

PUBLIC MEETINGS

TOWN OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE DRAFT CULTURE AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

Public meetings on the draft Master Plan are to be held to inform the public of the Plan's proposed recommendations and to provide opportunities for further public input. The times and dates of the meetings are as follows:

	Meeting No. 1	Meeting No. 2	Meeting No. 3	Meeting No. 4
Date:	Wednesday, 16 September 1981	Wednesday, 16 September 1981	Thursday, 17 September 1981	Thursday, 17 September 1981
Time:	7:30 p.m.	7:30 p.m.	7:30 p.m.	7:30 p.m.
Place:	Lemonville Community Centre	Latcham Hall, Stouffville	Ballantrae Community Centre	Vandorf Community Centre

A final meeting will be held Thursday, 24 September 1981 at 7:30 p.m. in the Stouffville District Secondary School. All residents are strongly encouraged by the Master Plan Steering Committee and Town Council to attend the meeting in their area and to participate.

The following is a summary of the highlights of the major proposed recommendations:

PLAN PRINCIPLES

- Provide a balanced and accessible set of culture and recreation opportunities that evolve around the varied needs, interests and capabilities of the whole resident population.
- Provide culture and recreation opportunities utilizing where possible, the skills, interests and organizing abilities of community volunteers and organizations.
- Provide culture and recreation opportunities beyond the scope and capabilities of community volunteers and organizations through professional and technical municipal staff and other resources.
- Ensure on-going experimentation and new initiatives in the supply of available culture and recreation programs and resources through community organizations and municipal staff.
- Concentrate resource supply efforts on supplying new recreation opportunities with some upgrading of the existing supply by achieving more effective and beneficial utilization of existing lands and facilities.
- Provide culture and recreation opportunities at the neighbourhood/local area, town-wide and regional service levels as warranted.
- Provide park and open space land resources that add to the beautification, protection and enhancement of the Town's aesthetic quality and physical environment.
- Provide on-going opportunities for public input and involvement in decision making processes associated with the culture and recreation opportunity system in the Town.
- Encourage residents to participate and to become involved:
 - a) by ensuring adequate public awareness of the culture and recreation opportunities available.
 - b) by providing effective coordination or the use of resources in order to achieve these principles.
- Attempt to use culture and recreation programs and resources as an instrument in developing a community spirit of co-operation and awareness for the overall advancement of the community.
- Develop a Master Plan that is compatible with the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville's Official Plan.

PLAN GOALS

Goal 1

- To co-ordinate the roles of groups and individuals providing the various forms of culture and recreation opportunities in the service area, so as to maximize the availability and utility of these opportunities for the benefit and overall enjoyment of the citizens.

Goal 2

- To provide culture and recreation opportunities and resources wherever need is perceived and where other providers cannot successfully function for the overall benefit and enjoyment of the citizens of the service area.

Goal 3

- To beautify the urban environment of the Town wherever possible and practical for the enjoyment and benefit of the citizens.

Goal 4

- To assist in shaping the urban form of the Town so as to create an acceptable and pleasing urban environment for the citizens.

Goal 5

- To assist in the protection and presentation of unique natural and historic features and areas within the service area for the enjoyment, education and interest of current and future generations of citizens.

ORGANIZATION PLAN

PARKS AND RECREATION

- That the Town formally incorporate a body to be known as the Whitchurch-Stouffville Parks and Recreation Board (W.S.P.R.B.)
- That the Town disband the following Boards and Committees:
 - Whitchurch-Stouffville Recreation Committee.
 - Whitchurch-Stouffville Arena Board
 - Whitchurch-Stouffville Community Centre Board.

- That the W.S.P.R.B. be the primary planning and operating body for undertaking and fulfilling the Town's responsibilities and roles in the provision of parks and recreation opportunities.

- That the W.S.P.R.B. not replace or take over the activities, responsibilities or tasks of volunteer organizations, self organized groups and clubs and other actors in the recreation opportunity system, but rather focus its energies on municipal responsibilities and identified areas of need.

- That the Town Council co-ordinate all recreation resource development, acquisitions and planning with the Board, including parkland and open space, programs and facilities.

- That the W.S.P.R.B. comprise a fourteen member board of directors as follows:

- two members appointed from each ward, one for two years and one for three years;
- two Council members for the official term of office or at the discretion of Council.

- That a Director of Parks and Recreation be retained; the Arena Manager become the Facilities Manager; and the remaining staff be maintained and reorganized into maintenance and operations work groups.

ORGANIZATION PLAN

LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES

- That the Town form three Advisory Committees as a reconstitution of the three local area Community Centre Boards as follows:
 - Ballantrae Community Services Advisory Committee;
 - Lemonville Community Services Advisory Committee;
 - Vandorf Community Services Advisory Committee.
- That these three committees represent a continuous source of input for the culture and recreation aspirations of the residents of their area and the operation of their community centres as follows.

- prepare a proposed annual budget for the operation and maintenance of the facilities in their area and present these to the Board for inclusion in the Board's proposed budget to Council;

- propose to the Board annually, any required repairs, upgrading or capital development required for the area;

- provide input on the use and scheduling of the facility resources in their area;

- liaison with the local citizens in order to determine public needs, interests and concerns and report these to the Board;

- assist and work in close co-operation and communication with the Board, Town Council, area residents, user groups, staff and others as required and deemed necessary by the Committee.

- That each Advisory Committee be composed of Council appointed individuals who are residents of the local area as follows:

- two appointees for two years;
- three appointees for three years;
- two councillor appointees for the length of their official term in office or at the discretion of Council.

ORGANIZATION PLAN

CULTURAL SERVICES

- That the Town formally incorporate a body to be known as the Whitchurch-Stouffville Library and Cultural Services Board (W.S.L.C.S.B.)

- That the following Boards and Committees be disbanded:

- Whitchurch-Stouffville Library Board;
- the Latcham Gallery Committee of the Library Board;
- the Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum Board.

- That the W.S.L.C.S.B. be the primary planning and operating body for undertaking and fulfilling the Town's responsibilities and roles in the provision of cultural opportunities which will include, but not be limited to the following areas: library and museum services; art and music appreciation; historical/interpretive programs; cultural exchange programs; and other forms of community enlightenment or enrichment.

- That the Town Council co-ordinate all cultural resource development, acquisitions and planning with the Board.

- That the W.S.L.C.S.B. meet at least once per year with the three local area Advisory Committees in order to determine relevant needs and ideas that would assist the Board in providing cultural services to these areas.

- That the Board consist of eight Council appointees as follows:

- one citizen from each ward, three for two years and three for three years;

- two councillors for the length of their official term in office or at the discretion of Council.

- That the W.S.L.C.S.B. create a subsidiary organization to be known as the Art Advisory Committee.

- That the Art Advisory Committee be responsible for providing ideas, comments and input into the operation of the Latcham Gallery and any art related programs operated by the Board and assist directly where feasible in the provision of artistic displays and the offering of programs.

- That the W.S.L.C.S.B. actively and regularly seek the input and comments of the Committee in relation to the operation of the policies associated with the Latcham Gallery and the cultural programs offered.

- That the Art Advisory Committee be appointed as follows:

- three Town residents involved in various art forms either on participation or organizational dimensions; two appointed for two years and one appointed for three years;

- one non-councillor W.S.L.C.S.B. member for the same term as their Board appointment;

- one Town Councillor for the official term of office or at the discretion of Council, to be appointed by the Town Council.

PROGRAMS PLAN

- That the Parks and Recreation Director undertake a program to identify teenager interests and needs by providing direct, specialized opportunities:

- discussions with teenage groups;
- canvassing the Secondary School population on an interview and survey basis;
- discussions with teachers and others involved regularly with teenagers;

- formulating a development committee of a cross section of teenagers from the whole community;

- holding a public forum to generate ideas from teens and to determine the acceptability of ideas from earlier research;

- establishing a regularly scheduled block of time for informal teen activities on both an organized and drop in basis in the Latcham and Ballantrae Community Centres and in Vandorf and Lemonville if the demand exists;

- purchase equipment and supplies necessary to support special programs for teens;

- incorporate a separate budget category for teen programs.

- That the Parks and Recreation Director develop an arts and crafts program on a one year trial basis in Latcham Hall and if successful, expand the program's scope to the other Community Centres. This program should be developed in conjunction with the Director of Cultural Services.

- That the Director of Cultural Services canvass the Community to determine interest in establishing an amateur Little Theatre Group and if feasible, assist in the organization and development of this activity through technical and financial assistance.

- That the Director of Cultural Services and Chief Librarian expand service to the Ballantrae and Vandorf Community Centres on a once a week basis via a limited book-mobile program.

RESOURCES PLAN

POLICIES

- That new facilities be developed on a project basis and spearheaded by an interested community group or consortium of groups when possible.

- That the Board assist groups interested in the development of new resources or redevelopment of existing facilities and resources. The two Boards should provide technical, financial and organizational expertise as required as well as co-ordinating applications for available grants and funding assistance.

- That where a community group is not available to spearhead the development of a new resource or for large projects, the two Boards undertake an active co-ordination, planning and development role.

- That all organizations interested in spearheading a resource project be encouraged to work in conjunction with the two Boards as a means of maximizing and co-ordinating existing physical and human resources and to ensure conformity with the intent of this Master Plan.

- That the Town, in negotiations with land developers, select the cash in lieu of land alternative unless the development is over fifty lots in size or represents the initiation of a major new neighbourhood and that the W.S.P.R.B. be asked for a recommendation by the Town on each new development proposal.

SPECIFIC RESOURCES

- That the playing field area of Ballantrae Park be redeveloped to reduce use conflicts, undersized fields and poor soil conditions by undertaking the following program:

- either long term lease, dedication or acquisition of the adjoining 1.6 hectare (4.0 acre) site or enlargement onto the School Board property under a reciprocal agreement;

- reorganize the main ballfield to eliminate conflicts with the tennis courts and construct a new lighting system;

- redevelop the existing soccer field to eliminate the drainage problem;
- establishment of a second soccer field.

- That the Lemonville Community Centre grounds be better maintained, the playground upgraded and other facility improvements effected.

- That the slide along Burkholder Street in Stouffville Park be relocated away from the roadway and in closer proximity to the main playground.

- That a modest bandshell be constructed in Stouffville Park along the watercourse behind the Town offices.

- That one soccer field be developed in the undeveloped portion of parkland behind the new diamond in Stouffville Park and one on the undeveloped portion of the school grounds of Orchard Park School.

- That washrooms and a kitchenette be added to the Senior Citizens building in Ballantrae.

- That Latcham Hall be redeveloped as a developmental arts and crafts centre servicing all art forms including stage performances, painting, visual arts, arts and craft courses and programs as well as for meetings, receptions and other medium size group functions.

- That the Town acquire vacant land along the Ninth Concession Road adjacent to the York County Public School Board property; enter into a development agreement with the School Board and then develop a major Community Centre complex with the following resources:

- Indoor pool
- Indoor arena
- Teen Centre
- Community Centre
- Health Club
- Racquet Ball Courts
- Outdoor Facilities

- That the existing arena be dismantled and if feasible the ice plant be refurbished and utilized in the proposed new Community Centre complex.

- That the existing arena site be redeveloped into a soccer pitch and more organized parking area be provided to support all activities in Stouffville Park.

- That the existing outdoor pool complex be dismantled and the site grassed along with a small parking area to support park activity and that all salvageable fixtures and equipment be saved for future use or tendered for sale.

FINANCIAL PLAN

- That user fees charged for parks and recreation facility use and programs under the sponsorship of the W.S.P.R.B. should be set at a rate, so that on a totally consolidated cash flow basis, user fee reveue and outside grants represent 50 to 55 per cent of the budget.

- That user fees and outside grants for the W.S.L.C.S.B. cover approximately 50% of the consolidated budget.