

**A SUMMARY OF THE MINUTES  
OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
BLACKBURN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

Held on February 15,1989.

GLEN OGILVIE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Directors Present: Marg Callaghan,Peggy Houlistan,Bob Jamieson,Steve Palmer,  
Jackie Ruano,Gloria-Dawn Warkentin-Coulter.

Guests: Joyce Roy -Editor of the BANAR  
Pat Vasudev -Blackburn representative on the GRCB  
Richard Bisson -Community Services,City of Gloucester

Correspondence:

- Letters of appreciation were received from both Alderman Ed Campbell and the Gloucester Centre for Community Resources expressing their thanks for the BCA's contribution to the Christmas Food Basket program.
- The city is requesting the names and addresses of all directors for their annual Boards and Associations Directory.
- A letter was received from the DigniCare( operators of the two nursing/care facilities on St.Joseph),expressing their concern with the intensity of recent explosions at the Francon quarry.They attached a copy of their letter to the provincial Ministry of the Environment on this subject, and requested the BCA's support in ensuring that the ministry take appropriate action.Steve Palmer will follow-up on the matter.
- Most of the requests for 1989 RA grant disbursement have been received by the treasurer.They will be reviewed later.

Directors Reports:

Education: Gloria-Dawn reported on her meeting with the Blackburn Public School Parent/School Association, and their subsequent session on Jan 13th with MPP Gilles Morin.

The parents are very concerned with the recent increases in enrollment, and the overcrowding forecast for the coming years.In particular the lack of facilities was highlighted.A joint letter from the Parent/School Association and the BCA was presented to Mr.Morin requesting his support for a gymnasium for the school.

Although generally supportive,Mr.Morin was not optimistic about his influence in a matter under the CBE's jurisdiction.He did agree to look into it at Queen's Park.

Gloria-Dawn also noted that a report,and a copy of the letter,would appear in the March BANAR.A general discussion followed and it was agreed that the BCA will continue to support the Parents Association in their activities.

Note was also made of the upcoming meeting(Feb.16th) concerning the new Chapel Hill elementary school.( *see below* )

Civic Affairs: Steve Palmer noted that the condominium development on Valewood Crescent is going to Planning Advisory, and Council, for approval in March. The BCA had sent in a submission based on the comments of the neighbouring residents-there are no major objections to the present proposal.

Activity has also started on the new medical centre at Bearbrook&Innes.

Day Camp: Peggy Houlistan led a general discussion concerning Day Camp.

Publicity: Joan Grier has received a request from the Gloucester Music Teachers that they be permitted to use the BCA display case at the library for a month. This was agreed.

In addition Richard Bisson pointed out that a new Gloucester policy would allow trophies of non-arena sports to be displayed in the arena. As a result we could relocate the Display Case to the Blackburn Arena. Pat Vasudev agreed to confirm the new policy.

Fun Fair: "UP, UP, AND AWAY" is this year's theme.

Jackie Ruano reported on the status of organizational activities and plans for this year's Fun Fair. Everything is going well. A hot-air balloon ride is planned (a helicopter would have required too large a guaranteed revenue to the operator), as are the parade and fireworks. In general the same format as '88. A kite-making competition is being considered.

In addition to the regular fund raising activities, the possibility of a grant for the entertainment is being pursued..

Treasurer: The preliminary '88 expenditures (unaudited) and the proposed '89 RA Grant distribution were provided by Warren for discussion later in the meeting.

Membership: Ken Zomer reported that the door-to-door canvass had essentially completed, with total revenue on the order of \$7000. This is lower than in past years, however the proportion of our total which is collected at the door, as opposed to at sports registrations, was not known. This will be looked into, as will the distribution of memberships throughout the Hamlet.

#### New Business:

- Bob Jamieson reported on a Feb 6th meeting he attended, on behalf of the BCA, to discuss the Tennis Club's desire for a new clubhouse. The meeting was convened by Hedy Burton (Pres- Blackburn Rec Centres Board), and attended by representatives of the Blackburn Tennis Club, as well as the city. The Club is proposing a \$20,000-\$30,000 expenditure (difference is between a complete renovation vs a new structure). This is based on a formal quote received. No architectural plans or layout were available, however they are intending to keep exactly the same size of building, but with a much upgraded quality.

It was agreed the Club would write to the City, via the BHRCB, and confirm what standards and procedures must be followed as it would be a 'city' rec structure on city property.

On the matter of how the funds would be raised, the club was optimistic that the BCA would loan them the funds, as they had been unsuccessful in getting Wintario or other grants. Bob reviewed the points that he had raised at the meeting:

-the BCA money would be a loan if approved, with regular payments back to the BCA. As an example a \$15,000 loan @10% would mean an additional \$4000 per year that the club would have to raise in fees over a 5 year period.

-any loan would be dependant on the Tennis Club showing its member's commitment by raising a substantial portion of the total funds internally in advance of the loan

-it would be contingent on all city requirements being met

-as he had stated in Dec,he would like to see a complete proposal from the Tennis Club which met all the above points before bringing the request before the BCA board.

The meeting also touched on Tennis's desire to have part of their Junior program funded from the RA Grant.Bob recommended that they get a copy of the forms from the BCA treasurer and submit the request.

The BCA board discussed the matter at some length,and agreed to review the request when it arrives.There was a concern raised that the Tennis Club may still owe the BCA funds from several years back.This will be verified.

- **Joyce Roy** gave a general report on the status of publication of the BANAR.Everything is going well-the March issue will be quite large,over 40 pages.The publication cost is rising-it costs \$1800-\$2000 per issue.Some discussion was held on this but it was agreed that the present advertising policy should remain.Joyce also reviewed several steps she has taken to reduce the amount of monthly changes required.,such as rearranging the method of handling the church pages

Joyce was also looking for feedback on a potential change in the cover page format.It was felt that we would have to see it before agreeing to a change-Joyce agreed to bring a layout to an upcoming meeting.

It was agreed to let the Fun Fair accumulate their 2 free pages per issue from Feb-Jun for a total of 12.This will let them use the free pages to their best advantage in May when they are most required.

-**Pat Vasudev** spoke to his recent appointment as the Blackburn representative on the Gloucester Recreation Centres Board(GRCB). He outlined the general role of the GRCB and discussed the new bylaw regarding RA constitutions,and it's effect on the BCA.Pat and Bob Jamieson agreed to meet to discuss this in more detail.

Pat also outlined the '89 RA grant,which is based on a per capita of \$4.27 unchanged from '88.Given the Hamlet's relatively fixed population,this means the total will remain at the same level as last year:\$45,000(provisional).

-**Richard Bisson** spoke on the role of the Community Services section of the City administration.They are there to help the various RA's open up new programs for the community.He relayed the high esteem in which the BCA is held at the city, however he also indicated that they would appreciate the chance to become involved in our work.

Richard also indicated that,although she was unable to make this meeting, Marjorie Malloy is Blackburn's representative and she would be in contact with the BCA in the near future.

#### BUDGET Preview:

- Bob distributed the copies of the preliminary workups for the distribution of the '89 RA Grant.

- A general discussion followed ,highlighted by the fact that with a grant no larger than last year,plus several new requests,the requests from several groups would not be able to be completely satisfied.The discussion focused on the request from Tennis(for the first time) ,and on hockey.

It was not felt that that Tennis should be given the full amount it requested, given the shared nature of it's expenses with the adult portion of the club and the large amount in question.The proportion of the members living in Blackburn, and the high number of Juniors

were also questioned,however it was agreed that the Tennis Club is going an excellent job , and that they should definitely get a reasonable grant given the number of children involved.

Hockey was also discussed in detail.The number of players shows a dramatic drop from the '88 budget numbers,yet more money is being requested.Richard Bisson noted that this is a problem across the whole city and he also provided some comparative numbers from other RAs in Gloucester,showing that Blackburn is providing up to double the grant per capita to hockey of other areas.He indicated that a figure of merit used elsewhere is :1/2 hour of ice time=\$37 per player.

This would be unrealistic to impose at this time,however it was agreed that hockey would have to reduced to make up for other areas.It was also recognized that this trend could be expected to continue into the future as other groups grow and the bottom-line grant is fixed..

Bob will be meeting with Warren to finalize the recommendations and pass out the information to the directors before the March 15 meeting.

Bob expressed the Board's thanks to the three guests who participated in the evening's meeting,both for their individual information and for their contribution to the overall discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 PM.

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Next Meetings: Wednesday March 15th, Glen Ogilvie,7:30PM.

Thursday April 20th, Glen Ogilvie,7:30PM.

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re:Chapel Hill School

For the information of Blackburn residents who were unable to attend the meeting on Feb15th,following are the key points as they impact the Blackburn schools.

The new school will be built in two phases,the first (able to accommodate about 215 students.) is scheduled to be open for the fall of 1989.There are no firm committments for the 2nd and larger phase ,however the trustees are confident that the provincial funding will be available in the very near term.The trustees also made the point that, although not designated as such,there will be sufficient common area for both library and gym-equivalent space.

The demographics of the school age population in Chapel Hill make it infeasible to plan for anything other than an EFI-only school in phase 1( the regular/English only population is much too small to adequately utilize the facilities,and a dual track school would be too large for the intial phase).The 2 options now being examined are EFI:Junior Kindergarten to Grade 2, or EFI:Senior Kindergarten to Grade 3.

The net effect of the above is that :

(1)Blackburn Public will continue to serve the Regular program in Blackburn and Chapel Hill as at present.

(2)Glen Ogilvie will lose approx.90 EFI students from the Chapel Hill area now attending the lower grades.

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