

MINUTES OF ACCOMMODATION REVIEW COMMITTEE (ARC) Central Whitby MEETING

Wednesday, November 19, 2008
3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Education Centre - Room 1017

In Attendance:

Chair: Joe Hircock

Secretary: David Visser

Members (alpha by school):

Monique deVillers (Principal, Capt. M. VandenBos)
Debra Hayes (Non-teaching Rep, Capt. M. VandenBos)
Linda Lyons (Parent Rep, Capt. M. VandenBos)
Carole McLeod (Teacher Rep, Capt. M. VandenBos)
Judy Wityszyn (Parent Rep, Capt. M. VandenBos)
Alana Browne (Teacher Rep, Florence M. Heard)
Chris Montgomery (Parent Rep, Florence M. Heard)
Sharon Murdoch (Parent Rep, Florence M. Heard)
Monica Porteous (Non-teaching Rep, Florence M. Heard)
Brigitte Sopher (Principal, Florence M. Heard)
Carol Bell (Teacher Rep, Jack Miner)
Trudy Collins (Principal, Jack Miner)
Gail Dyson (Non-teaching Rep, Jack Miner)
Jacquie Weber (Parent Rep, Jack Miner)
Cathy Wade (Parent Rep, Jack Miner)
Scott Irwin (Parent Rep, Leslie McFarlane)
Jim Olson (Principal, Leslie McFarlane)
Kirsty Sinclair (Parent Rep, Leslie McFarlane)
Judy Whiteman (Non-teaching Rep, Leslie McFarlane)
Marion Fulcher (Non-teaching Rep, Palmerston)
Sylvia Land (Parent Rep, Palmerston)
Leilah McBride (Teacher Rep, Palmerston)
Tim Ralph (Principal, Palmerston)
Angie Weiss (Parent Rep, Palmerston)
Joe Hamilton (Non-teaching Rep, Pringle Creek)
Sue Lunn (Principal, Pringle Creek)
Jill MacCharles-Crain (Teacher Rep, Pringle Creek)

Facilitator: Lygia Dallip

Consultant: Daniel Del Bianco

ARC Resource Staff: Carey Trombino, Senior Planner
Anne Dobos, Senior Planner
Janet Edwards, Administrative Officer – Whitby/Oshawa
Danielle Pépin, Administrative Assistant

Regrets: Steven Misner (Parent Rep, Pringle Creek)

Absent: Lynda Darling (Teacher Rep, Leslie McFarlane)

Joe Hircock, ARC Chair, thanked everyone for coming and called the meeting to order. He then directed their attention to the package of handout materials to be referred to during the meeting.

Minutes of ARC Central Whitby Meeting, November 19, 2008 pg 2

Motion to accept the November 19, 2008, Agenda

Moved: Sue Lunn (Principal, Pringle Creek)

Seconded: Jim Olson, (Principal, Leslie McFarlane)

Carried

Motion to accept the Minutes of November 12, 2008

Moved: Judy Whiteman (Non-teaching Rep, Leslie McFarlane)

Seconded: Jim Olson (Principal, Leslie McFarlane)

Carried

An ARC member questioned why Captain Michael VandenBos' proposed accommodation scenario had not been included in the minutes and David Visser, ARC Secretary, replied that their scenario had not been received on time and therefore, did not make it into the minutes that had already been drafted.

Joe Hircock, ARC Chair, referred the group to Agenda item #4 and asked Carey Trombino, ARC Resource Staff, to speak to the emails, voicemails, and comments received and the proposed responses.

A motion was made to accept the responses.

Moved: Sue Lunn (Principal, Pringle Creek)

Seconded: Jill MacCharles-Crain (Teacher Rep, Pringle Creek)

Carried

The final Minutes of October 29, 2008 ARC working meeting and the final Minutes of the November 5th, Public Meeting were provided to the group as updated documents as they had already been approved at the previous ARC working meeting on November 12, 2008.

David Visser, ARC Secretary, gave an overview of all 11 alternative accommodation scenarios for the students in Central Whitby (a description of the 11 alternative accommodation scenarios are attached as Appendix A of these minutes). Four scenarios had been developed by the Board while 7 had been developed by the ARC. Today's goal was to review all 11 scenarios with the ARC deciding upon which scenario(s) to keep, review at a later time, or, remove altogether from consideration. The group was reminded that the scenario(s) would be presented to the community at the next Public Meeting on December 10, 2008.

As David Visser, ARC Secretary, read the descriptions and reviewed the enrolment spreadsheets of each scenario, there was much deliberation amongst the ARC members who, as a group, agreed that the 11 possible solutions held the following areas of commonality:

- Rebuild of a new elementary school on the Leslie McFarlane site
- Retain FI at Captain Michael VandenBos
- All but one scenario indicated an addition at Pringle Creek PS

It was noted that Spreadsheet Scenario 14 1 a) would be at a cost of \$13M yet have significant problems with a rebuild on the Leslie McFarlane PS site.

The group then worked at narrowing down the options by eliminating those scenarios which they felt would not meet the Ministry guidelines or the parameters established by the ARC and

Minutes of ARC Central Whitby Meeting, November 19, 2008 pg 3

therefore no longer be feasible for inclusion for consideration. The following conclusions were reached for each of the scenarios.

Scenario # 1

A general motion was made to no longer consider DDSB - Scenario #1 (business case previously shared with the Ministry of Education) as a viable option.

All were in favour.

Scenario #2

This scenario showed that there would still be a number of portables at rebuilt Leslie McFarlane PS and would not fall within the Ministry guidelines of 10% allowance for portables. Also, split grades or triple grades could not be avoided within this scenario. It was agreed that this would not be a viable option.

Motion to no longer consider DDBS - Scenario #2 as a viable option

Moved: Sharon Murdoch (Parent Rep, Florence M. Heard)

Seconded: Debra Hayes (Non-teaching Rep, Capt. M. VandenBos)

Carried

Scenario #3

David Visser, ARC Chair, referred the group to map 11 b) and clarified that the purple highlighted area on the map represented the walking area for Captain Michael VandenBos PS (1.6 km around the school).

Motion to no longer consider DDSB - Scenario #3 as a viable option

Moved: Sharon Murdoch (Parent Rep, Florence M. Heard)

Seconded: Judy Wityszyn (Parent Rep, Capt. M. VandenBos)

Carried

Scenario #4

An ARC member sought clarification as to how enrolment projections were determined. Daniel Del Bianco, ARC Consultant, stated that the projections were based on Average Daily Enrolment (ADE) numbers as required for any submission to the Ministry of Education. ADE tends to be lower than the actual number of students, or head count totals, in a school as Junior and Senior Kindergarten students are counted as half a student since they attend school either on alternate days or for only half day.

He further explained that the ADE numbers for the Gifted Program was projected using a scenario of an average 2% growth per year. The 2% is representative of a sustainable growth rate and one that would not require the need for additional classroom space for the gifted program. With a full complement of grades (4 – 8), growth in the Gifted Program is anticipated to grow however, not at an increased pace.

Motion to no longer consider ARC - Scenario #4 as a viable option

Moved: Trudy Collins (Principal, Jack Miner)

Seconded: Chris Montgomery (Parent Rep, Florence M. Heard)

Carried:

Scenario #4 a)

It was noted that the difference between the two scenarios, #4 and #4a, was the adjustment of students and the size of the proposed addition at Jack Miner PS.

An ARC member asked if it was even feasible to have a 10 classroom addition at Jack Miner PS. David Visser, ARC Secretary, stated that this was something the ARC must contemplate but that this scenario would still place limitations on the growth of the Gifted program.

Motion to retain DDSB - Scenario #4a) for consideration as a viable option.

Moved: Monica Porteous (Non-teaching Rep, Florence M. Heard)

Seconded: Gail Dyson (Non-teaching Rep, Jack Miner)

Carried:

Scenario #5

Concerns were expressed regarding the cost of this scenario as it totaled \$23 million. The observation made was that the use of available space under this scenario was effective since the average utilization of all space would be 101%.

Motion to retain ARC - Scenario #5 for further discussion

Moved: Scott Irwin (Parent Rep, Leslie McFarlane)

Seconded: Angie Weiss (Parent Rep, Palmerston)

Carried:

Scenario #6 -

Motion to retain ARC - Scenario #6 for further discussion

Moved: Jill MacCharles-Crain (Teacher Rep, Pringle Creek)

Seconded: Trudy Collins (Principal, Jack Miner)

Carried:

Scenario #7

Motion to no longer consider ARC - Scenario #7 as a viable option

Moved: Judy Wityszyn (Parent Rep, Capt. M. VandenBos)

Seconded: Sue Lunn (Principal, Pringle Creek)

Carried:

Scenario #8

Motion to no longer consider ARC - Scenario #8 as a viable option

Moved: Jacquie Weber (Parent Rep, Jack Miner)

Seconded: Sharon Murdoch (Parent Rep, Florence M. Heard)

Carried:

Scenario #9

This scenario would create an elementary school with 780 students by the year 2010.

Motion to no longer consider ARC - Scenario #9 as a viable option

Moved: Chris Montgomery (Parent Rep, Florence M. Heard)

Seconded: Judy Wityszyn (Parent Rep, Capt. M. VandenBos)

Carried:

Scenario ARC Scenario #9a

There was debate as to the interpretation of the intended scenario as provided by Captain Michael VandenBos PS.

Joe Hircock, ARC Chair, suggested that the group representing Captain Michael VandenBos resubmit their scenario as intended and that it be referred to as 9b.

Motion to no longer consider ARC - Scenario #9a, as presented, as a viable option

Moved: Monique deVillers (Principal, Capt. M. VandenBos)

Seconded: Sharon Murdoch (Parent Rep, Florence M. Heard)

Carried:

It was agreed that 9b will now represent the initial scenario as intended from Captain Michael VandenBos.

Joe Hircock, ARC Chair, then stated that there would be a recap of the scenarios that the group voted to adopt, revisit or, remove from consideration.

Review of Scenario 4a)

In keeping with the Ministry of Education guidelines, it was agreed upon by the group that Scenario #4a would move forward as a viable business case scenario.

Review of ARC Scenario #5

An ARC member asked whether the Ministry would be agreeable to opening a new school with portables. David Visser, ARC Secretary, stated that a 10-year average of 80% utilization, commencing in the 2nd year of operation of the school was favourable. The group deliberated the details further and came to the conclusion that Scenario #5 did not fulfill the Ministry guidelines.

Motion to no longer consider Scenario #5 as a viable option

Moved: Jill MacCharles-Crain (Teacher Rep, Pringle Creek)

Seconded: Carol Bell (Teacher Rep, Jack Miner)

Carried

Review of ARC Scenario #6

A member of the ARC expressed the view that it was necessary for the committee to move forward with the scenarios by reviewing the data and how the data complied with the parameters set by the ARC and the Ministry framework. The ARC member observed that there was a need to separate the emotional aspects all were dealing with from the task assigned to the ARC. While the need to keep the best interest of the students was foremost, the group must not lose sight of the need to look at numbers as well. The ARC members continued by stating that the building of one school and one addition may not prove to be enough.

A member asked if a higher dollar amount was utilized to build new schools or additions, or if there was an increase in the number of students bussed, would it be at the expense of the needs or supplies for the students.

Minutes of ARC Central Whitby Meeting, November 19, 2008 pg 6

David Visser, ARC Secretary, responded that the Ministry funds transportation on a per pupil basis recognizing elementary and secondary needs. The available funding for transportation would remain unchanged as long as the number of students overall within the Board remained unchanged. Therefore, as the number of students bussed increases, so would the cost increase. Revenue would not change if the overall number of students within the Board remained unchanged.

A review of ARC - Scenario #6 resulted in a motion to carry it forward

Moved: Jill MacCharles-Crain (Teacher Rep, Pringle Creek)

Seconded: Carol Bell (Teacher Rep, Jack Miner)

Carried

Motion to make a friendly amendment to ARC - Scenario #5 to reconsider boundary

It was agreed that the Palmerston Avenue group submit in writing their boundary amendment proposal.

Moved: Angie Weiss (Parent Rep, Palmerston)

Seconded: Sylvia Land (Parent Rep, Palmerston)

Carried

The ARC members ended the meeting, with 4 possible scenarios which consist of Scenario #4a, Scenario #6, Scenario # 5b (friendly amendment to original #5 to reconsider boundary changes), and, Scenario 9b (formulated from the original ARC Scenario 9a).

In conclusion, Joe Hircock, ARC Chair, reminded the group that the next meeting of the ARC working group will take place on Wednesday, December 3rd and, it will be at that time that they will be required to bring forward the scenario(s) decided upon for presentation at the 4th Public Meeting on December 10, 2008.

At the next ARC meeting, the members will be required to review and determine which of the four scenarios fall within the Ministry guidelines and represent the four values; Value to the Student, Value to the Community, Value to the Board and Value to the Local Economy.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

The next meeting of the ARC will take place on Wednesday, December 3, 2008 at 3:00 in the Boardroom (Room 1017) at the Education Centre.

A number of individuals remained behind for further discussion amongst themselves.