



"Accepting the Challenge"

## **Divisional Futures & Community Relations Committee Minutes**

Friday, February 25, 2011 – 11:30 a.m.  
Board Room, Administration Office

Present: P. Bowslaugh, G. Kruck, (Alternate) K. Sumner, Dr. D. Michaels.

Regrets: M. Snelling

### **1. CALL TO ORDER:**

In the absence of Committee Chairperson, Mr. Snelling, the Committee agreed that Trustee Bowslaugh would serve as Acting Chairperson. The Divisional Futures and Community Relations Committee Meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m. by the Acting Chairperson, Mrs. Bowslaugh.

### **2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Trustee Kruck requested the addition of discussions regarding upcoming future meetings with schools. The Divisional Futures and Community Relations Committee Agenda was approved as amended.

### **3. REVIEW OF COMMITTEE MINUTES**

The Committee reviewed the minutes of January 14, 2011.

### **4. COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE GOAL ITEMS**

The Committee continued to review and discuss their governance goals.

The Committee agreed the performance actions to be undertaken with respect to advocacy would be conducted on a yearly basis as follows:

- Municipally – The Board would be encouraged to meet with the City on a yearly basis to discuss items of mutual interest. Items requiring more immediate action would be arranged on an as needed basis. The Board would also be encouraged to continue to participate on the Joint City Task Force Committee with representatives from Brandon City Council.
- Rural Municipalities – The Board would be encouraged to meet with representatives of the five municipalities which are part of the Brandon School Division, during the winter months, to discuss items of mutual interest.
- Provincially – The Board would be encouraged to meet with the Minister of Education on a yearly basis in the fall of each school term. The Board would also be encouraged to meet with the local MLAs of the Brandon School Division catchment area on an annual or as needed basis. It was noted the focus of discussions, with these provincial representatives for 2011-2012, would be on pertinent facilities matters and newcomer groups.
- Federally – The Board would be encouraged to meet with the local MP for the Brandon area on a yearly basis. It was noted the focus of discussions for 2011-2012 would be English as an Additional language students.

The Committee agreed they would organize these meetings on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

Discussions were held regarding a letter Trustees had individually received from Jennifer Howard, Minister of Labour and Immigration, inviting them to attend a roundtable meeting on immigration on March 4, 2011 at Assiniboine Community College. The purpose of this meeting is to seek local input from key business, immigrant, and community representatives of Manitoba's approach to immigration and to look at ways to strengthen the Manitoba Provincial Nominee Program and its settlement/integration strategy. The Committee agreed representatives from the Brandon School Division would attend this meeting to discuss the needs of the EAL students in the Brandon School Division. Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, was directed to prepare briefing papers to be discussed at the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to be held on Monday, February 28, 2011 on this subject.

The Committee agreed the performance actions to be undertaken with respect to a public strategy for forthcoming elections as follows:

- A questionnaire for all candidates regarding their position on specific educational matters would be prepared. The Committee would attempt to obtain public feedback regarding concerns they would like placed on the questionnaire. Trustees agreed to begin developing this questionnaire at the next Committee meeting.
- Hosting an all candidates debate where the topics of discussion would revolve around education.

The Committee agreed the performance actions to be undertaken with respect to community involvement would be as follows:

- Identify the number of stakeholder groups the Committee has met with and note the specific successes.
- Report on specific achievements that have resulted from stakeholder meetings.
- Be more specific in communicating to the public the results of these stakeholder meetings.
- Provide more information on the Division's webpage regarding student achievement results.
- Make better use of print media, Westman Communications group, and the radio in relaying information to the public.
- At the end of each school year, provide the Board with a list of groups that the Committee has met with noting any new stakeholder groups which have been added to the list.

#### **4. OTHER COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE MATTERS**

##### **A) Joint Task Force Ad-Hoc Committee**

Trustee Bowslaugh reviewed the Joint Task Force Ad-Hoc Committee minutes from January 6, 2011 and February 2, 2011. The Committee agreed to accept the Joint Task Force Ad-Hoc Committee minutes attached as Appendix "A" to these minutes.

##### **B) Policy 1020 – Parent/Division Liaison Committee**

Due to time constraints, the Committee agreed to defer this item until the next regular meeting of the Divisional Futures and Community Relations Committee.

**C) Review of School Visits**

Due to time constraints, the Committee agreed to defer this item until the next regular meeting of the Divisional Futures and Community Relations Committee.

**5. OPERATIONS INFORMATION**

NIL

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

**6. NEXT REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETING:** 11:30 a.m., Friday, April 8, 2011, Board Room.

Respectfully submitted,

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M. Snelling, Chair

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P. Bowslaugh

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K. Sumner

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G. Kruck (Alternate)

Joint City Council/Brandon School Board Committee

January 6, 2011-03-09

Meeting held at City hall at 4:30 p.m.

Present: Marty Snelling, Stephen Montague, Jan Chaboyer, Kevan Sumner, Murray Blight, Pat Bowslaugh

- The meeting opened with introductions followed by some general discussions.
- It was decided that Stephen Montague and Pat Bowslaugh would be co-chairs.
- A list of potential topics as areas of focus was developed and included:
  1. Aboriginal Committee
  2. Property concerns: school sites/land allocations
  3. School drop out rates
  4. Youth gangs
  5. Affordable housing
  6. Fleming details
  7. Utilizing existing resources
  8. Museum concerns
  9. Single Track French Immersion
  10. Opening Schools after hours
- Discussion of having the mayor hold a "Meet and Greet" for Council/Board
- Consideration of changing the date of regular Board/Council meeting so as not to conflict

A considerable amount of time was spent discussing the value of having Council and Board meet on alternating Mondays so people could access both either in person or via Westman Cable.

A significant amount of discussion also centred on the access to schools so that the facilities would be used outside school hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Bowslaugh

## Joint City Council/ Brandon School Board Committee

February 2, 2011

Meeting held at BSD Board Room; 5:15pm

Present at the meeting: Murray Blight, Jan Chaboyer; Stephen Montague,  
Kevan Sumner, Marty Snelling, Pat Bowslaugh

Regrets: Glen Kruck

The informal minutes from January 6/11 were circulated for perusal and used as a basis for the following discussions:

- Marty, Stephen and Jeff Fawcett are on the Aboriginal Committee
- Marty reported on the upcoming meeting with the PSFB regarding the TIG noting that the mill rate is similar to ten years ago.
- Discussion ensued on how the Neelin Off Campus is related to some of our areas of focus.
- The topic of Lunchroom Supervision was introduced.
- An inquiry centred on Don Bell's position and if other schools had a similar staff position.

### Main Discussion:

Use of School Facilities after hours

- had been discussed at the Trustee Retreat
- interest by Russ Paddock and the Brandon Sports Alliance
- points on Winnipeg schools and their on-line booking system: Pembina Trails and Louis Riel
- potential involvement of Perry Rocque
- potential involvement of Sandy Jasper (Community Services)

Tasks: Pat will: check the use and costs of the current system

: check potential of "hooking" onto Parent Councils

Jan will: look at policies in other locales

: look at existing programs

: check with Government

: check IT possibilities (A priority is an on-line booking system)

### Other Items:

- A brief discussion re: the Brandon Museum
- Joint Council/Board "meet and Greet": awaiting the Mayor's response
- Con will be working on the scheduling of Council meetings to avoid Board meetings

Next meeting: March 9/11 at City Hall at 5:15 (Russ paddock to be invited)

April 6 (tentative)