Minutes of a meeting of the Westside Issues Committee held on Monday, October 24, 2005 commencing at 1:30 p.m. in the offices of the Westbank and District Chamber of Commerce.

Present: Director A. Dinwoodie, Chair
        Director L. Novakowski

        Regrets – Director D. Knowles

        M. Kopp, Asst. Director of Parks and Recreation
        W. B. d’Easum, Chief Administrative Officer

        Chief Robert Louie, Chief, Westbank First Nation
        Councillor Loretta Swite, Westbank First Nation
        Councillor Mickie Wermstui, Westbank First Nation

Minutes

Moved by Novakowski, that:

The minutes of the meeting held September 19, 2005 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

Cultural/Interpretive Centre – Westbank First Nation

Chief R. Louis addressed the Committee and outlined the desire of the Westbank First Nation to pursue the creation of a Cultural/Interpretive Centre for the Westside. He noted that there was a lot of heritage and cultural history of both the aboriginal and non-aboriginal community and it was the view of the Westbank First Nation that there were many artefacts, cultural items, crafts and archaeological items that should be preserved. Chief Louie presented the Committee with a copy of a resolution recently passed by the Westbank first Nation Council supporting a working relationship with the Regional District to explore the creation of such a Centre.

Moved by Novakowski, that:

Westbank First Nation be invited to make a presentation to the next Regional Board meeting in order to advance the proposal for the establishment of a working relationship between Westbank First Nation and the Regional District to investigate the feasibility of a Cultural/Interpretive Centre on the Westside,

AND FURTHER THAT it be recommended to the Regional District Board that the proposed working relationship be approved by the Board.

CARRIED
Communities in Bloom

M. Kopp addressed the Committee and noted that based on the success of the Westside in the 2005 Provincial Communities in Bloom competition, the Westside has been invited to enter the 2006 National Communities in Bloom competition. Kopp noted that while the Regional District Parks Department was prepared to spearhead the entry in 2006, it was his understanding that the Tourism Committee of the Chamber of Commerce may also be interested. In any event, if an entry is to be made at the National level, there would have to be some better structure to the local committee than in 2005.

Committee members supported, in principle, a program initiated by the Parks Department and requested that a proposal be developed for future consideration along with a review of what the Chamber may propose.

Sidewalks in area of George Pringle Elementary School

The Committee received copies of letters from the Minister of Transportation and the President of George Pringle PAC regarding sidewalks in the area. Committee members noted that this subject was a difficult one in the rural areas but agreed to request a rough estimate from the Engineering Department.

Traffic and Safety Issues at Schools

The Committee was advised that School District No. 23 is interested in pursuing the proposal to hire a traffic safety officer to work with parents and staff in various schools within the District that have experienced high traffic volumes. It has been suggested that the Regional District, City of Kelowna and School District would share the costs of such a position.

Moved by Novakowski, that:

The matter of a traffic safety officer be discussed with School District No. 23 at a joint meeting, prior to March 31, 2006.

CARRIED

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 14, 2005.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

CERTIFIED TO BE TRUE AND CORRECT

Committee member

Committee member