



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FINANCE & FACILITIES COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2015

SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE - 8:30 A.M.

Present: D. Stevenson (in the Chair); S. Donahue, Trustee; J. Leiterman, Secretary Treasurer;
C. Kennedy, Superintendent of Schools; G. Cords, General Manager of Facilities;
Karen Johnson, Assistant Secretary Treasurer

Stakeholder Representation: B. Scott (WMEA); R. Millard (WVTA); A. Milavsky
(DPAC); J. Duncan (WVAA)

1. Carbon update

The Secretary Treasurer provided a brief background on the carbon neutral program, noting that West Vancouver School District signed a provincial charter in 2009, indicating our willingness to reduce our carbon footprint as much as possible.

For 2014, WVSD will receive a direct reimbursement of \$37,108 for tax paid at the pump on fuel. We have also been charged \$35,831 for carbon offsets calculated upon fuel, paper and utility consumption, a 25% decrease from 2013, due to a reduction in our greenhouse gas emissions. We have decreased paper consumption by 14% due to various print management initiatives, downsizing aging vehicles with more efficient models has resulted in a 10% drop in consumption by our fleet, and our utilities are down by 21% as a result of careful monitoring.

The General Manager of Facilities explained the value of the utility monitoring provided by Prism Engineering, which provides him with a monthly PUMA (Prism utility monitoring and analysis) report on our water, natural gas, propane, and electricity consumption at all sites. This tool allows him to quickly identify areas of concern and/or confirm that carbon footprint reduction initiatives are working. He noted that the majority of issues are usually related to water and that the monthly exception report allows the identification of hidden water leaks much earlier.

We have paid a total of \$211,798 in carbon offset payments since the inception of the program. These payments are returned to districts via funding for eligible projects such as the new boilers at WVSS, which have had a positive impact on our carbon footprint. In total, the district has received \$315,000 in government funding for such projects. The secondary schools are doing better in terms of reducing energy consumption than the elementary schools at this point, as the elementary schools have old boilers and older, less energy-efficient lighting. As we do not expect to receive any further grant monies until our contributions match the funds already received, any elementary upgrades will have to wait.

2. WVSS Track Project update

The Secretary Treasurer reported that there continues to be good activity on the project.

A report submitted by the lighting consultants identified several solutions that will mitigate the impact upon neighbours: the installation of six lower light standards instead of four, which will result in less 'spill'; the use of LED bulbs, which also reduce energy costs; and the implementation of two lighting systems – one low-level, street-type lighting circuit for the track, which can be controlled by a timer on-site, and the larger light standards for the infield, which will be controlled by the municipality. As well, there will be additional planting on the west end of the site to help protect sightlines for a few neighbouring properties.

A report from the traffic/parking consultants has also been received, after numerous days of monitoring and observation, including during large events at the Kay Meek Centre. The consultants feel there is sufficient parking on-site and in the surrounding area to deal with the increased use that the track project would bring. It was noted that booking coordination between the municipality and the Kay Meek Centre would also help alleviate potential congestion during large events. It was noted that the majority of soccer use would be for practices, which are 'drop-off/pick-up' events, and don't require long-term parking.

Two information meetings have also been held. A small meeting for immediate neighbours took place at WVSS on June 2 and was attended by about nine people. It was reported that people were receptive and polite, and that no one was adamantly opposed to the project. The main concerns expressed were about lighting, traffic and noise and they were presented with the experts' reports for more information. A larger public meeting was held on June 3 and though not well-attended, those who did were excited and wanted the project to proceed quickly. Three members of the Kay Meek board also attended to ensure that their concerns about traffic and parking were heard. Those concerns were acknowledged and the board members were referred to the consultant's report and their operations department for more information. The West Vancouver Board of Education has just approved an additional \$50,000 for the project, in response to the improved, but more expensive lighting options outlined in the consultant's report. That amount is further to the \$200,000 already dedicated by the board. The West Vancouver Soccer Club has committed \$100,000, and intended and committed funding from other quarters will be announced in the near future.

It is anticipated that once the stakeholder fundraising committee is set, they will go into the fall fundraising project with a base of \$1 million already committed. An application for a federal community infrastructure grant will also be submitted and, if successful, could bring an additional \$500,000 to the project.

While the recent progress is making the project look much more likely, it is still dependent upon fundraising. A further update will be given in September.

3. ERAC Annual Report and Savings

The Secretary Treasurer stated that she had intended to speak today about the ERAC annual report regarding our software and licensing savings, but the report will not be available until the end of June. This information will be presented in September instead.

Committee members: Dave Stevenson, Sheelah Donahue

4. **Adjourn**

9:00

Julia Leiterman, Secretary Treasurer