

**MINUTES** of the **SPECIAL MEETING** of the **COUNCIL** of the **DISTRICT OF MISSION** held in the Conference Room of the Municipal Hall, 8645 Stave Lake Street, Mission, British Columbia, on February 17, 2011 commencing at 3:30 p.m.

Council Members Present: Mayor James Atebe  
Councillor Terry Gidda  
Councillor Paul Horn  
Councillor Danny Plecas  
Councillor Jenny Stevens  
Councillor Heather Stewart

Council Members Absent: Councillor Mike Scudder

Staff Members Present: Glen Robertson, chief administrative officer  
Ray Herman, director of parks, recreation and culture  
Ian Fitzpatrick, fire chief  
Darryl Gehlen, manager of restorative resolutions  
Christine Brough, acting executive assistant

Also in Attendance: Superintendent Frank Dunham  
Secretary-Treasurer Carrie McVeigh  
District Principal - School Operations Stan Weir  
Board of Education Chair Cindy Miller  
Trustee Randy Cairns  
Trustee Pam Alexis

It was agreed that the following items would be added to this agenda under "Other Business".

Riverside School Tour

Economic Development Committee – Education Subcommittee

## **1. MINUTES**

SC2011/009  
FEB 17/11

Moved by Councillor Horn, seconded by Trustee Alexis, and

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Joint Meeting of Council and the Board of Education held on March 30, 2010 be adopted.

**CARRIED**

## **2. TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION**

SC2011/010  
FEB 17/11

### **School Closure/Consolidation Process (Frank Dunham, Superintendent)**

Superintendent Dunham provided an update on the school consolidation process, noting that the potential closure of Durieu and/or Deroche Elementary Schools would be under consideration at the February 22, 2011 Mission Board of Education meeting.

Discussion ensued on the challenges associated with the closure of schools, the potential impacts on the community and the steps that will be taken to ensure that the needs of the students are met should closures occur.

SC2011/011  
FEB 17/11

**Number of Referrals to Mission Restorative Resolutions Program (Mayor Atebe)**

Mayor Atebe stated that the Mission Restorative Resolutions (MRR) program is a partnership between a number of stakeholders in Mission, including Mission Public Schools, and noted that recent statistics seem to indicate a slight decline in the number of referrals from the schools.

Darryl Gehlen, the manager of MRR, provided an overview of the program and outlined some of the challenges involved in the process as it relates to the public school system.

Superintendent Dunham expressed his support for the program, noting that it represents a proactive investment in community. Mr. Weir pointed out that the slight decline in the number of referrals does not necessarily indicate a lack of interest in the process as need to call on MRR for assistance has been mitigated by the training provided by the program. Trustee Cairns further noted that while there is a financial cost associated with the program, there is also a corresponding social benefit and that this should not be undervalued.

Superintendent Dunham requested that Mr. Gehlen contact him to discuss the program and ways of better communicating its importance to the school system.

The manager of MRR left the meeting at 4:52 p.m.

SC2011/012  
FEB 17/11

**Artificial Turf Field (Mayor Atebe and Cindy Miller, Board Chair)**

Trustee Cairns outlined the benefits to the community of building an artificial turf field and stressed the need to be proactive in seeking provincial funding for the project.

The director of parks, recreation and culture stated that an unsuccessful grant application had been submitted to the BC Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund for an artificial turf field and that he plans to meet with user groups and other stakeholders to discuss potential revenue generation and fundraising as well as site viability. Mr. Herman stressed the importance of being prepared so that the District will be in a better position to take advantage of grants as they become available.

Trustee Alexis stated that the consultation group should include the Chamber of Commerce, the District of Mission, the Board of Education, as well as the various user groups.

Council recognized the value of having an artificial turf field, stressed the importance of community generated momentum for such projects, and indicated that it looks forward to hearing stakeholder input.

The fire chief entered the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

SC2011/013  
FEB 17/11

**Fire Alarm Bylaw (Cindy Miller, Board Chair)**

Discussion ensued regarding ongoing challenges associated with false alarms, response calls, and the associated fees. Mr. Weir asked council to consider revisions to the false alarm bylaw to mitigate the financial impact on the schools. The fire chief recognized the challenges faced by the schools but also noted the real cost to the taxpayer for call-outs, especially when they occur after hours.

Council stressed the need for District and Board of Education staff to work together to explore solutions that address financial concerns on both sides and it was"

Moved by Councillor Horn, seconded by Councillor Plecas, and

RESOLVED: That District of Mission and Mission Public School staff discuss false alarms and the fire alarm bylaw and consider whether it would be appropriate to create a related policy to better deal with issues that may arise.

CARRIED

The fire chief left the meeting at 5:28 p.m.

SC2011/014  
FEB 17/11

**Aligning of Bus Service Routes (Carrie McVeigh, Secretary-Treasurer)**

Ms. McVeigh and Mr. Weir informed council that, in response to a petition made through the Mission Abbotsford Transit Committee, the Board of Education engaged in talks with and ultimately received notification last spring from BC Transit that ridership did not justify aligning bus service routes to school locations and schedules. Mr. Weir noted that a second request for consideration of this matter had recently been made to BC Transit through the Mission Abbotsford Transit Committee.

Council expressed concern that the report from BC Transit did not come back to the Mission Abbotsford Transit Committee and District of Mission council and requested that the relevant documents be forwarded to council through staff.

**3. OTHER BUSINESS**

SC2011/015  
FEB 17/11

**Riverside College Tour**

Councillor Horn invited the Board of Education Trustees to join him on a tour of Riverside College that he will be hosting for council and the economic development committee members on March 31, 2011 from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

SC2011/016  
FEB 17/11

**Economic Development Committee – Education Subcommittee**

Councillor Stewart advised that the economic development committee's education subcommittee is working on a brochure containing all of the education opportunities in the community and that the project is nearing completion.

SC2011/017  
FEB 17/11

**Next Meeting**

The next Joint Meeting of District of Mission Council and the Board of Education is to be determined at a later date.

**4. ADJOURNMENT**

SC2011/018  
FEB 17/11

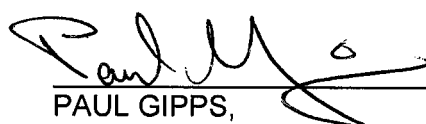
Moved by Councillor Horn, seconded by Trustee Cairns, and

RESOLVED: That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

  
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JAMES ATEBE, MAYOR

  
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PAUL GIPPS,  
DEPUTY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE  
OFFICER