CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF THE

COMMITTEE ON PROTECTION, PARKS AND CULTURE

The Executive Policy Committee has had before it the Report of the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture, dated July 13th, 1992, has concurred in the recommendations contained therein and submits same to Council for approval and adoption.

On motion of Councillor Gilroy, the Report of the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture, dated July 13th, 1992, was considered clause by clause.

North Committee Room,
Council Building, Winnipeg.
July 13th, 1992.

His Worship the Mayor and Councillors:

Your Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture submits the following Report and recommends:

Memorial to those who wore pink triangles to their deaths in Nazi Concentration Camps and others who have been victims of homophobic violence - File G(P)

1310 - 1. On February 12th, 1992, Council referred the following motion to your Committee, namely:-

"WHEREAS there is no memorial in the City or within the Province for the nearly half million gay people killed in the holocaust;

AND WHEREAS there is a strong desire from many members of the community to see a memorial;

AND WHEREAS the City owns parkland in the area of where other anti-violence memorials exist and where most of the attacks on gays and those so labelled has occurred;

BE IT RESOLVED that Council approve in principle a memorial to the people who wore pink triangles to their deaths in Nazi concentration camps and others who have been victims of homophobic violence;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture be asked to consult with concerned groups and recommend an appropriate location."

In this regard, Council also referred the following proposed amendment to the above motion, namely:-

"WHEREAS there has been confusion over the financial implications of establishing a memorial to those who died wearing pink triangles;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the motion regarding a memorial site be amended, as follows:-

a) the words "space for" be inserted in the first line of the fourth paragraph immediately before the words "a memorial";

b) approval in principal be understood not to involve commitment of any city funds."

By letter dated February 21st, 1992, the Commissioner of Protection, Parks and Culture was advised that the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture considered the motion of Council and subsequently requested that the administration meet with the delegations who appeared before Council in order to discuss an appropriate memorial, estimated cost, location, wording for the associated plaque and projected maintenance responsibilities.

Report of the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture, dated July 13th, 1992.

Representatives of the Commissioner's office and the Parks and Recreation Department met on April 8th, 1992 with Councillor Murray and the aforementioned delegations who appeared before City Council. Initial preference for location of a memorial was indicated to be that of the riverbanks adjacent to the Granite Curling Club. However, in view of high susceptibility to vandalism and recurrent spring flood water damage associated with such a location; it was concluded that the better location for a memorial would be on the upland portion of the riverbank to the west of the Curling Club, on a city-owned property referred to as Mostyn Park.

The representatives of the Community at the meeting indicated their intent to structure a committee and conduct a design competition for a suitable memorial. The representative of the Parks and Recreation Department agreed to compile information and criteria to provide guidance to the committee on the design aspects of a monument to be located on city-owned property. Such information was forwarded to Councillor Murray by memorandum dated April 21st, 1992.

Through communication received on June 16th, 1992, from the Chairman of the Memorial Committee for victims of Homophobic Violence, the following information was provided:

- The Committee has met at approximate three (3) week intervals since early April.

- The Committee may now issue tax-deductible receipts for donations towards the memorial fund.

- The Committee has determined that a motto or slogan should firstly be derived for the memorial project and a local organization has agreed to conduct a contest for the selection of an appropriate motto.

- A seven member jury will be selected by the end of July for the purpose of soliciting and selecting candidate designs for the memorial; in accordance, in part, with the Association of Architects procedures governing design jury processes.

- The proposal call for design submissions is anticipated for mid-September; with a deadline for submissions tentatively set for November 15th, 1992.

- The jury selection of a successful design for the memorial will occur by December 31st, 1992.

- The Committee will review and confirm the successful design submission during January 1993; following which the successful design will be publicized and funding donations solicited for construction and installation of the memorial.

Inasmuch as no further action on this matter by the City can be contemplated until the early part of 1993; at which time estimated capital costs (by others), plaque wording and maintenance cost responsibilities will be determined; the requested informational report will not be available until, tentatively, February or March 1993.

In view of the above indication, this interim status is provided for the information of Council.

Moved by Councillor Gilroy,
Adoption of the clause.

Carried.

Report of the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture, dated July 13th, 1992.

Implementation of Credit Card Usage in the Parks and Recreation Department

File PR

1311 - 2. The Parks and Recreation Department, through its golf course operations, instituted a credit card system in the mid 1960's. This system has been well received and appreciated by the public and operates successfully to date with very little administrative costs.

In 1992, the Department's Recreation and Community Parks Division completed an analysis of implementing a credit card system, as a result of enquiries from the general public. Over the past several years, the general public has requested that payments be made via credit cards for recreation programs and services.

In February 1992, the Royal Bank was consulted as to the type of system and hardware that would best serve the Parks and Recreation Department needs.

The Parks and Recreation Department expresses a very positive opinion in the implementation of a credit card system, for the following reasons:

A) the acceptance by the general public to this method of payment for their purchases.

B) competitor's of the Department (school divisions and YMCA's) are accepting credit cards for payment of services and programs.

C) the Department would "phase in" the use of credit cards over a six month period.

D) the system will allow for direct deposit of funds to the credit of the City of Winnipeg's account allowing the City to earn additional interest on its funds.

E) the fee structure, associated with numerous small transactions, lends itself to this method in the Parks and Recreation Department.

F) This method of payment will reduce the risk associated with N.S.F. cheques.

G) it is recognized that additional costs will be incurred with this type of system:

- a monthly rental charge of hardware of $18.00 per month
- a service charge of approximately 2% per transaction
- additional time required by Treasury Branch staff of approximately 25 hours per month

It is approximated that direct costs, assuming a transaction volume of $500,000.00 and 20 machines in operation, would be $14,000.00. These costs will be absorbed within the budgets of the appropriate Departments and existing staff. This process is currently successfully employed in the golf course operations.
The Department is of the opinion that these costs are justified in that:

A) the Department will be able to respond to the demands of the public who are requesting the service.

B) the administrative charge of 2% will be partially off-set by reducing the risk associated with N.S.F. cheques and an increase in interest revenue by the City having quicker access to funds via direct deposit of its funds, and,

C) additional overall revenues as a result of this method of payment allowing the Department to be more competitive.

Report of the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture, dated July 13th, 1992.

Your Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture recommends:

1. That the Parks and Recreation Department in conjunction with the Finance Department be authorized to implement a credit card system in the Parks and Recreation Department.

2. That the City of Winnipeg enter into an arrangement with the City's banker, the Royal Bank of Canada, for the implementation and operation of a credit card system in the Parks and Recreation Department.

3. That the Proper Officers of the City do all things necessary to implement a credit card system in the Parks and Recreation Department.

Moved by Councillor Gilroy,
Adoption of the clause.

Carried.

Services of a Golf Professional for the Management of Golf Operations at the John Blumberg Golf Course and for the Management of Cross-Country Ski Operations at the Windsor Park and John Blumberg Golf Courses
Files PR-6.2 and PR-6.4

1312 - 3. The services of a Golf Professional for the management of golf operations at the John Blumberg Golf Course has been in effect since the inception of the golf course on June 1st, 1969. The management of cross-country ski operations at the Windsor Park and the golf and ski operations at John Blumberg Golf Course were combined into one contract package in 1980.

Mr. Smirnov has been the Contractor providing such services to the City since December 1st, 1983. Mr. Smirnov's contract has been successfully renewed on three separate occasions: 1985 for a three year period; 1988 for a one year period; and in 1989 when the Parks and Recreation placed an ad in the newspaper advertising a "Proposal Call" for a qualified golf professional for a three year period commencing December 1st, 1989 to November 30th, 1992.

The Parks and Recreation Department is mandated to provide efficient, effective and fiscally responsible golf and ski services to the public. This type of service has been professionally provided for golf operations at the John Blumberg Golf Course since 1969. To date, patrons at these facilities have been provided with a high degree of customer service and will expect to continue to receive:

1. Reception of courteous and friendly staff;
2. Professional advise and information regarding golf and ski activities (knowledge of available product lines and merchandise; assistance with tournament preparation and administration; advice on technique);
3. The availability of professional instruction;
4. A high calibre of merchandise for sale in Pro Shops and knowledgable assistance in the selection of merchandise;
5. The availability of professional repairs to golf and ski equipment;
6. The presence of highly visible golf professionals who enhance the image of the municipal golf courses.

For the past 9 years Mr. Smirnov and his staff have provided all service requirements to the mutual satisfaction of the golfing and skiing public and the City. Preliminary meetings have taken place with Mr. Smirnov who has agreed to accept a renewal of this contract with no provision for an increase to the existing retainer fees of $13,000.00 per year. A complete list of services required to be provided by the contractor are outlined in Clause 2 of Appendix I.

Attendance at the Municipal Golf Courses has been on the decline for the past several years, largely due to: increased fees; a slow economy; and increased competition from other more recently developed courses. In spite of Mr. Smirnov's efforts to increase attendance through advertisements, increases to the number allowed to participate in golf tournaments, and increases in promotional golfing events, patronage at the John Blumberg Golf Course has continued to mirror the decline in attendance experienced at each public golf course. (E.g. 1991 - 254,859 total rounds played; 1990 - 276,810; 1989 - 285,307).

Report of the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture, dated July 13th, 1992.

The Department is currently undertaking a review of Municipal Golf Course Operations and this review could influence the over-all management approach the Department uses in the future whether on a contractual basis or using city staff. However, the recommendations contained in this review should not prevent the renewal of Mr. Smirnov's contract on a one year only basis.

Your Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture, recommends that the City of Winnipeg enter into a one year contract with Mr. Ben Smirnov, 124 Rodney Street, Headingley, Manitoba, for services of a Golf Professional for the management of golf operations at John Blumberg Golf Course and for management of cross-country ski operations at Windsor Park and John Blumberg Golf Courses, under the following conditions:

1. That the contract be of a one year duration commencing December 1st, 1992 to November 30th, 1993.

2. That the contract include all terms and conditions as specified in existing contract and as outlined in Appendix I.

3. That at the sole discretion of the City this contract may be renewed under the same terms and conditions for two additional one (1) year options.

4. That the basic retainer fee of $13,000.00 be paid to Mr. Smirnov, in equal instalments at the beginning of each month.

5. That the Proper Officers of the City do all things necessary to implement the foregoing, including preparation and execution of the contract documents.

(Note: Appendix I is on file in the Office of the City Clerk.)

Moved by Councillor Gilroy,
Adoption of the clause.

Moved by Councillor Kaufmann,
That the clause be referred back.

Lost.

The motion for the adoption of the clause was put.

The Speaker called for the yeas and nays, which were as follows:-

Yea: Councillors Boychuk, Brown, Clement, Demare, Douglas, Fleisher, Fraser, Gilroy, Lorenc, Mitchelson, Prystanski, Young, Mayor Norrie and Councillor Eadie. 14

Nay: Councillors Golden, Hyman, Kaufmann, Lazarenko, Murray, Reese, Selinger, Thomas and Timmers. 9

and the motion for the adoption of the clause was declared carried.

Australian Promotion at the Assiniboine Park Zoo in 1993 - File PR-7.1.1

1313. 4.Council on July 8th, 1992, referred back the attached Clause 17 of the Report of your Committee dated June 22nd, 1992, (Exhibit "A") which recommends as follows:

" I. That the proposal of the Zoological Society of Manitoba, attached as Appendix "A", to sponsor the display of Australian animals and associated cultural artifacts at the Assiniboine Park Zoo during the summer of 1993, be approved including the provision of necessary funding in the amount of $350,000.00 subject to the Zoological Society submitting an acceptable developed marketing plan and a detailed budget breakdown.

Report of the Committee on Protection, Parks and Culture, dated July 13th, 1992.

II. That the Proper Officer of the City do all things necessary to implement the foregoing."

On July 13th, 1992, your Committee considered the attached preliminary marketing plan (Exhibit "B") and heard representation from the Zoological Society of Manitoba which advised that an application has been submitted to the Provincial Government for funding assistance and also an application has been made to the Western Diversification Fund of the Federal Government for an agreement to fund 25% of the building expenses and an annual marketing allowance.

Your Committee has reconsidered this matter and is of the view that the proposal should be approved, however that the funding commitments from the Federal and Provincial Governments be confirmed. Your Committee therefore recommends:

1. That the proposal of the Zoological Society of Manitoba, attached as Appendix "A", to sponsor the display of Australian animals and associated cultural artifacts at the Assiniboine Park Zoo during the summer of 1993, be approved including the provision of necessary funding in the amount of $350,000.00 subject to the Zoological Society submitting the following:-

(i) an acceptable developed marketing plan and a detailed budget breakdown, and
(ii) confirmation from the Federal and Provincial Governments on funding commitments.

2. That the Proper Officers of the City do all things necessary to implement the foregoing.

(Note: Appendix "A" and Exhibit "B" are on file in the Office of the City Clerk.)

Moved by Councillor Gilroy
Adoption of the clause.

Moved by Councillor Lorenc,

That the question be now put.

Carried.

The motion for the adoption of the clause was put and declared carried.

Councillors Golden, Mitchelson and Timmers asked to be recorded as having voted against the clause in accordance with Section 50.7 of the Procedure By-law.