

NOTES
ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS COMMITTEE MEETING RE JOINT OPERATING
AGREEMENT
DECEMBER 4, 2003
HELD AT KILLARNEY COMMUNITY CENTRE

Note: The Association Presidents Committee requested a meeting to be held, in the absence of any Park Board staff, to discuss the Joint Operating Agreement. Two members of the Association Presidents Committee who are also members of the Joint Operating Agreement Task Force (Gordon Plottel and Himmat Gill) attended the meeting. At the request of the group, no formal minutes were kept. However, with the consent of the attendees, Gordon Plottel kept general notes of the comments and reviewed those notes with the participants at the conclusion of the meeting. Gordon Plottel prepared these notes. No list of attendees was kept, nor do these notes make any attribution of comments. However, approximately 15-18 people attended the meeting, representing approximately 10-12 different Associations whose Agreements are at issue.

1. Staffing

Concern was expressed of the influence held by Park Board staff, particularly the CRC's, over association matters. A process for reviewing the performance of CRC's is sought, and the ability to manage Park Board employee's performance generally is desirable. The Associations wish to have more influence with respect to the CRC's but need less influence over lower level employees. The CRC's are, in effect, the CEO's of the Association. The unions should not represent the CRC's. The CRC's should be management.

2. Distinctions between Community Associations

Different Associations have different requirements and objectives. The JOA should recognize the variety of the Associations, and allow for the needs and objectives of a wide variety of Associations to be met.

3. Scope of Agreement

Is the Agreement to deal with issues concerning a community centre alone, or will it also include neighboring facilities and parks? Some Associations are more concerned about this issue than others.

4. Clarity

The concern was raised that the terms of the Agreement should be clear and easily understandable.

5. Disparity of Facilities

The variety and inequality of facilities from centre to centre should be recognized.

6. Equity of Funding

There is considerable inequity of Park Board funding with respect to staff and resources from centre to centre. The question of revenue sharing amongst Associations was discussed. It was noted that it could be difficult to measure the differences in the resources and funding that exist between centres, and this may be problematic if such measurements are used to effect redistribution. For example, consistent measurements with respect to programs, population, and users would need to be addressed.

7. Trust

Concerns were raised with respect to current and past breaches of the Agreement by Park Board. There is a concern that breaches of the Agreement may continue to exist, regardless of the form the Agreement may take. There was a discussion concerning the possibility of inserting a provision in the Agreement to require the parties to act in good faith in their respective performance of their obligations under the Agreement.