

Commission ok's police escorts

Halton Regional Police commission voted Thursday to go ahead with the hiring of five men to act as prisoner escorts and turnkeys, in spite of continuing objections by the police association.

The proposal to hire special constables to act as turnkeys and prisoner escorts, a function now performed by police officers, was to be discussed further at a meeting Oct. 19 between the association, members of the commission and Chief Ken Skerrett. The association had originally filed a grievance on the issue, which was withdrawn when the commission agreed to discuss the proposal with the association.

At the last meeting between the association, Chief Skerrett and members of the commission, it was agreed that the decision to proceed would not be made until a report from police administrator Ray Munro on the implementation of the proposal was available.

Confusion surrounded not only the status of the proposal at the commission meeting, but also a report submitted by Constable Al Reulens on the mechanics of the operation.

HIRING REPORT

The commission had previously asked the administration to draw up a report on the

hiring of special constables to act as turnkeys and prisoner escorts in other regions where the proposal had already been implemented.

Mr. Munro had asked for a senior police constable to draw up the report for the force, and he in turn would include it in the report he was preparing.

Constable Reulens, who is president of the Halton Regional Police Association, was assigned the job of drawing up the report. The confusion arose from the fact that the report had originally been addressed to the commission, and Mr. Munro had sent it back to be re-addressed to him.

The report presented to the commission was on the letterhead of the association. Constable Reulens said this was the report he had said he was doing for the force at the time the association met with the Chief. He had told the chief and commissioners the report would be available for their next meeting.

The fact that Constable Reulens had been assigned to write the report drew criticism from Mr. Munro, who said he had not had time to read the report yet.

"Had Constable Smith been assigned to do this report, we would have had an unbiased

report in a month", Mr. Munro said. "Instead we've got a report that shoots down the proposal."

"I would hope you will not accept a report drawn up by the president of the association," he said.

RETRACT REMARKS

Commissioner Harry Barrett, acting as chairman in the absence of chairman William Hourigan, told Mr. Munro to retract his remarks.

"A police officer of this force was asked to draw up a report," he said. "This report is not from the association. By your own admission you haven't read the report, so how can you say it's biased?"

Mr. Munro apologized, but said he would not withdraw the remarks.

Commissioner David Coons was concerned that although the commission had approved the proposal in principle, proceeding with the hiring of staff would "negate our commitment to Mr. Reulens" to discuss the proposal with the association before proceeding.

Mr. Munro said any delay in permission to go ahead with hiring of staff might mean the five men who have been selected would be unavailable for the job. The commission voted to go ahead with the hiring.



ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW

Georgetown Arts and Crafts appeared to command the biggest turn-out among Saturday's numerous rummage, crafts and bake sales around town. Hundreds strolled through the North Halton Golf and Country Club to examine and purchase a wide variety of paintings, sculptures and hand-crafted wares. Herald photo

Discipline gripes prompt proposal

A motion by trustee Len Crosier that supervised study periods be made mandatory for all grade nine and ten students was defeated at Thursday's board of education meeting.

Mr. Crosier suggested that supervised study periods would provide more opportunities for students with problems to obtain extra help, and keep the younger students on the school premises.

Director of education Ed Lavender said he thought it would be possible to implement the intent of Mr. Crosier's motion through increased communication between principals and parents. He suggested the principals could contact the parents of students, who abuse their study periods, and the problem could be resolved. Parents can ask that their children be supervised during study periods now, he said.

Trustee Ivan Armstrong said most of the discipline complaints he receives are concerning grade nine and ten students, and suggested supervised study periods could resolve the problem. Halton Hills trustee Bert Hinton said Acton High School has had problems in the past with students leaving the school grounds during the day and wandering around Acton.

"One of the things we expect a student to show when they get to secondary school is responsibility," trustee Bill Lawson said. "You can't expect them to demonstrate responsibility in a classroom under the supervision of a teacher. You have to challenge them."



JACK PARK
Pete Masson, president of Pete Masson Motors Limited, 336 Guelph Street, Georgetown, is pleased to announce the appointment of Jack Park to his sales staff. Jack brings with him 26 years of sales and management experience in the automotive field. His knowledge and ability to recognize the needs of the motoring public will be an asset to the organization. Jack is looking forward to seeing his many customers and friends at his new location.

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Golf Quips
By the time a man can afford to lose a golf ball, he can't hit one that far. Golf is a lot like taxes—you drive hard to get to the green and then end up in the hole. One of the quickest ways to meet new people is to pick up the wrong ball on a golf course.

Counselling agencies considered by region

Halton region's health and social services committee is still investigating a proposal of which the region would phase out its involvement in family counselling by purchasing the services of counsellors from private agencies in Oakville and Burlington.

At a meeting last week, representatives of both the Oakville Family Service Agency and Burlington's Council on Human Relations presented committee members with nearly identical bids to provide the service in south Halton and agreed to further investigate the feasibility of extending their service to Milton and Halton Hills families.

The committee, meanwhile, directed Rennie Vivian, Halton's health services administrator, to prepare more detailed reports on the financial implications of both purchasing the private services and continuing to provide a regional service.

Mr. Vivian estimated that it would cost Halton \$25,000 to maintain a one-counsellor service in north Halton during 1979. The expenditure would include office rental and travelling costs, he said. Nancy Brown, executive director of the Oakville agency, reminded the committee that her organization still has offices in Acton and Georgetown that could be used for family counselling.

Both agencies offered to provide the service in south Halton for \$30 an hour (counselling time), compared to the \$48 an hour the service is costing Halton to run on its own.

The committee was further advised that the two private agencies are receiving the bulk of applications for counselling, while Halton's counsellors are not being utilized to full capacity. Higher income families are turning more frequently to the private agencies, Mr. Vivian reported.

Halton Hills Coun. Pat McKenzie expressed alarm at a suggestion that Milton families would be more easily accommodated by the two private agencies because of the extra distance to travel to Acton and Georgetown, Nassagaweya, a community in Milton, is just as far north as Acton, he pointed out.

Coun. McKenzie recommended that the region purchase the services of the private agencies for the south only to begin with so that such a system's effectiveness could be tested before it is considered for north Halton.

Ms. Brown expressed doubt that north Halton families would require the same amount of counselling time as those in the south. She estimated that the agencies could handle all cases in Milton, Acton and Georgetown with a three-day week schedule.

Coun. Roy Booth of Halton Hills challenged Coun. McKenzie's suggestion that the south of Halton should serve as a testing ground for a trial program. After a few months, he said, council will wonder why the region's counselling service is continuing in north Halton and will withdraw the service after all. The committee should investigate the possibility of purchasing "a good package deal" for all Halton, he contended.

Mr. Vivian will meet with officials of the two private agencies to determine alternative programs and costs before reporting back to the committee.

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Acton trail bikers fight fencing plan

An appeal last week by the Halton Off-Road Riders Association on behalf of Acton motorcycle riders failed to alter the town finance and administration committee's plans to fence off an unopened road allowance off Elmore Drive in Acton.

The committee's previous decision to try and keep trail bikes and dune buggies off the road allowance so that neighboring homeowners would not be disturbed was reaffirmed last week and ratified by council again Monday.

Dave Armstrong and Norm Cornwell of the Off-Road Riders Association reminded the committee last week that suitable sites for trail biking and dirt biking are sorely lacking in both urban Acton and Georgetown. The two representatives, however, had been led to believe that the town's primary concern was about underaged riders running their minibikes and trail bikes up and down public roads in the vicinity of Elmore Drive.

turbed by noisy activities nearby. Concerns over the illegal operation of minibikes and trail bikes were raised as an aside, he said.

TITLE SEARCH

Mr. Armstrong reported that the Association has launched a title search to determine the owner of the vacant property behind Elmore Drive that is being used by the cyclists. He noted that there have been no complaints from the owner.

The committee nevertheless reaffirmed its earlier decision to fence off the easement, leaving a gate access for pedestrians. The decision was based on a request by adjacent landowner George Van Der Eyken, whose frustrations over nearby noise prompted him to investigate the feasibility of buying or leasing the easement.

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Tougher tactics for cyclists

Young bicycle riders will have to clean up their act or face serious consequences according to a Halton Regional Police spokesman.

Superintendent Roy Taylor says his officers will begin cracking down on young riders who disobey traffic laws when bicycles come out again in the spring.

At present the force's safety officers are spreading word of the coming changes during their school visits.

"There's no point in starting

the crack down now," Supl. Taylor said. "The bikes will be going away very soon, but we'll begin ticketing when they come out again in the spring."

Raj Swaminathan, Safety officer for District 11, says that regular officers will ticket violators. These tickets will have to be taken home for parental signature, then returned to the police. The signature is just a means of insuring that parents are aware of the fact that their child has committed a violation.

If a second offence is committed the child will be sent to a safety clinic. If this is still not effective and a third offence is committed the child could wind up facing a juvenile court judge, he said.

SECOND OFFENCE

"It is possible that the judge could order the bicycle sold," says Richard Furlong of the Milton Optimists Club.

"They're ordering trail bikes and mini bikes sold in one of the areas north of here," he said. "So I don't see why it

couldn't happen here to".

The Georgetown and Milton Optimists Clubs have donated funds to help purchase a film, Only One Road, which the safety officers will be using in their campaign to make young riders more aware of the fact that their bikes are vehicles and traffic laws apply to them as well as to cars.

NORTH HALTON'S

Oktoberfest

'78 is here.

"PROSIT"

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21,

at 9:00 P.M.

Greg Gartner and his four piece Oom-Pah-Pah Band will provide the entertainment on 2 Dance Floors - Dining Room & Curling Lounge. Come out and join the fun in the gaily decorated Club House - Buffet served at Midnight Oktoberfest Sausage, Pig tails, Sauerkraut, and German Potato Salad.

ALL FOR ONLY

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PER PERSON

GUESTS WELCOME

MAKE UP A PARTY - NOW!

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NORTH HALTON

GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

SUNDAY DINNER SPECIAL

SUNDAY, OCT. 22

A thrift box for just \$3.95

A Thrift Box contains 9 pieces of finger lickin' good Kentucky Fried Chicken, freshly cooked from Colonel Sanders' secret recipe. It's a great family favorite!

Kentucky Fried Chicken
Colonel Sanders' boys and girls make it "finger lickin' good".

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A Comedy

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THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY
OCTOBER 19, 20, 21
CURTAIN TIME 8:00 P.M.

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ADULTS: \$3.00 STUDENTS: \$2.00

TICKETS: DELREX SMOKE SHOP
TOWNE SEWING CENTRE
JOHN HOUGHTON JEWELLERS
CALL 877-6309 OR AT THE DOOR

Wednesday, Oct. 18 - Benefit Performance
FOLLOWED BY WINE & CHEESE PARTY
PROCEEDS TO GEORGETOWN REARER CLUB AS CONTRIBUTION
TO WINTER CHRISTMAS DINNER
TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM REARER OF GUY MEMBERS - \$400

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