Treasurer, be received.

CARRIED

**9. INTERNATIONAL INDIAN FILM ACADEMY
BUZZ EVENTS UPDATE 2011 (6.5)**
[Presentation](#)

Mr. John Ryerson, Director Culture delivered a PowerPoint presentation providing an update regarding the International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) Buzz Events.

The Committee thanked staff, all the local sponsors and the Steering Committee members for all their contributions with respect to the IIFA Buzz Events.

Moved by Mayor Frank Scarpitti
Seconded by Councillor Carolina Moretti

- 1) That the presentation by Mr. John Ryerson, Director, Culture, entitled “International Indian Film Academy Buzz Events Update 2011” be received; and,
- 2) **That 50% of the funds remaining be allocated to the South Asian Mela annual event over a period of three years. Staff will report back on the use of the balance of funds; and further,**
- 3) **That staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.**

CARRIED

**10. RECREATION, CULTURE & LIBRARY
PRICING & SUBSIDY STRATEGY
DEVELOPMENT APPROACH (6.0)**
[Presentation](#)

Staff delivered a PowerPoint presentation with respect to the development approach for the Recreation, Culture and Library pricing and subsidy strategy.

The Committee discussed the following:

- The need for a Steering Committee

- Consider the holistic and philosophical role for all recreation services provided by the Town
- Stronger marketing plan for all programs especially the fitness programs
- Ensure front line staff, community representatives and Members of Council are included in discussions during the development of the pricing strategy and subsidy strategy
- Ensure there are programs for seniors and people with disabilities
- Obtain representation from the School Boards during the public consultation phase
- Speak with the various hockey associations to find out what they spend to rent ice from private facilities
- Profit based programs versus subsidized programs
- Offer programs such as swimming lessons for mothers and toddlers free of charge
- Look at other cultural activities that can be offered at the various centres
- Try to obtain the top 5 reasons why people are not renewing their fitness memberships
- Ensure facilities are properly utilized
- Set up individual brain sessions with each Member of Council who is interested to discuss the pricing strategy

Moved by Mayor Frank Scarpitti

Seconded by Councillor Carolina Moretti

- 1) That the presentation by Mary Creighton, Director, Recreation Services and Colin Service, Manager, Planning & Policy Development, entitled “Recreation, Culture & Library Pricing & Subsidy Strategy Development Approach” be received; and,
- 2) **That the fitness centre membership component of the Recreation, Culture & Library Pricing and Subsidy Strategy be reviewed immediately and staff report back to General Committee within two months on same; and,**
- 3) **That a Recreation, Culture & Library Pricing & Subsidy Steering Committee be established comprised of the following: Regional Councillor Gord Landon, Regional Councillor Jim Jones, Councillor Howard Shore, Councillor Logan Kanapathi and Councillor Alex Chiu; and further,**
- 4) **That staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.**

CARRIED

11. SENIOR CENTRES FACILITY OPERATING AGREEMENT (6.0)

[Report](#)

Staff summarized the details outlined in the report.

The Committee suggested that the Town's finance department review the Older Adults in Action (O.A.I.A) year end financials.

Moved by Regional Councillor Gord Landon

Seconded by Mayor Frank Scarpitti

- 1) That the report entitled "Senior Centres Facility Operations Agreement" be received; and,
- 2) That the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute a Facility Operating Agreement between the Older Adults in Action (O.A.I.A) at 22 Water Street and the Town of Markham for the period January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2015; and,
- 3) That the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute a Facility Operating Agreement between the Thornhill Seniors Club at 7755 Bayview Avenue and the Town of Markham for the period January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2015; and further,
- 4) That staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

CARRIED

12. IN-CAMERA MATTERS

Moved by Councillor Howard Shore

Seconded by Councillor Don Hamilton

That, in accordance with Section 239 (2) (b) of the *Municipal Act*, General Committee resolve into an in-camera session to discuss the following confidential matters (11:47 AM):

- 1) Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees. **(RESTRICTED AGENDA)**

CARRIED

Moved by Regional Councillor Jim Jones

Seconded by Councillor Carolina Moretti

That the Committee rise from the in-camera session (12:38 PM).

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

13. SOUND SYSTEM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath would like to see a solution regarding the microphone problems in the Council Chamber. It was noted that staff are looking into the sound issues related to the microphones in the Chamber.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath
Seconded by Regional Councillor Jim Jones

That the Chief Administrative Officer report back to General Committee with solutions for the issues related to the microphone system in the Council Chamber.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

That the General Committee meeting adjourn at 12:40 PM.