



**CUSAC
Minutes**

March 28, 2013
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Boardroom, 5050 Yonge St.

Present: Trustee Chris Glover (Co-Chair); Judy Gargaro (Etobicoke Philharmonic Orchestra); Alan Hrabinski (Scarborough Basketball Association); Lorna Weigand (Middle Childhood Matters Coalition); Kitty Leung (Facility Permitting Coordinator); John Long (Central Services Manager); Ndaba Njobo (Manager, Community Use of Schools); Namita Aggarwal (Program Manager, Continuing Education); Allison Boughner (Big Brothers and Big Sisters); Susan Fletcher (Applegrove Community Complex); Trustee Sam Sotiropoulos; Iris Rivas (Salvation Army); Morris Beckford (Doorsteps Neighbourhood Services); Leigh Coffey (YMCA of GTA); Julian Freeman (Grace Fellowship Church)

Observers: Doug Blair (North Toronto Soccer Club); Karen Somerville (East York Soccer Club); Jason Robinson (Toronto Ultimate Club); Kevin Arnsdorf (Toronto Sports Council)

Regrets: Sam Glazer (Congregation Beth Haminyan); Brian Keaney (Co-Chair, Toronto Youth Development); Lesley Johnston (Social Planning Toronto); Gerry Lang (Citizens for Life Long Learning; Lynn Manning (Girl Guides of Canada, Ontario Council

Presenters/Guests: Miya Narushima (Associate Professor, Brock University); Naomi Diestelkamp (Research Assistant, Brock University); Jim Spyropoulos (Co-ordinating Superintendent, Inclusive Schools, Student, Parent and Community (TDSB)); Lou Lenarduzzi (Grounds Team Leader, Facility Services); Laurence Jay (Regional Manager, Facility Services)

Recorder: Linda Mendonca (Committee Assistant, CUSAC)

Item	Information/Discussion	Action/Recommendation
1. Welcome	Trustee Glover called the meeting to order by at 10:09am and welcomed everyone. Members introduced themselves.	
2. Approval of Quorum	Quorum was achieved and approved by consensus.	
3. Approval of Agenda	The agenda was approved by consensus.	Linda will post the approved agenda on the website.
4. Approval of Feb 28/13 Minutes	Motion to approve the minutes from February 28/13 was moved by Allan, seconded by Allison, all approved.	Linda will post the approved minutes on the website.
5. Update – Recommendations, Permit Fees, and Rates	Angelos reported that they need to look at each category and the appropriate rates for each of the categories to see if rates are too high or too low, and what the impact of increases/decreases in fees looks like. We will lose people if we increase our fees to high. We did not factor in Stage 2 costs into blended rates. If it impacts us negatively,	

Item	Information/Discussion	Action/Recommendation
	<p>we may have to revisit it.</p> <p>Trustee Glover reported that Trustees will not support the Ombudsperson requested by CUSAC to deal dissatisfaction among permit users. No comments have been provided regarding the timelines – will be considered at mid-may Board meeting to give everyone notice. Trustee Glover asked for feedback regarding the timelines. Members expressed that waiting another year for the rates to decrease is a financial burden for them, and that they would like to stick to the timelines. The costs savings is huge for someone who is paying \$207 vs. \$55. Angelos confirmed that there would be no retro-activity in permit fees, and that all permits should become effective in September.</p> <p>***Motion to have recommendations 1 & 3 take effect September 2013 so that all permits would take effect in September 1 2013 other than the field permits which would take effect January 2013 was moved by Judy, seconded by Susan, all in favour.</p>	
<p>6. Focus on Youth Program</p>	<p>Superintendent Spyropoulos shared about the Focus on Youth Program. The program is supported by a grant of \$2.8M that is provided by the government. Working in partnership with many community agencies, TDSB is able to provide free use of space and also to be the largest employer of 500 students during the summer, for students that need jobs the most. Students come to us through recommendations. At the end of summer, we collect data that tells us the effect that summer opportunities have on students.</p> <p>We already put in 90 permit applications with 75 agency partners. The program runs from July 2nd – Aug 16. The portion of grant that is allocated towards permits costs \$600,000.</p> <p>Some members expressed that the Focus on Youth program has made such a difference to their organizations and that TDSB should consider extending the program throughout the school year.</p> <p>Lorna suggested that the training is something that should be done through TDSB Guidance (i.e. employability, resume, etc.). Jim confirmed that heard about the value of getting students (WHMIS, First AIDS) and that it should be part of training before the students comes to the agency.</p> <p>In 2011, the FOY program employed 538 youth – 2011), in 2012, 425 youth were employed. 35% came from the Northwest, using the LOI (Learning Opportunities Index), 40 Students worked in Summer Caretaking.</p>	

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	<p>***Trustee Glover asked Jim to bring a letter to have CUSAC endorse it, including a Scattergram map to see exactly where FOY programs are happening, and which schools are open in summer and what they are used for?</p>	
<p>7. Presentation – Research on Seniors Using Con Ed Programs</p>	<p>Miya Narushima (Associate Professor, Brock University), and Naomi Diestelkamp (Research Assistant, Brock University) did a presentation to CUSAC on <i>“Lifelong Learning for Active Aging, A Portrait of Older Learners in a Public Continuing Education Program in Toronto”</i> on the impact that lifelong learning has on health in later life. They reported that this is one of the fastest growing learning groups, however there are funding shortages to support this growth. Members found this to be valuable research, and said that they would be interested in knowing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Why some people in certain areas are not taking courses; to have an umbrella study done to see what other programs are being offered during the day? ▪ Some of the marketing used (flyers at home? etc.) ▪ Having a wider study of other programs offered in surrounding areas, and ▪ If it’s possible to do in comparison with the general population? And then we can specify the attribution, and make a case for funding, so we can keep the costs down. <p>Trustee Glover expressed that this is valuable research that two other committees should see (CEAC and PSSC) and will put in a request to have presentations at these two committees.</p>	
<p>8. Field Permits & Recommendations</p>	<p>Field Maintenance includes fertilization, grass cutting, and minor renovations. Grass cutting is managed by a schedule for 600 schools and the schedule is 7-10 days for all of the fields. The schedule is tweaked each year. If it rains, grass cutting continues the next day. Grass-cutting is usually higher in May. University students are hired to cut grass in May for the summer. These opportunities help provide life skills for students. Lining is also done if requested by the school or permit user. The same crew doing the cutting will do re-lining, or the school does it. It is an additional fee included in the permit fee schedule, and is not done unless requested. In July and August, fewer students use the fields, and lining is charged as an incremental cost.</p> <p>In terms of determining the priority of schools, it is determined by the size of the property, the proximity, and the type of equipment required. The only way to have more frequent grass cutting is if we got newer and more efficient equipment. Members asked about dog holes, being a safety issue. Grass crew will report significant damage; dog holes are not significant enough. There are not enough resources to manage it.</p>	<p>Linda will send out the meeting details for the Field Permit Working Group meeting.</p>

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	<p>Trustee Glover said that the goal is to determine how we improve the fields, however we do have limited funding, having cut \$5M from the Facilities budget. If a cost savings, Cost/Benefit Analysis could be done on having more efficient equipment, the Board would consider it.</p> <p>If there are concerns about the fields, the Head Caretaker, is the point of contact. At some schools, it could be the Principal. The other question is if we need to go to a 7-day schedule, would the groups be willing to add a surcharge to make sure that happens?</p> <p>In order to review the Field Permit Holders Working Group recommendations, Trustee Glover recommended scheduling a Working Group meeting to include Doug Blair, John Long, Lou Lenarduzzi, Laurence Jay, Jason Robinson, Alan Hrabinski, Kevin Arnsdorf for April 16th, 10am.</p>	
9. New Business	<p>The following New Business items were reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Access to Community Space Public Meeting - Thurs, April 25th, including TCDSB, Parks & Recreation table discussions. Susan will forward flyer to Linda for circulation. ▪ Concert – Martingrove Collegiate - \$25. Judy will forward flyer to Linda for circulation ▪ Fee Schedule for Artificial Turf – recommending one Interim Fee of \$144 (for certain groups that we do not subsidize). Looking at permitting one Premium Field at a recovery rate of \$144/hr. Rate would be at most 82%. Kitty suggested discussing this at the next meeting. ▪ Trustee Glover informed everyone of the Social Justice Forum - 400 high school students will attend the event at York University on May 8th – “Social Justice for All – Work on Women’s issues, Race, etc. 	
10. Adjournment	***Motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:51 pm was moved by Susan, seconded by Lorna, all approved.	
11. Next Meeting Date	The next meeting is on April 25, 10am.	Linda will circulate a Notice of Meeting with the details for the meeting.