



**CUSAC  
Minutes**

November 21, 2013  
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
Boardroom, 5050 Yonge St.

**Members Present:** Trustee Chris Glover (Co-Chair); Brian Keane (Co-Chair, Toronto Youth Development); Judy Gargaro (Etobicoke Philharmonic Orchestra); Gerry Lang (Citizens for Life Long Learning); Lorna Weigand (Middle Childhood Matters Coalition); Iris Rivas (Salvation Army); Alan Hrabinski (Scarborough Basketball Association); Susan Fletcher (Applegrove Community Complex; Lesley Johnston (Social Planning Toronto); Heather Mitchell (Toronto Sports Council, Trustee Sam Sotiropoulos

**Observers:** John Long (Central Services); Doug Blair (North Toronto Soccer Club); Sam Glazer (Congregation Beth Haminyan); Karen Somerville (East York Soccer Club); Nura Aman; Jason Robinson; Lou Lenarduzzi; Carolynna Gabriel; Ndaba Njobo

**Regrets:** Lynn Manning (Girl Guides of Canada, Ontario Council); Allison Boughner (Big Brothers and Big Sisters); Ugonma Ekeanyanwu (Manager, Community Use of Schools); Linda Mendonca (Committee Assistant, Parent & Community Engagement Office)

**Recorder:** Vandana Bharti (Committee Assistant, Parent & Community Engagement Office)

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| <b>1. Welcome and Introductions</b> | Co-Chair Keane called the meeting to order at 9:38 am and welcomed everyone. Members introduced themselves.  |   |
| <b>2. Approval of Quorum</b>        | Quorum was achieved and approved.  |   |
| <b>3. Approval of Agenda</b>        | The agenda was approved  |   |
| <b>4. Announcements</b>             | <p><b>Incorrect Link on TDSB Permit</b><br/>There is an error in a letter that was sent to permit holders. In the second last paragraph there is a link to the updated policies, but the link is still showing the old policy. Can this be rectified?</p> <p><b>Middle Childhood Matters Coalition Event</b></p> | Co –Chair Trustee Glover will look into the link error. |

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|  | <p>Lorna passed around a flyer for the Middle Childhood Matters Coalition Event which is taking place on January 21st.</p> <p>Leslie Johnson arrived at 9:45<br/> Leslie Johnson reported that she will be reviewing items on the Budget for recreation that is being presented to the board on December 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>. Susan Fletcher added that there was no public announcement on the budget until Tuesday, but anyone can drop in.</p>   |  |
| <p><b>5. Approval May 24<sup>th</sup> 2012 Minutes</b></p> <p><b>Approval Oct 24<sup>th</sup> 2013 Minutes</b></p> | <p>Lorna questioned if Quorum was met at the May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012 meeting and that the Agenda to reflect that the May 24<sup>th</sup> Minutes be changed to Notes.</p> <p>The approval of October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013 minutes was deferred, so that the committee has a chance to review Lynn's notes.</p>  |  |
| <p><b>Items arising</b></p>  | <p>Judy asked when would be an opportunity to raise items to talk about that are not in the minutes where does that arise.<br/> It was decided that now was the right time.</p> <p>Judy referred to the minutes from October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013 and wanted to address the points mentioned Page 4, Item 8 the last 2 bullets. She was looking for follow up to those points.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Judy said that Julian always stated that if a faith-based organization has charitable organization, there is due diligence. To show Charitable Status, you just have to show your number? There's a fair distinction between charitable versus non-charitable.</i></li> <li>2. <i>Judy, in regards to Etobicoke Musical Productions claim which has been reviewed by senior staff, asked if the decision will apply to other user groups who are paying for the use of the auditorium. In terms of equity, we need to ensure that we include any arts group that are under the same situation.</i></li> </ol> | <p>Trustee Glover is going to follow up with the Permits department to find out if they have contacted the groups that had a stage rate in the past, to let them know that there is no longer staging rates.</p> |

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|      | <p>Trustee Glover said that all groups should have been corrected by now and that a notification should have been sent out.</p> <p>Judy said that if it is reliant on a squeaky wheel to get that information it is not effective, but in general a communication was not sent out or if a message was sent out, then it was not clearly communicated. Lorna mentioned that it would fit in the discussions regarding partnerships. The only communication that she had received was a generic letter from the Permits department stating what would be discussed at the December 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.</p> <p>Trustee Glover said that he would follow up on this as to his understanding that was already addressed and he will find out if they are contacting all the groups. There will not be a stage rate next year.</p> <p>Judy wanted to know about the working group committee and wanted to know if that would be addressed in the partnerships discussion.<br/>Co- Chair Brian said that they should have this discussion through partnerships and see if it evolves into what Judy is talking about and into what they need on their side and on our side.</p> <p>Gerry was looking for some clarification it was his understanding that the money from the provincial government allocates for school use is reviewed by this committee and the recommendations would be made through this committee to appropriate officials through this board. He questions the atmosphere where someone is making a deal from the stage rate discussion and that the funds are not being evenly spent if some people are able to get a deal.</p> <p>Trustee Glover explained that when the rates went up in January to 43% it brought the community use of schools into a cost recovery rate and inclusive of the \$3.8 million subsidiaries we are now running on a breakeven point. For some reason some schools were paying a stage rate in the past. Now that it is not needed we have asked to remove that charge for the balance of this year.</p> <p>Gerry mentioned that to his understanding the Permit department senior</p> |                       |

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|      | <p>management group is meeting with the auditorium group to discuss what rates they will charge them. And if that money is coming out of the \$3.8 million allocated by the government then that is not right.</p> <p>Trustee Glover clarified that the meeting is to discuss reinstating the stage rate for another year or until new categories have been created.</p> <p>Judy clarified that Gerry was asking that deals are not made and that all proposals are brought to this committee and it is passed and reviewed here to avoid the perception of side arrangements are being made.</p> <p><b>Trustee Glover ~ historical precedence</b></p> <p>Susan Fletcher reinforced the need for an appeals process and requested for a clear process that will address and resolve uneven rates being charged for staging fees.</p> <p>Both Lorna and Judy asked what the current process for complaints regarding permits. The response was that everyone calls the permit department and after that if you are still unhappy to call your Trustee. Trustee Glover clarified that if you are not getting the response you want from your Trustee, you can go to the Chair. Lorna and Judy both expressed that there is too much onus on the individual. There should be a set process and not onus driven, it should be policy driven. Needs to be a more defined process. Need some kind of vehicle that is consistent to create an even complaint process for everybody. Used an example of a being a new Canadian vs. someone that is raised in Canada is more aware of the policies and procedures, feels that it is not a fair platform for all.</p> <p>Chris Glover requested that this item be added to the agenda under *New Business*. Lorna requested that Language customer service be added to it as well and if people are dissatisfied about their space, make it more public and send it to the board.</p> <p>Trustee Glover asked to add principal partnerships to the next meeting's agenda</p> | <p>Vandana/Linda add Potential partnerships, Process for complaints and Language and Customer Service to the next meeting's agenda.</p> |

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|   | <p>as well.</p> <p>Gerry wanted to know how many other special arrangements have been made. Ndaba from the permits department clarified that there are no special arrangements being made, there is no stage fee, they are not authorized to make any special deals with anybody and no one can walk into the permits office and make any special deals.</p> <p>Brian reiterated that as a committee we can be assured that there is nobody working with the permits department negotiating special rates without our knowledge. Ndaba confirmed Brian's statement.</p> <p>Motion to approve ~ All approved, motion carried. October 24<sup>th</sup> minutes were approved.</p>   |   |
| <p><b>6.) Focus On Youth Report</b></p>   | <p>Superintendent Jim Spyropoulos was delayed in attending the meeting so the presentation was tabled until his arrival and the committee moved on to the next section. Moved on to item 7 CUSAC membership</p>   |   |
| <p><b>7) CUSAC Membership</b><br/> <b>Letter to respond to Membership Requests.</b></p> | <p>In reference to the letter the following changes were requested:<br/> ~ 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph 1<sup>st</sup> line change from "12" to "12 – 13" community representatives....<br/> ~ 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph 2<sup>nd</sup> last line change and "are given first" to "are given priority" or "priority given"<br/> <b>Add sentence:</b><br/> ~ <b>Criteria of membership are to get a diverse group of permit holders and membership from geographical areas.</b> (include statement from the by laws regarding this)<br/> Statement in By – Laws (take it from there and exclude letters).<br/> <b>Add:</b><br/> ~ Include the process of how they will know when a current member's time is up on the committee. Judy asked if there was another place they could go and find out more information on process. Brian mentioned that the letter is sufficient is indicating that the interested party can make contact to express their interest, if needed they can be added to a waiting list.</p> | <p>Vandana to present to Linda to find out when someone's membership is up.</p> <p>Linda check if the letter has been sent to Doorsteps Neighbourhood Services re: their membership</p> |

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|      | <p>There were questions about when current members' terms were up, and what is the current process? Brian responded by explaining to the committee that there is a two year mandate and after every 2 years the member writes to the committee chair that they are interested in continuing or not.</p> <p>Brian asked to address Morris and his current status. Morris has left his old charity and has sent in a letter expressing interest of involving his new charity with the committee, and at the same time his replacement at the old charity has expressed interest in continuing the working relationship with this committee. Brian would like to bring Morris back in and to exclude the old ED from the previous charity. A committee member clarified that the spot is available for the organization not the individual, so the seat still belongs the original organization. There was clarification that the new charity that Morris is working with is not in conflict of the current group.</p> <p>There is an opening in the committee as Doorsteps Neighbourhood Services has forfeited their spot, (they have not shown up to 3 consecutive meetings) the question was raised if other groups have applied for that spot. The first concern is whether or not Doorsteps Neighbourhood Services is aware of their spot being in Jeopardy. It was questioned whether or not a letter has been sent to Doorsteps Neighbourhood Services notifying them they have forfeited their spot. Wait until Linda is back to see if any more groups have applied to be a part of the committee.</p> <p>New people joined the meeting. <b>Carolynna</b> from the <b>Wilmington Tennis Group</b> and Ndaba who was in attendance in place of Kitty arrived at 10am when Item 5 was being discussed</p> |                       |

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| <p><b>8.) School Yard Severances<br/>SPACE Report</b></p> | <p>Heather Mitchell attended a deputation on November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013 a number of groups there across the communities that were appealing the sale of land that is used for sports activities etc. The Toronto Sports Council has become aware of the specific concerns regarding the sale of both the adjacent Properties and Facilities. While the TSC understand the TDSB's need to balance their budget the TSC is asking what "is the real cost" of selling this land in relation to their social, leisure and community activities that are held by the community. Need to lobby a means by which to ensure that the space is still available for the communities. They would like to rally community organizations to a December meeting there is a flyer December 5<sup>th</sup>, Room 5100 from 7:00 – 9:00 pm. Are framing an appeal to the Provincial government, for the funding model for schools). The committee asked who was invited, TSC will be sending out an invite to their member database and any group that has been registered. Lorna requested that someone send out a list of the sites that have been sent out. Heather reported that the 2013 plan is listed and can be viewed by anyone and requested that the list be sent to the entire permit holder. Gerry agreed that it should be sent to ALL permit holders.</p> <p>Superintendent Jim Spyropoulos arrived, the discussion was put on hold and Jim did his presentation.</p> |   |
| <p><b>6.) Focus On Youth Report</b></p>                   | <p>Final Focus on Youth report recently presented to the administrative council of the board, still in the draft format but is close to being finalized so it can be presented to the ministry. They have received feedback from many stakeholders both large and small grass roots agencies.</p> <p>Jim gave a background on the Focus on Youth Program for those on the board that may not be aware of the program. He highlighted the growth of the program, engagement and how the funds were and are being allocated. He</p>  | <p>Jim will be sending out a spreadsheet of the financials he presented</p> |

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|      | <p>highlighted that of the 3 million dollars allocated to the program 1.2 million of it went to facility costs. The program paid attention to these stats as that was not the mandate the focus is to increase employment for students.</p> <p>Expanded to other jurisdictions like Ottawa/Carleton, Hamilton, Wentworth and that this program is the lighthouse and the largest.</p> <p>Other updates included were that they hired 607 TDSB students in the summer of 2013. The largest number of permits where programs are housed were in Wards 1, 4, 6. The second highest is: 19, 20, 21, 22 and the third largest is 14, 15, and 16. Every single ward is touched by Focus on Youth.</p> <p>Of the students that were hired Jim presented a few interesting stats for consideration:</p> <p>48% are from Single family homes<br/> 46% speak a language other than English at home<br/> 1/3 born outside Canada<br/> ¼ students have special education identification</p> <p>A recommendation from this committee was that there was a request last year that this program be available year round; it was too late last year to implement the request. They heeded their advice in this years report to the ministry and have worded it as follows:</p> <p><b><i>“Imbed Focus on Youth training throughout the school year by supporting potential partnerships with yearlong training and leadership opportunities for students. As well as opportunities for agencies to have spaces within TDSB at affordable rates.”</i></b></p> <p>In the summer of 2013 the board provided support to 101 non profit organizations, the support was in the form of space and student employment. There is an email sent to agencies who write back their request for either space</p> |                       |

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|      | <p>or a student to work with their organization.</p> <p>The biggest disappointment faced is that every year they have to turn away 1500 – 2,000 applicants last year they had 3,000 applicants and only could hire approximately 600 of them. The number is down this year from 3,000 to 2,500 of applicants. 40% of the students hired self identify as black. Part of the goal is to turn that around and hire more aboriginal students and that initiative was not that successful. 15% of the students are South Asian and we have to improve in another subset the Spanish speaking students. 70% of the students hired, said it was their first summer job and 30% stated that if it were not for this program they would have gotten a summer job somewhere else.</p> <p>Jim read some interesting statistics about the safe schools programs that were involved with the Focus on Youth Program. There were 25 students in one program and 40 in another, prior to getting involved in the Focus on Youth Program 86% of the students received suspensions or disciplinary action for their behaviour. As of October 2013, after being involved in the Focus on Youth program there was not a single student that received a suspension or a disciplinary action.</p> <p>They teach students financial responsibility, they had the urban rooftops come in and some programs clean off the roofs.</p> <p>Judy asked what are your thoughts as to why we are challenged when hiring aboriginal students. Jim responded that he works with the Aboriginal Centre and there have been programs that are targeted to get them more involved. Primarily it involves building better relationships with the Aboriginal Community and building trust. The work is to get more Aboriginal Agencies on board so that the students can connect with that.</p> | <p>Jim is going to draft a letter stating that the CUSAC committee is in support of the Focus on Youth Program and present it to Trustee Glover for sign off.</p> <p>Jim is going to present the financials to the committee when</p> |

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|      | <p>Lorna credited the initiative to expand the leadership program year round and offered her support and inquired as to what additional support her agency and this committee can offer to help make it a reality.</p> <p>Jim thanked Lorna and the CUSAC committee for their support and accepted the support in the form of a letter which he will draft and appreciate the chair to sign stating that they support the Focus on Youth Program. He feels will go a long way, because this committee carries that kind of weight.</p> <p>Where does the funding come from? The response was that it is from the Ministry of Education. Brian asked percentile how has the funding grown? Jim presented a spreadsheet of how and where the funds have been allocated from the beginning of the program. Brian asked if there has ever been a surplus in the spending. Jim mentioned that there has been and he would gladly return, if the committee will have him, at a later date to demonstrate and explain in detail how the, if any, surplus funds are allocated and spent.</p> <p>Susan Fletcher commended Jim on implementing, listening and executing the feedback that the committee has been providing him over the years. Focus on Youth is an amazing program and mentioned how the program has helped a specific student that worked in her department and opened doors for her to plan her future.</p> <p>A couple years ago, permits were helpful to Focus on Youth Space and sometimes shifting them to the PSI space. Jim explained that they have streamlined the process to make it easier for the organizations, when an organization applies for space they apply for space. Behind the scenes is where it is determined if it is a PSI space or a Focus on Youth Space and funds are dispersed accordingly.</p> | <p>the report is finalized.</p> <p>Carol to send the information to Susan Fletcher.</p> |

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|   | <p>Trying to get a list of the schools that have these programs and organizations in the schools, it used to be posted on the website in the summer. The reason SPACE is asking for that information is because they are working on a joint project with the Toronto Public Health on a Public Policy Project, that has to do with Community use of Public Space. One part of that is to survey organizations that use Public and Catholic schools during the summer and see what issues they have. We want to have the focus groups happening in January, so we need to get the invitations out ASAP. Jim has agreed and said that they have broken up by ward and he will happily have Carol send the report to Susan.</p>   |                       |
| <p><b>8.) School Yard Severances<br/>SPACE Report cont'd</b></p>    | <p>Lesley Johnston reiterated that they all must have heard that SPACE had released in June the Toronto report on Community Use of Schools and Municipal Spaces and since then they have done lots of work around the city. Just released a few weeks ago, thanks to Judy for her support, a new report that is focused on provincial wide responses regarding the Provincial Use of Schools, did get some interesting results at a provincial level. And they got a story in the star about it which was exciting because they were happy to get that coverage.</p> <p>A few highlights that they heard at the Provincial level, which were similar to the Toronto focused study.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>~ Concern in rising permits fees</li> <li>~ 29% of respondents reported increase in fees and led to cancelled programs due to the increase</li> <li>~ 19% of all respondents, that school closures are leading to their inability to access space</li> <li>~ 6% of respondents were saying that Land Service affected them, (more Toronto issue at this point).</li> </ul> |                       |
| <p><b>9. Ministry of Education Plans<br/>Changes to Funding</b></p> | <p>Brings us to Ministry of Education's plan to change funding. Lesley referred to a document that she handed out that was only provided to People for Education. People for Education seems to be the only organization that received any materials of the revised funding. The Great to Excellent response, having people comment on how they want to further improve their school board. They are</p>   |                       |

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|      | <p>rolling out this initiative very quietly, she strongly encourages the committee members to review the People for Education website<br/> <a href="http://www.peopleforeducation.ca/pfe-news/short-ministry-of-education-consultations-on-funding-formula-changes/">http://www.peopleforeducation.ca/pfe-news/short-ministry-of-education-consultations-on-funding-formula-changes/</a></p> <p>You can respond to Premier Wynne and Minister Sandals with your concerns, contact Lesley for the direct email response to the person who is managing this piece. Lesley feels that it is important to respond to this report and express our concerns.</p> <p>Trustee Glover added that this is not a review of Education Funding; the last one was conducted in 2002. Before that there was one in the mid 90's and there were ones done every 5 years prior to that. What this is the province is testing the waters to see how much they can cut before creating a backlash in the election year. And as a Trustee it drives him crazy because over the last 2 years they have cut over \$2 million in education funding to the TDSB. Which has had a huge impact he met with high school students whose selections have declined due to the cuts in funding and less teachers in the schools. There have been enormous cuts in all areas and at the same time we are adding full day kindergarten. Nowhere does he see putting students first, because as a Trustee they have been faced by constant short falls and now the governments is looking for community support for further cuts and to close small schools. He strongly recommends that individuals respond to this in their own way, he is going to post stuff on his site at <a href="http://www.chrisglover.ca">www.chrisglover.ca</a>.</p> <p>Judy mentioned a report that came out on key elements on student success and how the principal was visible and knew all the students. It was a report that was done in the States and she will get the report to Chris.</p> <p>Lorna: Wanted to give a plug for small schools and if there could be a report on that and distribute it to the CUSAC committee. Would like to discuss Safety of students when schools close and students need to be transported to a school farther away. They are busing in French Speaking students to the school from other districts. Small schools need to be highlighted in a positive way.</p> | <p>Vandana go to the People for Education there is a section for optimal school size, distribute that to the CUSAC committee</p> |

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|   | <p>Brian asked if Lesley had any of those documents to hand out, she did and she mentioned that they were also available on the space coalition website.<br/> <a href="http://www.spacecoalition.ca">www.spacecoalition.ca</a><br/>           People for Education has a section on optimal school size, distribute that to the CUSAC committee.</p> <p>Trustee Sam Sotiropoulos entered the meeting at 11:05</p>  |                       |
| <b>Break</b>                              | <p>There was a short break at 11:09 and the meeting resumed at 11:22</p>   |                       |
| <b>10. Field Permits Workgroup Update</b> | <p>Doug Blair gave an update that on November the 6<sup>th</sup> he and Heather went to the Planning and Priorities Committee where they asked that their update be considered they received a good reception. On the 13<sup>th</sup> they met with a working group which consisted of 6 people from the community plus John Long from the TDSB; they invited the top two people from maintenance and construction skills trade. They made their pitch to them and they were agreeable that users could touch up lines between official lining schedules. The Union would like to be notified when the work is being done so they can handle any internal complaints. There is a need to make amendments to the Union agreement and there is also the issue of liability.</p> <p>There were questions regarding the schedule of the creation of lines, the grass is cut every couple of weeks and the concern is after the grass is cut the lines are set and then the weather washes away the lines. There is an issue in specific with soccer clubs who depend on these lines and have had to forfeit games and pay penalties due to lines not being drawn. Long term effect is we could lose out on these organizations using our facilities, which is another revenue generating stream.</p> <p>A question was asked what the liability concern is, and Mr. Blair responded that it is probably the actual paint. This is not an issue because the paints that they use are water based and are not harmful to the environment, they wash away in the rain and that is why they are facing these issues of lines disappearing.</p> |                       |

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|   | <p>There were questions on what were the mechanisms to the communication to the Union; the response was it would be electronic they are still working out the final details.</p> <p>Lorna wanted to know if they would take pictures of the problem so there would be a photograph before they fix it; Doug agreed that it was a good idea.</p>  |  |
| <p><b>11. Permit Category Recommendations</b></p> | <p>Permits was working with the Communications Dept to create a letter that was sent to all permit holders that have used space in the last 2 years, excluding 1 day events. The notices were sent out in batches and they started mailing the letters on Monday. The next steps are to create a spreadsheet of all the members that participate. Susan Fletcher suggested that they should categorize the groups by activities.</p> <p>In response to the link error in the permits letter that was mentioned earlier, the link has been updated and does direct one to the updated policy. If you are seeing the old policy it has to do with your Google Cache you need to ensure that it is turned off otherwise it will redirect you to the old link. IT is aware of this turn problem and is working to rectify it.</p> <p>Alan mentioned that they had asked for a list of steam plant schools. Ndaba said the request is still under review and he will send it out to Vandana.</p> <p>There was a request that Permits comes back at another meeting to discuss how they are going to work out rates where Steam Plants are being considered. Trustee Glover mentioned that this is in discussion and he himself has spoken to Angelos and the Director and they are aware that if they added a steam plant engineer onto the current fees they would be double dipping so Ndaba will take the question back and report back to the committee the progress.</p> <p><b>Guest</b> ~ Question from someone who uses the permits department who would like to know what is the total funds collected by the permits department to run the department and how are funds allocated to improve their actual department. As a user she is concerned that the fees increase but the facilities are still old and</p> | <p>Ndaba is to send Vandana the list via email and she will distribute it to the committee.</p> <p>Ndaba to go back to permits department and find out how they plan on determining the rate for steam plants.</p> |

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|                                  | <p>outdated. Trustee Glover mentioned that this has been in discussion for over a year and invited her back to all the meetings so she could see the progression. One of the recommendations is to automate the system to make it more accessible.</p>  |                       |
| <p><b>12. Trustee Update</b></p> | <p>Jason commented that there was an interesting debate at the meeting last Tuesday, and the recommended rates were approved, but some rates are still under consideration. Trustee Glover clarified that the rates were approved but the definition is still under review. Jason took a moment to congratulate Trustee Glover on his great speech and how he passionately defended the CUSAC committee. Trustee Glover applauded the committee and all their hard work and commitment that swayed the Trustees.</p> <p>There seems to be some confusion as to what the operational definition is and if the Focus on Youth is already using and operating under one, then we should be looking at theirs.</p> <p>Trustee Glover reported that all recommendations were passed and staff is going to report back to the facilities committee in February with an operational definition of Marginalization.</p> <p>The board constructed almost 90 Full day kindergarten classrooms, phased in over 5 years. We are currently in year 4. In the beginning the board did it as cheaply as possible, implementing the program in schools that already had an extra classroom. This year they started implementing in schools where they needed to build an addition or expand a particular room, due to the fact that a kindergarten class is slightly larger than a regular size classroom. There were 80 construction projects over the summer for FDK, with over 1000 construction projects overseen by Angelos. Most of the projects went smoothly except in Etobicoke where some schools experienced flooding in one form or another. Trustee Glover feels that the facilities team deserves recognition and appreciation for all the work that they accomplished over the summer.</p> <p>There is a safe and active transportation initiative with a new page on the TDSB website where they are trying to encourage parents and kids to walk to school ~</p> |                       |

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|      | <p>the walking school bus. It is healthier for kids to do that and it is safer because 30% of the traffic in the morning is people driving their kids to school. There was mention about an incident that happened the day before where a kid from Mississauga died while walking to school with his mother. There are rare incidents like that one mentioned that is why parents do not want to walk their kids to school. Trustee Sotiropoulos mentioned that these are cases where we need to educate the public and highlight the fact that the walking accidents are rare and less likely to happen. Lorna mentioned that in some suburban areas there are no sidewalks. Lou mentioned that at a risk management seminar where it was reported children are 26% more likely to die in a car accident than walking to school.</p> <p>Director has a new vision of action she officially received the title in October and she has 5 areas of focus:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Parent and Community Engagement</li> <li>2. Student achievement and well being</li> <li>3. Staff inspiration and Support</li> <li>4. Fiscal Stability and accountability</li> <li>5. Education for Sustainable Development</li> </ol> <p>With each of these she has created reachable and smart objectives for each category. One of the focuses under student achievement and well being is Aboriginal education as they are the largest growing group in Canada. They are bold standards and she has set the standard high for herself, she will achieve these objectives. Another example is that 10% more students will beat the standard EQAO score. There was concern whether the 10% is measurable and what is it being measured against. The conclusion was that it was in fact measurable.</p> <p>Lorna wanted to know if the Trustees had talked about Full Day Kindergarten, she was referring to an article in Macleans magazine and has a grandchild going into FDK next year. Has it been tested that these students perform better in the long run and is there another method of measuring this besides EQAO scores? Judy raised another concern that with kids in FDK there will not be enough day</p> |                       |

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|      | <p>care for the students enrolled in FDK on holidays, PD days etc. What happens to the kids who are in FDK and childcare?</p> <p>Trustee Glover asked the committee to take the articles with a grain of salt as there are many studies that are released and overall the studies show that in the long run there is improvement in student success. Judy mentioned that as a researcher she advises to take look at the quality of the research and how they are structured.</p> <p>Gerry was asking what the forecast was in the next 3-4 years in regards to enrollment. Trustee Glover mentioned elementary enrollment is going up and the highest enrollment rate is in Grade 2, there was a dip in the birthrate in 2008 and we are not sure if that was due to the scare of the recession, researchers are looking it. Elementary enrollment should continue to increase and secondary enrollment should continue to decline until 2017 and then start to increase. Gerry wanted to know if there is planning for that, and Trustee Glover reassured him that there is. Gerry wanted to know how that related to school closures as elementary enrollment is up now and secondary is decreasing but in 6 years there will be a need for secondary schools again. The planning department looks at it and we have a core holding strategy that states you have to have an elementary school so that nobody would have to walk more than 1.6 kilometers to school. There is concern that the province is looking to close small schools and that will further challenge us. Trustee Glover used an example of a townhouse complex that is going up in his area, where there are 3,000-4,000 new condos and townhomes near a school that has not been operational in 30 years but could be needed in 5 – 6 years, the current funding formula does not take into consideration future planning.</p> <p>Lesley asked in reference to the earlier discussions about school closures could the CUSAC write a letter to the Ministry? Brian pointed out that we have written letters before and Judy clarified that it is within the parameters of the committee but it is up to this committee to decide whether or not to write the letter.</p> <p>Alan questioned how many schools is the board planning on closing? Trustee</p> | <p>Susan, Judy and Lesley are to draft a letter on behalf of CUSAC to the Ministry re: school closures</p> |

| Item                             | Information/Discussion   | Action/Recommendation   |
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|                                  | <p>Glover mentioned that there are none on the table right now, in 2009 there were 10 and a few more a few years later for a total of 12. He clarified that it is more the schools that have been leased out to other agencies or organizations that are being considered for closures. There seems to be a difference between a closure and a sale of a school, like Eastern Commerce now houses all of the artifacts of the TDSB and is more of a museum. Which raised the question if a school is being repositioned and used for other school board related purposes does that count as excess capacity? If that is not the case then we are not helped by the standard that the Ministry is evaluating us at.</p> <p>Susan Fletcher brought the conversation back to Lesley's question of writing a letter. It was decided that Susan, Judy and Lesley will work together to draft a letter.</p> <p><b>**Motion**</b> to write and send a letter to the Ministry of Education and the Trustees supporting funding for Community Use of Schools and it was passed. The timeline for this would be November 18<sup>th</sup> – November 30<sup>th</sup>. Motion was carried.</p> |   |
| <p><b>13. Other Business</b></p> | <p><b>Complaints customer service discussion has been pushed to the next meeting.</b></p> <p>In the period of afterschool to 6 pm PSI does not apply, so to run a program on Mondays and Wednesdays, using 2 classrooms and a gym the cost is \$6,000. When questioned the Permits department confirmed that PSI funding does not run from afterschool to 6 pm. Which is contrary to the PSI intent of funding and is bringing it to this committee for discussion with the hopes that they can approach the Ministry and ask why it is set up the way it is. Ndaba said that it was a TDSB decision to have PSI hours from 6 – 10 and it can be a TDSB decision to review this decision. Susan would like to ask the committee to review it.</p> <p>Lesley mentioned for the next meeting the piece around the COC report thought it would be on this agenda. She referred to the Toronto version of the SPACE report and interesting find that only 28% of the Toronto space users are aware</p>   | <p>Add Complaints Customer Service to next agenda.</p> <p>Vandana forward this question to Jim Spyropolous regarding funding for PSI schools from 3 – 6 pm.</p> <p>Ask for a written response and forward to the board.</p> |

| Item                         | Information/Discussion   | Action/Recommendation  |
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|                              | that there is a coordinator available. Ugonma will be addressing this at the next meeting. |  |
| <b>14. Next Meeting Date</b> | The next meeting date is Tuesday December 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2013.                         | Linda will circulate a Notice of Meeting with meeting details. |