



"Accepting the Challenge"

Facilities/Transportation Committee Minutes

Thursday, March 11, 2010, 10:00 a.m.
Board Room, Administration Office

Present: D. Karnes, Chairperson, P. Bartlette, M. Snelling, G. Malazdrewicz,
G. Barnes, M. Clark.

Regrets: J. Murray, Dr. D. Michaels, R. Harkness.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Karnes, Chairperson called the Committee meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The Facilities/Transportation Committee Agenda was approved.

3. COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE GOAL ITEMS:

NIL

4. OTHER COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE MATTERS

a) Facilities Report Review

The Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Barnes, reviewed the Facilities Report dated January 2010. He noted the school division's facilities objectives and reviewed the report's summary analysis for the Committee. The report was prepared with school capacity projections through to 2019 although it was suggested that the facilities report should be considered to 2015. Senior Administration suggested the following general recommendations:

1. All changes would include grandfathering existing children and their siblings into their current catchment areas;
2. All recommendations would be effective for the 2011/2012 school year in order to provide time to receive public feedback;
3. It is the Division's goal to make all K-6 schools K-8 schools.

The Committee then reviewed each school individually and discussed any possible changes that would be required to the catchment areas to accommodate increase in enrollment. The Committee asked questions for clarification purposes. Discussions were held and the following changes were agreed to by the committee:

1. Extend the eastern boundary of the catchment area for Alexander School to increase enrollment;
2. Move the "Clare" development area currently in the Betty Gibson catchment area to the Kirkcaldy Heights catchment area;
3. Move the "Clare" development area currently in the Earl Oxford catchment area (grades 7 and 8) to the Kirkcaldy Heights catchment area;
4. The housing development known as Island Park and being the area between Maryland Avenue and Patricia Avenue and 1st Street and 9th Street which is currently in the George Fitton catchment area be moved to the King George catchment area. It was noted that this was the proposal brought to the Regular Board Meeting by Senior Administration on February 8, 2010 and was removed to allow for consultation to take place.
5. Riverview School catchment area to include west side of Douglas Street as has been requested by the parents of the area.
6. Valleyview School to be placed on 5 year capital plan for a new gym and classroom renovations in order to achieve goal of K-8 school designation. Until that time Valleyview 7's and 8's who are currently divided into Riverheights School and Earl Oxford School will all attend Earl Oxford School commencing September 2011.

7. Waverly Park School will be at capacity in two years time and therefore a request for two additional classrooms needs to be included in the 5 year capital plan.

The Committee also discussed the Building Systems Review Report noting that the Director of Facilities and Transportation has kept a good handle on what needs to be changed. It was confirmed that the Division has yet to receive information on projects which are to be approved for this year. If the Division has not heard following the upcoming Provincial Government Budget, contact will be made to determine which projects have received approval. It was noted that the priority for increased gym capacity is as follows: George Fitton, Green Acres, Valleyview, Riverview Schools.

The Secretary-Treasurer and Director of Facilities together with the Supervisor of Transportation will review how the proposed changes will affect the current bussing of students next. After the bussing has been reviewed the matter will be brought back to the Committee for final approval before taking the proposed recommendations to the Board. Public input will take place in June in order to implement the changes in a timely fashion.

b) 3-4-5 Nursery School Request for Space

The Committee reviewed the letter from 3-4-5- Nursery School requesting space in one of the Division schools. Discussions were held and it was noted that there is no space available in George Fitton School where the Nursery School is currently located. There is possible space in King George School, however there is also a daycare currently located at King George School. It was also noted that this is a private enterprise and therefore not the responsibility of the Brandon School Division to locate an alternate space for the Nursery School.

Agreed:

The Associate Superintendent will contact the appropriate government department to determine if there is money available to add space to George Fitton School to accommodate a Nursery School. He will also check with King George School about the possibility of allowing the Nursery School temporary space until other arrangements can be made. The Secretary-Treasurer will advise 3-4-5 Nursery School of the discussions which had taken place at the Facilities and Transportation Committee upon receipt of additional information.

c) Use of Fleming School for UCT Summer Fun Club

The Secretary-Treasurer noted the yearly request from the City of Brandon to hold the UCT Summer Fun Club had been received. Discussions were held regarding the possibility of moving the UCT Summer Fun Club to another school in the Division. It was noted the Club requires a kitchen area, gym and classroom space. A custodian would also be required if the Club was to relocate to another school. It was suggested that the request be granted for Fleming School for this year and the Director of Facilities & Transportation would review the possibility of another location with the City for future years.

Agreed:

It was agreed that the UCT Summer Fun Club would be granted permission to use Fleming School for the summer of 2010, however, the letter advising them of the use of this school will note that this will be the last year they can use Fleming School and another Division school will need to be considered for future use.

Recommendation:

That the Brandon School Division enter into a Letter of Understanding with the City of Brandon to allow the UCT Summer Fun Club the use of Fleming School, free of charge, from July 5, to August 20, 2010; subject to approval of Sioux Valley Education Authority.

d) Sale of Fleming School

The Secretary-Treasurer referenced the meeting he had with the Westman Seniors Housing Co-Op and reviewed the letter they had sent regarding their interest in the Fleming School Site. It was agreed to receive the letter as information as the Committee works through the possible sale process and bring the matter back for further discussions at the April 8, 2010 Committee meeting.

5. OPERATIONS INFORMATION

a) Green Acres Roof Replacement

Director of Facilities and Transportation, Mel Clark, noted the project is currently over budget and the Government has requested an explanation. Mr. Clark referenced a letter prepared by MCM Architects addressing the Government's concerns. It was noted this delay will push the start date of the project back to approximately May 1, 2010 which may affect the school start-up date in the fall. The Committee requested regular monthly updates on this project.

b) B.J. Hales Museum Display

Discussions were held regarding the possibility of a temporary display until a permanent home can be found for the B.J. Hales artifacts. It was noted the Superintendent was in the process of talking to management of the Town Centre regarding the possibility of displaying the artifacts at the Town Centre. It was noted this would involve someone to look after the display should arrangements be made. Discussions were also held regarding the possibility of approaching the Provincial Department of Culture and Recreation about funds available to renovate the basement of Earl Oxford School. Other discussions involved the possibility of a mobile display or locating portions of the museum in the City Library.

Agreed:

It was agreed that Mr. Ken Jackson would be contracted to meet with the Superintendent and Secretary-Treasurer to explore the answers to questions the Committee had regarding display, maintenance and protection of the artifacts from the B.J. Hales Museum.

6. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Thursday, April 8, 10:00 a.m., Board Room

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

D. Karnes, Chair

P. Bartlette

M. Snelling

J. Murray (Alternate)