



Lower Stoney Creek Accommodation Review

Working Group Meeting #6

April 06, 2016 - 6:30 pm

Memorial Elementary School, 211 Memorial Avenue, Stoney Creek, ON - Library

Minutes

Attendance

Committee Members - Kim Adam, Candice Babbey, Jeff Gillies (Chair), Ljuba Lush, Monique Moore, Joelle Narancic, Mubina Panju, Dave Quinn, Denise Rainford, Sarah Solter, Christine VanEgmond, Linda Wallace

Committee Member Regrets - Heather Archibald, Patrick Coulter, Marilyn Murray, Irina Omari

HWDSB Resource Staff - Ian Hopkins, Ian Pellizzari, Brian Playfair, Pam Reinholdt, Sandie Rowell, Jenny Seto-Vanderlip

Trustees - Jeff Beattie

Public/Media - Nil

Recording Secretary - Kathy Forde

1. Welcome

Jeff Gillies welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided opening remarks.

2. Review Minutes

- **Working Group Meeting #5** - Minutes accepted without any changes. Members concurred.

3. Data Request - Riverdale Community

During joint discussions March 23 with East Hamilton, some interest was expressed around the Riverdale community in terms of which school seems most appropriate for students living on Gainsborough Road to attend. A map was presented to illustrate student density in the area. Currently 30 attend Green Acres but East Hamilton committee members believe Lake Avenue School is the logical choice due to its proximity. At East Hamilton's Working Group meeting last night, members discussed the logic around the boundary and continue to believe that Lake Avenue School makes the most sense geographically. It was noted that Green Acres students feed into Orchard Park Secondary so shifting students to Lake Avenue would impact secondary numbers as Lake Avenue feeds into Glendale Secondary. Historically, students in this part of the neighbourhood attended Lake Avenue but when the student population expanded and numerous portables were needed this pocket of students shifted over to Green Acres. It is recognized that a request of this nature would need to occur outside of the accommodation review process. As such, if East Hamilton wishes to pursue this interest, that committee can ask for trustee consideration in their advice that goes forward.

4. Review Public Meeting Presentation & Format

Format and details of the draft presentation for the public meeting were reviewed. The presentation will include an overview of the process, roles, timelines, options, rationale, funding, key themes, final report and next steps. Discussions focused on the following details to provide clarity:



- Programming Opportunities - improved access to technology - larger gyms to enhance sports/activities and to provide more space for spectators
- Equity - will attempt to retain partnerships (childcare, before and after school care, community programs)
- Retaining Partnerships (new slide) - community use of space - recreational programs may require use of gym
- School Consolidation Capital Funding - explain that \$750M Ministry funding is available to all of Ontario and Boards are competing for funds
- School Renewal - show the math behind the \$19.5M - explain how proceeds of disposition are used to improve existing facilities - many people think the money goes to the accommodation review underway but that is not the reality so need to be clear proceeds go into a central revolving renewal pot which is used Board-wide - typically unused properties are not maintained so are put up for sale first to a priority list of agents (other school boards, universities, colleges, all three levels of governments, health networks) at market value then to the open market where the property would go to the highest bidder
- Transportation and Student Safety - Trustee Beattie will speak on the ASST (Active and Sustainable School Transportation) initiative during the public meeting
- Class Sizes - indicate that numbers are Board-wide averages and are mandated by the Ministry
- Communication Plan - timelines between Lower Stoney Creek and East Hamilton are similar - it is anticipated that all new builds/additions/renovations can move ahead simultaneously - coordination is demanding but workable although factors such as weather cannot be controlled
- Timelines (new slide) - include proposed timelines for funding and construction - the public should have a realistic understanding of the process moving forward - important to ensure there is no false sense of timelines
- Transition Committee - explain purpose of committee is to help students prepare and adjust to their new school
- Interim Accommodation (new slide) - it is anticipated that the public will be concerned about what happens to students during the construction phase (a multi-year timeframe) before moving into the new builds - although the temporary transfer of students would be coordinated through Accommodation an opportunity for public input should be considered - parents need to be well-informed on the change factor - input through a public meeting will be important so parents feel they have been heard - interim accommodation will be explained - a section or bullet will be included regarding community consultation - the importance of communication will be mentioned
- Funding of New Builds - provide some reassurance around the proposal being submitted as an entire business case - indicate it will be submitted at the same time as East Hamilton but submissions are separate - indicate up to eight submissions can go forward each year for consideration and that urgent priorities and immediate needs are considered - will only be submitting two business cases versus the maximum allowance of eight



Revisions will be made to capture items discussed. Members concurred with the presentation.

It was noted that discussions and suggestions around interim accommodation provide good learning. Within the advice that goes forward to trustees, the Advisory Committee may wish to recommend that interim accommodation consultation be included as a new step in the process moving forward.

Members also discussed protocol around renaming schools or rooms such libraries or gymnasiums and if individuals can donate funds towards a name designation on a specific school or room. It was noted that a process exists for naming/renaming schools and the related policy is posted on the Board's website. *A copy of Policy No 2.7 Naming/Renaming a School in Whole or in Part* including related Directives and Terms of Reference is attached for quick reference. Any offer of a substantial donation would require trustee conversation in terms of the significance and community acceptance. Trustees can vote to decide on an item of interest or concern outside of policy parameters if a unique situation is encountered.

5. Next Meetings

- Public Meeting #2 - Tuesday April 12, 2016 6:00 pm - Orchard Park
- Working Group Meeting #7 - Wednesday April 20, 2016
5:30 pm (tour) Mountain View / 6:00 pm (tour) Eastdale / 6:30 pm (meeting) Eastdale

6. Adjournment

The session adjourned at 7:20 p.m.