

**Minutes - Final
Community Services Committee**

Wednesday, April 18, 2012

7:00 PM

Council Chamber

For consideration by the General Committee of the City of Barrie on April 23, 2012.

The Community Services Committee met at 7:07 p.m. in the Council Chamber, the following were in attendance for the meeting:

PRESENT:

Councillor, L. Strachan (Chair)
Councillor, D. Shipley.

ABSENT:

Councillor, J. Robinson.

STAFF:

Chief Administrative Officer, C. Ladd
Deputy City Clerk, C. deGorter
Director of Environmental Services, J. Thompson
Director of Information and Communication Technology, C. Glaser
General Manager of Corporate Services, E. Archer
General Manager of Infrastructure, Development and Culture, R. Forward.

The Community Services Committee met and reports as follows:

SECTION "A"

CONCERNS REGARDING THE SKATEBOARD PARK LOCATED AT QUEENS PARK.

Connie Positano and Jason Coulson addressed the Committee regarding the skateboard park located at Queens Park. Ms. Positano noted that she believes the skateboard park is highly utilized and meets the physical fitness needs of many youth. She commented that she feels the skateboard park requires attention by the City of Barrie to address a number of safety concerns. Ms. Positano and Mr. Coulson outlined the following concerns related to the skateboard park:

- The fencing and whether it was necessary.
- The proliferation of graffiti and debris.
- The occurrence of unacceptable behaviour.
- The limited access to the skateboard park for emergencies as only one of the three entrances is opened.
- The safety concerns associated with overgrown trees close to the structure.
- The interest in increased By-law enforcement and police presence.

Ms. Positano and Mr. Coulson concluded by offering a number of suggestions that they believe would result in positive change and requested that their concerns be addressed.

A number of questions were asked by the Committee regarding the information provided.

The Community Services Committee met and recommends adoption of the following recommendation(s):

SECTION "B"

SKATEBOARD PARK AT QUEEN'S PARK

That staff in the Roads, Parks and Fleet Department in consultation with the Barrie Skateboard Association investigate the safety concerns for the skateboard park users and area residents, considering the following items:

- The removal of fencing
- The installation of video surveillance cameras and/or mosquito device(s)
- The feasibility of increased Barrie Police Services presence for education and enforcement purposes
- The ability to enhance lighting
- Enforcement of City By-laws specifically the no-smoking by-law
- The trimming/removal of trees

and report back to General Committee with a recommendation for the 2012 summer season (File: P00)

This matter was recommended to General Committee for consideration of adoption at its meeting to be held on 23/04/2012.

The Community Services Committee met and reports as follows:

SECTION "C"

ICT SERVICE DELIVERY PRESENTATION

C. Glaser, Director of Information and Communications Technology provided a presentation regarding ICT Service Delivery. She outlined the objectives, approach, summary of findings and the technology mandate associated with the service review. C. Glaser described the current operations of the department and noted prospects for the future to improve efficiencies. She outlined a short term plan for improving service levels and reducing net costs in 2012 and described a long term plan to investigate new opportunities for service delivery and the improvement of department processes and procedures. C. Glaser noted the 27 recommendations suggested in the Sierra Report and described the costs driving the ICT operational budget.

The Committee asked several questions relating to the information provided within the presentation and received responses from City staff. (File: C05)

COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM COMMITTEE REPORT DATED JANUARY 18, 2012

The Communities in Bloom Committee Report dated January 18, 2012 was received.

COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM COMMITTEE REPORT DATED MARCH 7, 2012.

The Communities in Bloom Committee Report dated March 7, 2012 was received.

COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM REPORT DATED APRIL 4, 2012.

The Communities in Bloom Report dated April 4, 2012 was received.

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT DATED FEBRUARY 1, 2012.

The Environmental Advisory Committee Report dated February 1, 2012 was received.

The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

CHAIRMAN