Minute No. 331
Report – Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks – March 10, 2021

Item No. 2 Development of an Economic Recovery Plan for Community Centers

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee and adopted the following:

1. That the Public Service be directed to work with the General Council of Winnipeg Community Centres (GCWCC) to develop an economic recovery plan for the City's community centers.

2. That the Public Service be directed to report back to the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks in 90 days identifying Community Centres which fall under the purview of the General Council of Winnipeg Community Centres and are experiencing financial difficulties as a result of COVID-19.

3. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Rollins,

That the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee, be adopted.

His Worship Mayor Bowman called for the yeas and nays, which were as follows:

Yea: His Worship Mayor Bowman, Councillors Allard, Browaty, Chambers, Eadie, Gillingham, Gilroy, Klein, Lukes, Mayes, Nason, Orlikow, Rollins Santos, Schreyer and Sharma 16

Nay: 0

and the motion was declared carried.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 17, 2021, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks, with the following amendment and forwarded to Council:

- Delete recommendation 2 and replace it with the following:

  "2. That the Public Service be directed to report back to the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks in 90 days identifying Community Centres which fall under the purview of the General Council of Winnipeg Community Centres and are experiencing financial difficulties as a result of COVID-19."

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 10, 2021, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks recommended to the Executive Policy Committee and Council:

1. That the Public Service be directed to work with the General Council of Winnipeg Community Centres (GCWCC) to develop an economic recovery plan for the City's community centers.

2. That the economic recovery plan for community centres, as developed in Recommendation 1, utilize a portion of the $2.5 million tax surplus to fund the plan.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

3. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

Julie Fisher submitted a communication dated March 9, 2021, with respect to the matter.

Margie Reis, Garden City Community Centre submitted a presentation titled Economic Recovery for Community Centres, with respect to the matter.

COUNCIL DECISION:

On February 25, 2021, Council ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks:

Moved by Councillor Chambers,
Seconded by Councillor Lukes,

WHEREAS Winnipeg's community centers are critical to the health and wellbeing of the residents of the City;

AND WHEREAS section 1-5 RECREATION of the OurWinnipeg Plan states that "The City of Winnipeg is a leader in delivering recreation services that build healthy communities."

AND WHEREAS section 07 PARKS, PLACES AND OPEN SPACES of the Complete Communities Direction Strategy states that "Winnipeg's Parks, Places and Open Spaces contribute to all its citizens' enjoyment and quality of life. These public spaces are valued as essential to the urban fabric, encouraging and promoting healthy lifestyles, cleaner environments, connectivity, recreation, community pride and urban beautification".

AND WHEREAS although most of Winnipeg's community centers are owned by the City they are run by volunteers and supported by General Council of Winnipeg Community Centres (GCWCC);

AND WHEREAS with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, time is of the essence and there is a need to develop an economic recovery plan of for Winnipeg's community centers to be able to provide health and well being services for the residents of Winnipeg;

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL DECISION (continued):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Public Service be directed to work with the General Council of Winnipeg Community Centres (GCWCC) to develop an economic recovery plan for the City's community centers.