



FAMILY COURT COMMITTEE  
MINUTES

JULY - 16th. 1981.

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A meeting of "School District No. 43 Joint Family Court Committee" was held in the Council Chambers of the City of Port Coquitlam, 2272 McAllister Avenue, Port Coquitlam, B.C., on Thursday, July 16th, 1981.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Port Moody:	S. Francis (Chairman) J. Taylor
Port Coquitlam	J. Cathie Alderman A.K. Muldoon
Also Present:	B. Roest, Probation Services Joy-Ann Lee, Court Services Margaret Whitelegg, Court Services A. Leonard, Secretary

Sheila Francis, Chairperson, informed the Committee that tonight we have one issue before us. Normally as a Committee we would meet approximately eight times a year but due to the strike we have not had a meeting.

Moving of Court Services to New Westminster

The issue before us tonight is the moving of our court services to New Westminster for approximately a two year period. Sheila Francis turned the remainder of the meeting over to Jonathon Taylor, Vice Chairman who gave a background in terms of the Court House. It is considered the Court to be a Unified Family Court.

An announcement had been made that the Court House would be located in the Coquitlam Town Centre and then later it was announced that the Court House would be located in Port Coquitlam. The feeling of Mr. Taylor with regards to the moving of court facilities to New Westminster is that since Coquitlam was refused the Court House they were not very concerned about trailers being installed on Christmas Way to help the Juvenile Court and Family Court. After the announcement Mayor Tonn turned down the request to the trailers being located on the present site. Mr. Taylor had a conversation with Mr. Pettit and he informed him that the Committee felt we have some input into what type of facility there would be. Mr. Pettit assured the Committee they would be involved.

Mr. Taylor explained some of the Court legalities and one thing was stated that the Court and the Municipalities both have an important responsibility in how things involving children are carried out.

Mr. Baker of Court Services informed his staff they would be moving in September. The staff appear to be very upset and they feel the people of District #43 will not be getting the services they deserve. One thing was mentioned is that why should people have to go to New Westminster for services when we are paying for services here. It was the concern of the court staff as to how Family Court would be accepted in New Westminster.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the transfer of Court Services to New Westminster.

Moved by Judith Cathie:

Seconded by A.K. Muldoon:

That the Family Court Chairman and Vice Chairman contact The Attorney General, Mr. Pettit, and Judge Shaw with regards to temporary facilities, and about the final make up of Court Facilities and that the Committee be included in this; and

That a letter be sent to each Municipal Clerk requesting permission to appear at the next Council meeting.

Carried.

In the letter to Mr. Pettit we are to inform him of our concern regarding the fact that this Committee was not involved in the process that led to the removal of the Coquitlam Family Court on a temporary basis and to further deliberations with respect to the Family Court Facility. Also to invite him to attend our meeting of August 11th. And that we have some contact before August 7th.

In the letter to Chief Judge Goulet we enclose a copy of letter sent to Judge Shaw.

In the letter to Judge Shaw we are to indicate why we feel the Court Facilities should be in Coquitlam, and that we arrange to meet no later than the 7th day of August.

In the letter to the Municipal Clerk's of each Municipality we are to inform them that the obvious prejudice that such a transfer raises for the citizens of District #43 and to ask that a delegation attend their next Council meeting.

In the letter to the Honourable Alan Williams we refer to Section § (4) (c) of the Provincial Court Act, and about the announcement of the moving of Court Facilities to New Westminster. The Family Court was given no prior notice of this move, not even out of courtesy. Specifically, we are interested in examining the merits of a unified family court facility and trust you ensure that Mr. Pettit will involve us consistently in that process.

Moved by A.K. Muldoon:

Seconded by Judith Cathie:

That the meeting of "School District #43 Joint Family Court Committee do now adjourn.

At 10:30 the meeting adjourned.

FAMILY COURT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 29th, 1981

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A meeting of "School District No. 43 Joint Family Court Committee" was held in the Council Chambers of the City of Port Coquitlam, 2272 McAllister Avenue, Port Coquitlam, B.C., on Tuesday, September 29th, 1981.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Port Moody:	S. Francis (Chairman) J. Taylor (Vice Chairman)
Port Coquitlam:	J. Cathie Alderman A.K. Muldoon
Electorial Area B:	Linda Weinberg
Also Present:	John Maddalozzo, Kincaid Treatment

Moved by Judith Cathie:

Seconded by Linda Weinberg:

That the minutes of all meetings to date be taken as circulated and adopted with the amendment on Page 7 of September 3rd meeting Mr. Farrell Hannah, Psychologist.

Carried.

Mrs. Sheila Francis Chairman asked if everyone is in favour could we leave the Committee the same until the end of 1981.

Moved by Alderman A.K. Muldoon:

Seconded by Linda Weinberg:

That the Committee remain the same for the balance of 1981.

Carried.

COMMITTEE BUDGET FOR 1981:

Moved by Judith Cathie:

Seconded by Linda Weinberg:

That the Joint Family Court Committee request consideration by each member Municipal Council of a total budget of \$1,300 for 1981 based on the Simon Fraser Health Unit cost sharing formula, bearing in mind that this Committee has already expended some of this money mainly for advertising purposes relating to the moving of Court Facilities out of District #43.

Carried.

When writing to each member Municipality we should apologize that due to the strike we were unable to deal with our budget until now.

There is a considerable amount of correspondence that has been dealt with at previous meetings.

Moved by Jonathon Taylor:

Seconded by Judith Cathie:

That all correspondence be taken as circulated, with the exception of all correspondence relating to Psychiatric Treatment Facilities be tabled, until November meeting.

Carried.

A letter was received from Mr. Ted Klassen, Municipal Clerk in Coquitlam.

Moved by Jonathon Taylor:

Seconded by Linda Weinberg:

That the letter received from the Municipal Clerk in Coquitlam be referred to Judith Cathie for review and bring it back next meeting, and advise us what they say.

Carried.

Date of Meetings for remainder of 1981:

The following are dates for our meetings for the remainder of 1981. October 13th, November 10th, November 20th, December 8th, on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. Our November 20th, meeting will be in the form of an informal supper at Sheila Francis' home. Everyone is welcome to attend with their spouses.

Moved by Jonathon Taylor:

That the correspondence from the Attorney General and our reply be tabled until the next meeting, as we have not had a reply.

Carried.

Sheila Francis stated that in regards to the letters received for psychiatric treatment she had spoken to Dianne Atkinson in North Vancouver and she feels very gratified that there is under construction a 26 bed facility at the Maples, and it is specifically designed to deal with such juveniles. Dianne indicated this would be off the ground by October and we should contact somebody at that time to come to our meeting and inform us as to what the construction involves.

Sheila Francis informed the Committee that she had written the letter to the Minister of Human Resources regarding the closure of the Surrey Services Network Society. Jonathon Taylor suggested we send a copy of this letter to the Surrey Messenger and to Dr. Gossage.

Jonathon Taylor informed the Committee that he received a letter today from Stuart Leggatt and a copy of a letter that he had written to Mr. Warren asking that consideration be given to the Family Court Committee.

Sheila Francis reported on her activities since our last meeting. She was to contact the Attorney General as to what is happening and stated that Alderman Mitchuk and Mayor Tonn had received a commitment. And that we would like some input. On September 16th, she phoned the Attorney General's Department and he was on Cabinet Tour - on September 17th and 18th she contacted Mr. Warren's office and was advised that he would call her back but to date he has not. On September 21st she contacted Mr. Stewart's office and was advised that he was on vacation. On September 22nd she called Mr. Pettit's office and she did not feel that he was very cordial or pleasant and she stated they Family Court has had no response and he stated he follows directions. He follows directions from the Attorney General and he stated his directions were to look at alternate areas in the community. Sheila asked him who he would be meeting with and Mr. Pettit stated Alderman Mitchuk and Mayor Laking, Sheila also asked what locations they were looking at and he replied Westwood and Loughheed Lincoln Centre, Shaughnessy Street in Port Coquitlam. Sheila asked if this proposal included just relocating Family and Juvenile facilities and he stated he couldn't tell me that. If this proposal is acceptable what kind of time frame are we looking at. He had no idea there would have to be cost analysis, negotiations would have to begin. I informed him that we were extremely concerned as we have not been involved and we wanted to know why we were not involved and he stated I follow directions. He stated they have made no commitment they are only looking at sites. He stated he would have an announcement by Friday and we would be the first to know. I want you to be assured that you are involved and you will be the first to know. But we have not heard anything to date. The Ministry stated they only voted to place modular units and that the Judiciary makes the final decision. Sheila stated perhaps we should be speaking by press releases. People are not showing up now for Court cases. Sheila stated her biggest problem is that in that this has got political she wondered how we as a Committee are to fit into this political situation. Jonathon Taylor stated that this is a really important point and we are right about it and have been fair and patient. The Act states we are a Committee and are to do something and when we try we are hindered.

There was some discussion with regards to the agendas for the coming meetings. It was suggested that possibly for the 13th of October we could ask Ian Karpoff to come and talk to the Committee, also have some resource people come with regards to Psychiatric Treatment Facilities. We should look at the range of services that are offered and which services need more funding and which should be cut. Jonathon Taylor stated that there isn't much in the way of services for married couples such as counselling. Judy stated we should also have someone from the Mental Health Society.

There was some discussion on a Unified Court and the Committee thought it might be nice to try and get to see this in Richmond or Surrey.

Judy stated she had a concern with regards to abuse such as sexual, emotional and would like some resource person to speak on this sometime. Jonathon Taylor stated social workers are not trained to deal with sexual abuse. Jonathon Taylor also said that there is a hospital in Vancouver that deals with sexual abuse and the waiting list is a year.

Moved by Jonathon Taylor:

Seconded by Linda Weinberg:

That the meeting of School District #43 Family Court Committee do now adjourn.

At 10:00 the meeting adjourned.

Carried.

FAMILY COURT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

OCTOBER 13TH. 1981

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A meeting of "School District No. 43 Joint Family Court Committee" was held in the Council Chambers of the City of Port Coquitlam, 2272 McAllister Avenue, Port Coquitlam, B.C., on Tuesday, October 13th, 1981.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Port Moody:

S. Francis (Chairwoman)  
J. Taylor (Vice Chairman)

Port Coquitlam:

J. Cathie  
Alderman A.K. Muldoon

Electorial Area B:

Linda Weinberg

Also Present:

Eleanor Ward  
Andrew Emerson  
Bev Roest  
John Madalozzo  
Audrey Leonard (Secretary)

Moved by Jonathon Taylor

Seconded by Judith Cathie:

That the minutes of the meeting of September 29th, 1981 be adopted with the amendment on page 3 Ian Karpoff should read Jim Karpoff.

Carried.

Moved by Alderman A.K. Muldoon

Seconded by Judith Cathie:

That the letter from the District of Coquitlam be received for information only.

Carried.

Secure Psychiatric Treatment Facilities:

Some discussion ensued regarding Secure Psychiatric Treatment Facilities and Bev Roest stated that her understanding is that the facility is ready to go but has not heard what the beds are being used for nor the medical team also she has had no information as to who the Director is nor the policy.

Bev is to get in touch with Barbara Katz-Elam to see if she can attend the Family Court Committee meeting of November 10th, 1981.

Jon Taylor is to get in touch with Dr. Gossage to see if he can attend the November meeting of Family Court.

Some discussion ensued in regards to Court Facilities. Jonathon Taylor sent some material to Raef Maer but has had no response. The Committee has had no response from the news media. Linda Weinberg suggested we attend an all candidates meeting and ask questions as to Family Court in District #43. Andrew Emerson stated we should continue to go after Council.

Moved by Jonathon Taylor:

Seconded by Andrew Emerson:

That we write to Coquitlam Council and ask to be in the agenda for October 26th, 1981 meeting and that Andrew Emerson represent the Committee at that meeting.

Carried.

Copies of the letter to go to Port Coquitlam, Port Moody and Electoral Area B.

Moved by Jonathon Taylor:

Seconded by Judith Cathie:

That a letter be sent to Mr. Pettit with a copy to the Attorney General's Department to advise the Committee as soon as possible regarding a decision on Court Facilities.

Carried.

Moved by Jonathon Taylor:

Seconded by Linda Weinberg:

That we send a letter to the District of Coquitlam requesting that a representative from the Committee attend the meeting with the Cabinet.

Carried.

Copies of the above letter to go to Port Coquitlam, Port Moody, Electoral Area B and the Village of Belcarra.

Moved by Jonathon Taylor:

Seconded by Andrew Emerson:

That if we do not get a meeting with the Cabinet we approach them publicly.

Carried.



Alderman A.K. Muldoon suggested we meet with Inspector Naaykens. Chairperson Sheila Francis suggested we as a Committee would like her to speak to him and report back to us. Alderman Muldoon is to set up a time and place of a meeting and see if anyone else would be available to join her in that meeting.

Moved by Jonathon Taylor:

Seconded by Linda Weinberg:

That we be members of S.H.A.R.E.

Carried.

Alderman A.K. Muldoon abstained from voting.

Eleanor Ward was present and informed the Committee that she is ~~now~~ in Maple Ridge, and that there is a Public meeting on October 28th at Hammond Hall and Laity on New Driving Regulations and Enforcement of same.

John Madalozzo is to invite S.H.A.R.E. to come to the next meeting, so they can inform us at to what they are anticipating for the next year.

Judith Cathie to check on a member from Mental Health to attend the meeting.

Audrey to get total figure of the expenses incurred by Family Court to date.

Moved by Andrew Emerson:

Seconded by Judith Cathie:

That the meeting of District #43 Joint Family Court Committee do now adjourn.

Carried.

At 10:30 the meeting adjourned.

FAMILY COURT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

NOVEMBER 10TH. 1981

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A meeting of "School District No. 43 Joint Family Court Committee" was held in the Council Chambers of the City of Port Coquitlam, 2272 McAllister Avenue, Port Coquitlam, B.C., on Tuesday, November 10th, 1981.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Electorial Area B: Linda Weinberg (Acting Chairman)  
Port Coquitlam: Alderman A.K. Muldoon  
Also Present: Barbara Katz-Elam, Human Resources  
Bev Roest-Probations  
Yvonne Kerr-S.H.A.R.E.  
Gail Weisbeck-Horizons  
John Madalozza-Kincaid  
Patience McArthur-Mental Health  
Betty Simpson-Alternate Electorial Area B  
Wynne Mudge- S.H.A.R.E.  
Audrey Leonard-Secretary

Moved by Alderman A.K. Muldoon:

Seconded by Linda Weinberg:

That the minutes of the meeting of October 13th, 1981 be adopted with the amendment on page 3 in the resolution "That we not be members of S.H.A.R.E.

Carried.

Bev Roest stated that she thought at our last meeting Jon Taylor was to get in touch with Dr. Duffy from the Maples to speak at the meeting to-night.

Alderman A.K. Muldoon is to speak to Inspector Naaykens and report back to the Committee.

Moved by Linda Weinberg:

Seconded by Alderman A.K. Muldoon:

Alderman Muldoon is to contact Darlene Cross and get her to send a report from the Justice Council to our meeting of December 8th, 1981 and if we as a Committee can do anything for the Council.

Carried.

Moved by Linda Weinberg:

Seconded by Alderman A.K. Muldoon:

That the correspondence be accepted as circulated.

Carried.

Ministry of Human Resources:

Barbara Katz-Elam stated the only one that can inform us as to the operation of the Maples is Dr. Duffy; as he took over in August, 1981. Wynne Mudge stated she heard that some of the Doctor's are no longer practicing at the Maples. Bev stated that we write to Dr. Duffy to give us some information with regards to the Secure Psychiatric Treatment in our area. His address is 805 West Broadway, Vancouver, B.C., and have this for our January meeting, or perhaps have him attend.

Barbara stated that the Intensive Child Care Resources is the first for the Province. It is an Inter Ministerial Project and jointly funded between the Ministry of Human Resources, Mental Health and Human Resources. There are five National Regions and our local region 19 are developing Intensive Child Care Resources for the Lower Fraser Valley and Lower Mainland. Barbara Katz-Elam could not say too much about the project as it is just in the planning stages. A lot of work is being done in the planning, looking at programming, best location, structure, the kinds of children it is going to be serving, and operations. We feel it would be dealing with the most difficult children, ones who have been through other Resources. Our intention is to be of help and make the program very meaningful, this is why we are putting so much time into Planning. Basically an institutional setting would be best for these children and are looking at various institutional settings and trying to locate a suitable one in the lower mainland. We looked at Riverview, Woodlands and various institutions, when we find a suitable one we will try and negotiate. Linda asked how much money has been allocated for the program. Barbara stated that it was a fair bit of money and had no figures with her, but it shows a real commitment on the part of the Government. Linda questioned as to the statement made of the children being difficult. The program is to deal with major disorder adolescent's but will not eliminate emotionally disturbed. There will be six beds for the area. John asked if it would be a secure facility, Barbara stated it would be heavily staffed, intensive child care, not secure facilities. The Facility will try to be kept Community oriented.

John stated one important thing is the network concept.

Linda asked if there was anything we could do as a Family Court Committee and was informed that we could write letters to see how these two will work together.

Moved by Alderman A.K. Muldoon:

Seconded by Linda Weinberg:

That we write to the Minister of Health and see if they could have someone come and speak to the Committee and after hearing from the Minister of Health we write to the Department of Human Resources, and that we leave the correspondence up to Sheila Francis and Jonathon Taylor.

Carried.

Mental Health:

Patience McArthur was present and gave an overview of the Mental Health which is PoCo Mental Health Services District #43 except for Maillardville. She stated they were part of the Ministry of Health. The staff consists of one full time psychiatrist, one part time psychologist, three nurses, five social workers. One Social Worker is for long term care and one if for medical. One for group family, one for single family. Dr. Little works primarily with family and children.

There are about four hundred people in our program, 70% are people who need support. We work quite closely with Riverview, but since Royal Columbian is opened we work with them more. There are eight in short stay in the Royal Columbian, sixty people are in boarding homes and most of them are under the age of 65.

Linda stated that the Family Court Committee are interested in the area where there are needs. They will sit down with their resources and find out where they can expend their time.

Horizons:

Gail Weisbeck was present and stated Horizons has two long term residential treatment facilities for teenagers; eight teens are in one residence and five teens in the other residence, and are there for approximately 12-18 months.

Horizon 1 has rotating shift of Councillors, 12 permanent staff members. Six are front line workers and the rest are support staff with 24 hour a day supervisors and is never locked. All teens are referred to the Ministry of Human Resources.

Horizon 2 has four permanent staff; is a After Care group home for Horizon 1 graduates. Horizon 2 are for the more mature teenager. These teens are trained for independence and are usually referred to foster homes.

Academic assessments are done through Horizons and Tutors are available.

Schools are very supportive such as Banting and Como Lake.

Linda asked Gail what change she would like to see in Horizons. Gail stated there is a real need for qualified family workers, i.e. people with degrees.

Gail stated that Family Court can continue to keep Horizons aware.

Linda stated that Family Court are very supportive of advertising in keeping people aware of services available.

S.H.A.R.E.

Yvonne Kerr was present and stated that Share has two programs, one being Special Services for children. Ministry of Human Resources set the guidelines for the program. This program takes referrals and is totally funded by Human Resources, a referral could be any type of problem involving children. This program is basically short term, and could be like a big brother type of role with a

handicapped child such as a child who needs special exercises and these people would go to the families home.

We have from 16-30 children, and workers are part time students. Each worker is hired for specific jobs, short term is approximately 4-5 months.

We have a program that is fairly new approximately one year and is geared for youth and we call it Special Alternatives for Youth. This is divided into two parts;

- 1 - Is an out of school program and is called Coquitlam Alternatives 2 and are for 13-17 and out of school, and not working. This program provides counselling to help a child return to school or into the work force.
- 2 - This is an in school program. There are three youth workers, one at Banting Junior Secondary, one at Hastings Junior Secondary and one at Moody Junior Secondary; and these work with Special Academic staff and the School Board. The youth workers work with a group of 6-8 and are based in the school and work with a Rehabilitation Teacher or Special Academic program. In Banting they are integrated into the classroom.

The funding for this is from Human Resources.

Linda asked if there was anything Family Court can do. Yvonne stated that there is nothing right now that Family Court can do for S.H.A.R.E.

Moving of Court Facilities:

Linda informed the Committee of the following:

Coquitlam Mayor Tonn stated this is not a high priority, and he is not concerned.

Mayor Ian Young, Port Moody stated there is no room in Port Moody.

Wynne Mudge stated she heard that the people who supported the move are now concerned about increased cost and also people not showing up for court cases.

Kathleen Muldoon stated that Jonathon Taylor would like anyone who can to attend the All Candidates meeting on the 19th.

Moved by Alderman A.K. Muldoon:

Seconded by Linda Weinberg:

That the meeting of District #43 Joint Family Court Committee do now adjourn.

Carried.

At 10:10 the meeting adjourned.

FAMILY COURT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

DECEMBER 8TH. 1981

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A meeting of "School District No. 43 Joint Family Court Committee" was held in the Council Chambers of the City of Port Coquitlam, 2272 McAllister Avenue, Port Coquitlam, B.C., on Tuesday December 8th, 1981.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Port Moody:	Sheila Francis, Chairperson
Port Coquitlam:	Alderman D.J. Vater
Electorial Area B:	C. Weinberg
Also Present:	John Maddalozza, Kincaid Alderman A.K. Muldoon Audrey Leonard, Secretary

John Maddalozza felt there should be some changes in the minutes: on page two under Ministry of Human Resources second paragraph should read Geographic Regions rather than National Regions; and the fourth paragraph where it was stated these two will work together should read the relationship as to what Maples will have with clients entering Intensive Child Care Resources or visa versa. Under the heading Horizons where Gail stated a need for qualified workers this should include through available funding. As there are a number of people in Horizons who have degrees.

Moved by Alderman D.J. Vater:

Seconded by Carl Weinberg:

That the minutes of the meeting of November 10th, 1981 be adopted with the changes and that we state in paragraph form what each Committee does and keep this to go along with our Annual Report.

Carried.

A letter was received from Mr. Pettit in response to several letters and calls from Sheila Francis. Mrs. Francis informed the new members present as to what has been going on as to Court Facilities. Sheila feels that the new Coquitlam Council should be contacted. Mr. Weinberg felt we should also contact Port Moody to see if we can place modular units there. John Maddalozza informed him that if they had to move any further than approximately one mile they may as well go to New Westminster. Alderman A.K. Muldoon stated that she talked with Superintendent Naaykens and he stated it was taking more time for his staff to go to New Westminster. Sheila stated that the Old Committee has put a lot of work into this and it should be pursued by the New Committee to keep this active.

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Moved by Alderman D.J. Vater:

Seconded by Carl Weinberg:

That next year's Committee again approach Coquitlam Council to either supplying modular units and that the Attorney General live up to his prior commitment.

Carried.

Alderman A.K. Muldoon felt it should be stated that Mayor Tonn did give a lot of his time to Sheila Francis and Jonathon Taylor with regards to Court Facilities.

Sheila informed the Committee that she had a lengthy talk with Mr. Pettit and he stated that he is looking at three alternatives and are doing cost analysis on them.

With regards to the letter received from the District of Coquitlam stating the name of Chairman of Family Court is on the list of suggested invitees and that next year's Committee keep this in mind.

Moved by Carl Weinberg:

Seconded by Alderman D.J. Vater:

That the correspondence be accepted as circulated.

Carried.

Moved by Carl Weinberg:

Seconded by Alderman D.J. Vater:

That Council request that U.B.C.M. consider establishing a mechanism for the co-ordination of Family Court.

Carried.

Mr. Weinberg will initiate this request and that letters be sent to each Municipality.

Alderman D.J. Vater wondered as to what else Family Court is dealing with besides Court House Facilities. At this time Sheila asked the Committee if anyone has anything else for the new year. Sheila was concerned in regards to Coquitlam cutting their members from four to two, this cuts out the number of voting members and we are really lacking in representation. Sheila would like to approach Mayor Tonn in this regard. Mr. Weinberg stated that if there is supposed to be four members that is what we should have and that Sheila should talk to Mayor Tonn. Doug stated maybe John Maddalozza could approach Mayor Tonn also in this regard. John stated he would serve on the Committee as a voting member. Sheila will be going to see Mayor Tonn on the above.

Sheila also expressed concern that no one from the School Board is represented on the Committee.

Sheila stated she would be willing to serve as an alternate on the Family Court Committee.

Moved by Carl Weinberg:

Seconded by Alderman D.J. Vater:

That the Committee review the structure of Family Court with a view to identifying Corporate Structure for the purpose of sending this to Council for ratification.

Carried.

Mr. Weinberg asked if Family Court had a budget and Sheila informed him that each Municipality contributes by the Simon Fraser Cost Sharing Formula and that our budget for this year is \$1,300.00 and there was no increase over 1980.

Mr. Weinberg feels we should take up one issue and get someone to research it and then write a brief. Sheila stated that she would like to see the Committee send someone to Conferences and have more input from outside.

Next year the Committee has to take a hard look at the Province and Family and Juvenile Court seeing we are to have someone on the Users Committee. There is not much use of having someone on the Committee if we do not send them to look at Court Facilities so we know what we would want, if we are not vocal on the Committee we may as well not be on it.

Chairmans recommendation that with regard to Mr. Weinbergs statement a Committee like this could be very useful in taking up one issue, i.e. looking at Court Facilities.

John stated that anyone who would like to be resource people that we send letters in this regard, also that letters be sent to all the Committee resource members.

Alderman A.K. Muldoon asked if all members of Council could have copies of the Agenda mailed to them. Alderman D.J. Vater stated that the purpose of having a representative on the Committee was so that they could report back to their Council but if she would like to have a copy of the Agenda he would be more than happy to give her a copy of the one he receives.

The next meeting of the District 43 Joint Family Court Committee will be held

*	<u>Tuesday, January 8th, 1982</u>	*
*	<u>7:30 P.M. at</u>	*
*	<u>Port Moody Social Rec. Centre</u>	*
*	<u>300 Ioco Road, Port Moody, B.C.</u>	*
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It was suggested that everyone be notified of this meeting, and that we inform Councils' of this meeting.

Alderman A.K. Muldoon asked if the New Committee would proceed with touring of Court Facilities for the purpose of new members. She would be interested to be able to tour a Court Facility.



Sheila thanked Audrey for her work on the Committee this year. Alderman A.K. Muldoon gave a vote of thanks to Sheila and Jonathon for all their work and time that was expended on the Committee this year.

Moved by Carl Weinberg:

Seconded by Alderman D.J. Vater:

That the meeting of District #43 Joint Family Court Committee do now adjourn.

Carried.

At 9:10 the meeting adjourned.

FAMILY COURT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 15th, 1981.

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A meeting of "School District No. 43 Joint Family Court Committee" was held in the Council Chambers of the City of Port Coquitlam, 2272 McAllister Avenue, Port Coquitlam, B.C., on Tuesday, September 15th, 1981.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Port Moody: S. Francis (Chairman)  
J. Taylor

Port Coquitlam: J. Cathie  
Alderman A.K. Muldoon  
Alderman J.J. Keryluk

Also Present:  
Wynne Mudge, S.H.A.R.E.  
A. Leonard, Secretary

Mrs. Sheila Francis read letters that had been received one addressed to Port Moody, one from the Attorney General and one from Stuart Leggatt.

Moved by Jonathon Taylor:

That the letter addressed to Port Moody and the one received from Stuart Leggatt be filed, and the letter from the Attorney General be tabled.

Carried.

Jonathon Taylor gave a brief outline as to the meeting of Family Court with the District of Coquitlam. The general concensus of the District was that the R.C.M.P. needed the space. After Mr. Taylor spoke to Council the Mayor turned the meeting over for a brief from each of the Aldermen. Jonathon Taylor stated that he felt Alderman Buley supported the Court Facilities very strongly, Alderman Garrison did as well. The R.C.M.P. provided a report to the Council stating they need all the space, also the modular units and there if definately no space available. Alderman Robinson informed Jonathon Taylor that he wasn't going to support the Family Court and he believes we read him wrong, he eventually supported us. It seems to us that the Attorney General's Department is talking to everyone else but the Committee.

Moved by Jonathon Taylor:

That we get in touch with the Attorney General or his Assistant Mr. Warren and comment only on the letter indicating we appreciate his offer with the respect of the Users Committee but also asking that we meet with whoever has authority whether it be himself, Mr. Pettit, Mr. Stewart or whoever they want to give us a committment to discuss the various alternatives that have been discussed by other Municipal Officers so that we can understand and have some input into it and understand the time frame. The Family Court has a more fundamental interest than to be a Users Group, it has the interest in the philosophy that the building is provided or whether we have a Unified Body, we simply want some input.

September 15th, 1981.

○ And would like a meeting with someone by Thursday or Friday, and will be willing to meet wherever they find it appropriate.

Carried.

Mayor Tonn stated that he felt the Committee has done a good job in raising the issue.

Moved by Judith Cathie:

Seconded by Alderman A.K. Muldoon:

That we phone the Attorney General's Department and ask for a meeting by Thursday or Friday and follow this up with a letter.

Carried.

Alderman A.K. Muldoon suggested that this letter should go out as quickly as possible.

Judith Cathie stated she felt the phone call would be a very good idea, then follow this up by letter.

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FAMILY COURT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1981

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A public meeting of "School District No. 43 Joint Family Court Committee" was held at Centennial School Theatre on Thursday, September 3rd, 1981 at 7:30 p.m.

Chairperson Sheila Frances introduced the speakers for the evening as follows:-

Jonathan Taylor - Family Court Vice Chairman  
Steve Sharlow - Former Probation Officer - Coquitlam

Chairperson Sheila Francis stated the position of the School District # 43 Joint Family Court Committee and the reason for this meeting tonight, is the removal of our only Family and Juvenile Court Facility to New Westminster outside our own growing Community. The Committee feels they have done all that could be done at this level and felt it should be brought to the citizens of District No. 43. There has been an accumulation of problems for some years in our Court, largely due to inadequate facilities within a rapidly growing area. There is a back log of up to six months due to Juvenile Court being held two days a week, and we feel this can not go on. The move is to be temporary - for a period of up to two years - but we all know that this would probably be for a longer period of time. With the Family and Juvenile Services unable to expand to cope with the increasing load the Judiciary proposed a solution to Coquitlam Council earlier this year. The proposal approved by the Attorney General's Department is for modular units to be added to Christmas Way Complex which would in addition provide Family and Court matters to be heard on an extra day per week, thus working through some of the backlog. Following a meeting between the Administrative Judge and Mayor Tonn, Coquitlam Council refused permission to add the modular unit, at that time the Council was still negotiating for a site within Coquitlam for the new Court House. The Judiciary then announced to the Court Registry staff in July that as of September 15th, 1981 the Family and Juvenile Court matters would be moving and all these matters will be heard in New Westminster. At no time did the Attorney General's department or Coquitlam Council involve any of the local Councils or the Family Court Committee in discussion or decision making. The Family Court Committee met and decided unanimously that such a move was not in the best interest to the citizens in this area, they then proceeded to do there best by requesting the Attorney General's Department, the Judiciary and Coquitlam Council. We had delegations at Coquitlam, Port Moody and Port Coquitlam Council meetings and as a result of these meetings Port Coquitlam and Port Moody supported the fact in writing that these services remain in District #43 and Coquitlam Council dediced to re consider their decision on the modular unit, they sent this to the Planning Department and then after two weeks voted not to have the modular units. The reason for this is that the R.C.M.P. will need the space and they may also want modular units and space for parking. The feeling of the Family Court Committee that while they recognize the difficulties that Coquitlam Council have had to deal with in regards to the Attorney General's department in the decision with the Court House they felt sympathetic to this but they also felt sympathetic to the citizens of our Community who will have to spend a great deal of time and inconvenience by going to New Westminster, we feel there will be many problems come out of this and hope the next two speakers will explain it to you this evening. I feel I have explained how the decision came about and the very short time frame we have had to do anything about it.

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Mr. Steve Sharlow spoke of the way he feels this move will effect the citizens of District #43 from a Probation Officer's view working within the District. The Probation Office is in one District and the Court in another District.

Mr. Sharlow stated that he has not been a probation officer for three months but prior to that he has worked in this District for a period of four years, and he feels that because of this move he has some very strong feeling and felt the move is ridiculous. There are several points I would like to bring out after talking to some of the Probation Officers:-

1. Time spent travelling by both the Probation and Family Court staff. He feels that there is an awful lot of time wasted by travelling and thereby eliminates the service that can be provided.
2. Your Court Staff will be supplied in New Westminster by the Coquitlam. And the only time we can have time in the New Westminster Court is when we have Coquitlam staffing the Court House.
3. Less Court Time, When you have less court time you lose effectiveness of Court and I can tell you the first one they scratch if more court time is needed is the Juvenile and Family Court. When there is a delay you will find the Juvenile crime rose. When a delay occurs they ask the Probation Officer why something has not been done to rectify this and of course this is due to the heavy backlog. We as residents of District #43 if we lose the Family Court and Juvenile Court Facilities from here we will lose effectiveness and also a rise in the type of crimes.

Whoever is responsible for this move they should re think as to what they have put into motion if they have the courage of their convictions and the interests of the citizens of District #43.

Chairperson Sheila Francis at this time announced that the fourth chair was for someone from the Attorney General's Department but they choose not to respond to our numerous letters and phone calls and therefore I am afraid we can not have a perspective from the Attorney General's Department.

Mr. Jonathan Taylor stated that in addition to serving on the Family Court Committee he is also a Lawyer in Coquitlam and I have served many clients in the Courts on Christmas Way as well as other Courts in the Lower Mainland. I do a consider amount of family and juvenile work in these courts. He stated he knew of the difficulties that can arise with the problems of location and inconvenience to the citizens. I have also had some experience in dealing with Ministry of the Attorney General and the Ministry of Human Resources and I know some of the difficulties that can be involved for staff people in these two Ministries in serving a court that is some distance from their location. I know that the Police and the Sherrif's office will be some grave problems to these two parties with this move. Some of the pratical problems that will be caused by a move of this nature. Prior to this Jonathan Taylor pointed out that in fairness to His Honour Judge Shaw that this move was made as a result of a very difficult circumstance in the Provincial Court in that more time was needed and the fact that certain temporal and Political matters in Coquitlam the time modular units were not made available to the Provincial Court and have not been made available to this date, the Judge decided that a move had to be made either the Adult or the Juvenile and he made the difficult decision the the Juvenile and Family would involve less difficulty to the Community than moving the other, however, the Judge is not in any way becoming involved in anything

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that touches on the Political he simply stated that as a matter of fact this facility should be in Coquitlam but out of practicality it had to be moved to New Westminster. As citizens of the Community it is our job to find out why these facilities have to be moved. Some practical problems are:-

1. Convenience for the users of the Court such as Judges, Lawyers and staff people, reporters, citizens who want to see how their court works and location that takes you out of the boundaries of our District. Particularly if you have people on low income, single mothers, one must understand a very large amount of people involved include the low income and very often single mothers. New Westminster is not served directly by a bus link and there are considerable amount of parking problems in New Westminster. In Coquitlam a bus is virtually outside the door and parking is convenient. Location it is well known at its present site. A great deal of extra money will be expended on travelling as a result of this move.

2. Cost will be overtime to the R.C.M.P. currently an officer called on juvenile matter will be doing desk work at Coquitlam Christmas Way and will be called into Juvenile matters then go back and do his desk work now in reality he will have to wait in New Westminster and wait to be called this could possibly tie up an Officer in New Westminster for much of the day. He will spend many hours sitting around and thereby he can not do the work we are paying him to do.

Judge Shaw moved the Court to New Westminster because there is nominally more time to deal with it in New Westminster at the present time. He stated he could get us another day in Court for Family and Juvenile matters and that is important but if the modular unit had been placed as planned then there would be simply no question of the time we would have in Coquitlam. The time we would have had in Coquitlam would have been far in excess to the time we will have in New Westminster. By having a modular unit we can solve this amount of time that can be available to Court.

When moving to a new Court location the priorities will be to serve the people in that community first. And as their case load increases our time for court will decrease. The staffing problem as he understands it will be very considerable in a split facility.

There are also Jurisdictional problems in law that has to do with issuing summons and where they are issued and that can involve substantial problems when children are arrested or apprehended by Police Officers after 4:00 p.m., when they are brought into Coquitlam and charges are processed Juvenile delinquent under this Act is one who can not be returned to the home and where there is no facility this child will probably have to be retained overnight in Coquitlam as a result of certain practical problems with the Sherrifs. Then there is the problem of transporting the child into New Westminster and the unhappy reality is that some of these children can be very hard to deal with, and some time they have to be restrained and this is against the philosophy of all the Juvenile law.

Some of the Philosophical problems in his view and are as important as the practical:

1. Every professional staff person involved in the delivery of Court Services and Juvenile and Justice matters will agree that Court should be in the Community it serves. The Community understands problems and are more responsive to Community pressure to such groups as ours.

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Statistics show that delay in bringing Children or Adults to Court lead to an increase in crime. And if the Court is outside your jurisdiction that also increases crime.

Our Court in Coquitlam for all of its short comings in terms of space and so on is very informal. This Court was built in such a way as to make children not over awed whereas the New Westminster Court House is very large and cold and formal.

I feel the practical and philosophical problems should merit the closest consideration of our Council's particularly Coquitlam. They have the facilities in Coquitlam and the solution is in Coquitlam and their Council has to deal with it. They also have to deal with the problem of tax monies that will be wasted and also the reality for the fabric of life in this Community in District #43 and the increase of crime. Coquitlam did deal with this in that they agreed to review their original rejection of their proposal. We do not agree with the decision they have made and we are simply saying to you the Citizens of the Community that there are other reasons that we think could prevail over the Coquitlam Council announced.

Our purpose tonight and through our petitions is to say to the Alderman and Mayor that we are concerned about it and your prioritizing over Police needs over Family Court should be reviewed a second time inasmuch as the Community is concerned about that. We do thank the one Alderman that is in attendance tonight. The Mayor and Alderman Garrison sent their regrets and we appreciate it as they did have a previous meeting.

The Coquitlam's objections were basically two. They said the Police needed a great deal of space and their planning report is directed to that concern. A secondary concern is that they are not keen on modular units and there are some problems related to zoning but with the concern of modular units they could possibly overcome, they were mainly concerned about the Police needs. Our difficulty with Coquitlam's position in this regard is that the Police do need more space and they can possibly fill as much space as you can give them. The fact is you can build modular units that can supply these needs and Coquitlam doesn't want this because it is somewhat unsightly but moreover they do not want to bail out the Attorney General with his problem of the Court House. This was a large part of Coquitlam's concern is that they felt they have been dealt with unfairly by the Attorney General's department in terms of the siting of permanent facilities with regards to the Court House. And they do not want to assist him by providing space for modular units. Coquitlam has said in open Council meeting through Alderman Garrison and none of his fellow Aldermen objected to it that if the permanent facility was provided to Coquitlam that they would have found a way to provide the modular units for Family Court. And that in our view is the bottom line. If the criticism is unfair I am sure they will explain if it is unfair.

The Attorney General's position is what concerns us more than that of Coquitlam. The Administrative Judge was very helpful to us as was Coquitlam in the sense that they looked again at the problem. The Attorney General has not been of any assistance to us. Our Committee is legislated under the Provincial Court Act, an Act which is generally under the Administration of the Attorney General. It is clear in the legislation that we are responsible to the Attorney General that is we report to him. We did report to him about this problem on July 25th, by a very substantial letter that explained the urgency and asked for reply by August 8th, 1981 and we received no reply and by motion at our meeting we checked with the Attorney General and

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determined that they had received the letter but they had not been able to deal with it and then we stated that we would like a reply by the fourteenth and we were told that would be attempted, we have had no reply by the eighteenth and we phoned and asked for a further letter and again we have had no reply. We simply can not deal with the problem as we are hampered by the Attorney General's department as we simply do not know what their position is. To date we do not have an answer to our letter. We feel he simply wants it to go to New Westminster. We feel the Attorney General should be concerned about the rise in crime that will result.

We would ask that you consider the comments we have made tonight and ask that you phone your Aldermen in Coquitlam they are Alderman Robinson, Alderman Garrison, Alderman Sekora, Alderman Bulley, Alderman Parks and Alderman Mitchuk and Mayor Tonn and indicate to them your concern for this move and everything should be done to keep this facility in Coquitlam, and District #43 generally.

Would you please sign the petitions that we have available, they are also located in Doctors Offices and various other locations in District #43.

There are some other problems that face District #43 and all of British Columbia will face in the coming month that is proper funding of Juvenile Resources and Family Resources in British Columbia, we had a problem a year ago with respect to appropriate funding in District #43, and we received concessions that enabled us to continue a number of very fine resources that have been established over the years. Our Family Court is one of the more active Family Court Committee's in British Columbia, there are also one in Richmond and Victoria.

We are asking you as Citizens of Coquitlam and District #43 to take note and be sensitive to the problem.

At this time the meeting recessed for 15 minutes to enjoy coffee and tea that is provided in the cafeteria.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

Mayor G.R. Laking, City of Port Coquitlam

I have a couple of questions to start with one being I've heard rumors that one of the court rooms has been closed down, have you anything to this effect? Jonathon Taylor replied he had not heard. You mentioned before the R.C.M.P. needed all the room - the moving of Family Court Services is not going to make any difference because both rooms are used and the back up facilities with them and the only way this is going to be accomplished is by moving all the Courts. The one thing that concerns me is that there is one section at the end of the building that is planned for future expansion and that land is sitting in a garden. Why could they not consider that Juvenile Court was more important than the garden and put modular units where the garden is. Jonathon Taylor replied that his understanding is that if modular units are to be built they would be for the R.C.M.P. The present modular unit is to train R.C.M.P. Mayor Laking asked if they would be using both court rooms for adult court and Mr. Taylor said he thought this is right. Port Coquitlam has made a couple of offers to the Court Services and they are going to look at them very closely and advise on Tuesday or Wednesday, and if these are not acceptable I have some other offers.



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Jonathon Taylor asked Mayor Laking when he will be talking the the Attorney General's office and the Mayor stated possibly tomorrow. Jonathon said would you please let him know we are here and would like some replies to our letters.

Wynne Mudge a Director of Share:

Wynne Mudge is also a liason for the Family Court and her concerns were that at one time Coquitlam had four representatives on the Family Court Committee and four votes, a couple of these have resigned, has any reason been given why these positions are not filled and also no one from Coquitlam attends any of the meetings. Sheila Frances stated that she feels the same way and that the District should appoint someone to fill these vacancies immediately.

Alderman Brian Robinson, District of Coquitlam:

I feel this is a very bad night for Coquitlam but thought I should point out that some members voted for taking a second look for a setting of the modular unit and he feels that they took a very narrow approach after listening the the speakers here tonight. I do have to disagree with some of the issues that are taken tonight in terms of the present facility. There is absolutely no privacy whatsoever, when a young child is apprehended and has to go to Court he has to sit in an open waiting room. He also stated there could possibly be space in the gym that Centennial students made. There is a lot of land in Coquitlam and areas where a Family Court could be located. I would like to see a delegation approach the Mayor to hold a special meeting of Council and at that meeting state that the Planning Department of Coquitlam failed to take a social planning approach as opposed to a sighting. I agree we are still smarting from the announcement of the placement of the Court House.

Stu Leggatt, M.L.A.

Mr. Leggatt stated he supports our efforts to rationalize this problem and keep the Court facilities in District #43 and I will intervene with the Attorney General. He also stated we have his support in keep the Family Court in this District.

Judith Cathie:

Judith is a member of the Family Court responding to Brian Robinson's statements with regards to Court at Christmas Way. I think people would feel much better if they would use another facility in District #43 than the one they plan on using.

Verna Barrett, Mayor of Belcarra:

Are you trying to operate within certain budget restraints? Is there a maximum distance they could operate from Christmas Way Facilities? Is there any argument that the move to New Westminster would be cheaper from the Attorney General's department rather than the cost of these special modular units? Jonathon Taylor stated I do not think this is the problem. Verna Barrett stated she felt the staff should tough it out seeing that it is only for a couple of years.

September 3rd, 1981 - Public Meeting

Mr. Farrell Hannah - Physiologist:

One problem you mentioned is the cost factor. It makes a mockery of caring for people by not having modular units and the delay becomes very prevalent.

Stuart Leggatt stated again that he would be happy to meet with the Attorney General to get his personal involvement.

Moved by Verna Barrett:

That we request the District of Coquitlam to reconsider their offer and a delegation be present at Council on September 14th, 1981.

Carried.

At 9:30 the meeting adjourned.

FAMILY COURT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

AUGUST 25th, 1981.

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A meeting of "School District No. 43 Joint Family Court Committee" was held in the Council Chambers of the City of Port Coquitlam, 2272 McAllister Avenue, Port Coquitlam, B.C., on Tuesday, August 25th, 1981.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Port Moody: J. Taylor (Vice Chairman)  
Port Coquitlam: J. Cathie  
Alderman A.K. Muldoon  
Also Present: Bev Roest, Probation Services  
Gail Weisbeck, Director of Horizons  
Audrey Leonard, Secretary

Moved by J. Cathie:

Seconded by Alderman A.K. Muldoon:

That the Secretary mail or phone to advise members of the meetings and who will be attending.

Carried.

Jonathon Taylor asked Judith Cathie to give her report on Port Coquitlam Council.

Judith Cathie stated the outline to Council and what happened and why we care about the Facility being moved. She asked that they pass a resolution to keep the facilities in District #43 and share costs. This was passed unanimously, there were two members absent but the Council is very much in favour of the Court Facilities remaining in District #43.

Jonathon Taylor attended a meeting in Coquitlam and before the Council meeting he met with Alderman Garrison and Alderman Robinson and they were very sensitive to the Committee. Alderman Garrison stated that the R.C.M.P. needed the space. Jonathon Taylor didn't think that it was an option that the Court Facilities be moved. The Council stated that they support our efforts and also for night sittings and would write to the Attorney General. Jonathon Taylor also stated he felt the Council were very supportive and sympathetic to policing. We should consider the pressure that has to be put on to the Attorney General's office. A press release was issued and was printed in the Sunday Herald also copies letters sent to the Attorney General. The Attorney General has not responded in any fashion. Also he has not even informed Judge Shaw as to what is happening. Jonathon Taylor feels we should plan a strategy meeting to inform the public of the Committees concern. We are to meet on Tuesday to plan a public meeting for Thursday September 3rd, 1981. We should involve our M.L.A. directly and get them more involved.

Bev Roest questioned as to how realistic it is to get a public meeting together in such a short time and what we hope to accomplish and what would be the goal.

August 25th, 1981

Jonathon Taylor stated that this would be an informational meeting only to inform the citizens of District #43 of the move and our concerns. We would also hope to convince the Coquitlam Council of the mistake they are making by moving the Court Facilities. Bev Roast feels there might be a risk to this type of meeting as the public may be sympathetic to the policing rather than Family Court.

It was decided that we would hold a public meeting, also make up some petitions, do some advertising and our Chairman or Vice Chairman issue a press release.

Moved by Judith Cathie:

Seconded by Alderman A.K. Muldoon:

That we hold a Public Informational meeting on Thursday, September 3rd, 1981 and that we try to get the facilities of Centennial School Theatre.

Carried.

In our advertising we issue a poster for public display and that we spend approximately \$200.00 for Advertising and that we issue our prospectives and public information meeting and also release to the press .

Moved by Judith Cathie:

Seconded by Alderman A.K. Muldoon:

That we advertise the Public Informational meeting and spend approximately \$200.00 for this purpose and that we issue press releases.

Carried.

It was decided by the Committee that we meet on Tuesday September 1st, 1981 to plan the Public Information meeting to be held on Thursday, September 3rd, 1981.

It was also suggested that we send letters to the Attorney General and to the Council's and invite them to be present and to send a representative to be their spokesperson and also send copies of the resolutions.

Moved by Judith Cathie:

Seconded by Alderman A.K. Muldoon:

That we send letters to the Attorney General's Department and to the Council's advising them of our Public Information meeting and that they send a spokesman.

Carried.

Alderman A.K. Muldoon suggested that after the Public Meeting we ask Coquitlam Council to reconsider their vote and give our arguments and why we want the Court Facilities here.

August 25th, 1981.

Moved by Alderman A.K. Muldoon:

Seconded by Judith Cathie:

That we invite the M.L.A.'s Stuart Leggatt and Norm Levy to attend the Public Information meeting.

Carried.

Moved by Judith Cathie:

Seconded by Alderman A.K. Muldoon:

That the meeting of "School District #43 Joint Family Court Committee do now adjourn.

Carried.

At 10:30 the meeting adjourned.

FAMILY COURT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

AUGUST - 11th, 1981.

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A meeting of "School District No. 43 Joint Family Court Committee" was held in the Council Chambers of the City of Port Coquitlam, 2272 McAllister Avenue, Port Coquitlam, B.C., on Tuesday, August 11th, 1981 at 7:30 p.m.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Port Moody: J. Taylor, Vice Chairman  
Port Coquitlam: J. Cathie  
Alderman A.K. Muldoon  
Also Present: Bev Roest, Probation Services  
Gail Weisbeck, Director of Horizons  
A. Leonard, Secretary

Family Court Committee Minutes - July 16th, 1981.

Moved by Judith Cathie:

Seconded by A.K. Muldoon:

That the minutes of the regular meeting of School District No. 43 Joint Family Court Committee be deferred to a General Business Meeting.

Carried.

Jonathon Taylor questioned as to whether Audrey Leonard has received any response from the letters which were mailed out on July 22nd, 1981. Audrey Leonard stated these were all mailed out by courier and received no later than the 24th of July and to date we have had no replies.

Jonathon Taylor informed the Committee that the meeting tonight would be basically as to his meeting with Judge Shaw, and to the reception of the District of Coquitlam and to Port Moody's reaction at their Council Meeting.

No one was able to represent the Family Court at the meeting of the Council in Port Coquitlam and this was deferred to the following week, as Sheila Francis was not able to get in touch with Kathleen Muldoon to ask her personally to represent us we had to leave this until the next Council meeting.

With regards to the meeting with Judge Shaw, he provided Mr. Taylor with a full analysis and to what has happened from his prospective and what he attempted to do. When he was appointed to replace the former Judge he made an assessment as to the problems in Coquitlam which has been on going and he assured us that there has been space problems for some time and delays with respect to Adult and Juvenile problems and these delays depended upon who the Administrative Judge was and to who the sitting Judges were. The delay was from six to nine months in Juvenile matters and lesser delays in the Adult Court but this too was unexceptable.

August 11th, 1981.

- 2 -

The delay that is considered to be acceptable from the people who do studies on Criminal and Judicial matters are six weeks and a maximum of three months and after time you might as well not have a hearing in terms upon the effect on the child. As a consequence of this he knew that something had to be done and so he asked the Attorney General's office to install a trailer (Judge Shaw preferred to call it a modular unit) and he said he was able to convenience the Attorney General's office of this although it was not an easy thing to do, he did exert some pressure on this but they agreed to do it and drew up some plans and presented a blueprint to Coquitlam Council (this of course was at the same time the Coquitlam Council was having difficulty over the Attorney General's designation of Port Coquitlam rather than Coquitlam for the site of the future Court House). Coquitlam Council was non committal and eventually the Attorney General received a letter stating the modular unit would not be allowed to take place at the present Court House on Christmas Way. Judge Shaw then met with Mayor Tonn and he felt he was frank and fair. Mayor Tonn stated that he felt the R.C.M.P. would be needing more room in the very near future. From this report they had to move the Family Court into New Westminster. Jonathon Taylor asked Judge Shaw why he moved the Family Court as apposed to the Adult Court and he stated that they felt both are important and that there were equally strong arguments for both courts. He stated there would be more room, but possibly not more court time. Judge Shaw stated quite frankly that he did not want to become embroiled in any dispute as to why a part was moved and a part not, I did what I felt I had to do.

Mr. Jonathon Taylor met with Mayor Tonn when he returned from his vacation and talked with him for over an hour preceeding the Council meeting and he expressed himself very frankly, and I think quite fairly. Basically he said he was extremely angry with the Attorney Generals department, he explained to some degree why he was and it helped them to understand the reaction. Not only did they make a committment some years ago to Coquitlam but in the past many years they have extracted from Coquitlam favours in terms of Zoning, Building and other things based upon the premise that they were going to have the Court Facilities. They have been negotiating for land and taking offers and counter offers about land and Coquitlam has been dealing in good faith in these negotiations and when they could not strike a right deal for the land they started in on Port Coquitlam as a lever and this is why he has all those bad feelings, they gave zoning to different buildings such as the Probation Office which shouldn't have gone where it was and relaxed their zoning to provide the building to go in there. Mayor Tonn did admit that if they got the Court House they probably would do it and the main element in their decision not to was because of Port Coquitlam being designated as the site for the new Court Facility. He also stated he felt his priorities was to the R.C.M.P. as they need more room. But at the conclusion of the meeting he stated he was prepared to look at it again, but he did say among other things he has never seem the blueprints - they asked to see them but were never shown them - this is how we have been dealt with. He stated he would have the Planning Department look at them and talk to the R.C.M.P., and he feels this is where the main stumbling block would be as they will be needing modular units within the year. At the meeting that night Jonathon Taylor presented our petition and reviewed what the Judge had to say and expressed to them we had not been involved with the planning or the siting of the Court House as we requested and indicated that we were now more sensitive to their problem. Mayor Tonn supported Jonathon's presentation very full and he recommended to the Council that they look at it. Then he asked eachof the Aldermen to have their say on the matter. Alderman Sekora who is a member of this Committee was not prepared to look at it simply because he does not like modular units and won't go for it.

August 11th, 1981.

Alderman Garrison supported the review to the full and Alderman Robinson did also and Alderman Parks stated he did not like to change his mind but in the final analysis he did but stated not to get their hopes up and also criticized the Committee for not getting more involved in the siting of the Court House, and I reminded him that we did not have an opportunity to do so. Before taking a vote Mayor Tonn spoke very positively of the meeting. When the vote was taking one abstained from voting and the vote was 4-1 against the modular units.

Mrs. Sheila Frances was in Port Moody and she made a similar presentation and they asked her what they could do and she suggested they write to the Attorney General and urge them to do whatever is possible to keep the Court Facilities in Coquitlam and that it is not appropriate to move the Court Facilities even temporary. The Council voted on this and is passed unanimously.

Alderman Kathleen Muldoon gave her apologies for not speaking on behalf of the Family Court at the Port Coquitlam Council meeting and stated if she felt they wanted her to she would have been more than happy to do so. Jonathon Taylor stated it was quite all right and felt it might be more effective at the next meeting anyway.

That is basically what has transpired over the past two weeks.

Alderman Kathleen Muldoon questioned as to whether Judge Shaw would resent in a personal way if the Committee were making any other recommendations other than his. Jonathon Taylor he felt that maybe some Judges would be felt he would not, as he is very supportive and he may even be happy to come to some of the Family Court meetings.

Alderman Kathleen Muldoon questioned as to what Mr. Taylor meant by Unified Family Court as to what we have now? Jonathon Taylor stated that what we have now is to give us a Court in our Community that would be quick and accessible and speedy and if there were any problems with constitutional law you would then have to go into New Westminster and have a slower, less geographically accessible. A Unified Court is where you would be fully staffed i.e. Social Worker, Probation Officer, Family Councilor, Enforcement Officer etc.

1. In terms of action we should take Mr. Jonathon Taylor would like to have the authority of the Committee to release copies of the letters to the Attorney General to our two M.L.A.'s Stuart Leggatt and Norm Levy and ask them to take some action in a public way that the Attorney General has not acknowledged our letters.

2. Issue some sort of a press release indicating our concern that we haven't received any response, and before doing this we should be in touch with the Attorney General by phone and ask if he is prepared to give us any acknowledgement by phone and if he says no we issue a press release.

Moved by Judith Cathie:

Seconded By Alderman A.K. Muldoon:

That we send copies of letters which we mailed to the Attorney General to our M.L.A.'s Stuart Leggatt and Norm Levy and that after contacting the Attorney General we receive no acknowledgement we issue a press release, and that Jonathon Taylor draft up this release.

Carried.



August 11th, 1981.

It was also stated that we receive some supportive commitment from the Municipalities. Any associated costs which Municipalities have to bear should be born equally and that particularly Port Coquitlam in as much as they are going to benefit, should share meaningfully. They also suggested that if feasible Port Coquitlam should prepare to have the mobile in Port Coquitlam.

Moved by Judith Cathie:

Seconded by Alderman A.K. Muldoon:

That letters be sent to both Coquitlam and Port Coquitlam that they give their support to keep the Court Facilities in District 43 and share in the costs.

Carried.

Alderman A.K. Muldoon abstained from this as she felt a figure for cost sharing should be stated and felt very strongly that Council would like an estimated sum that the Municipalities would be expected to spend and felt she could not present this to Council until figures were available. Mr. Jonathon Taylor stated he could understand her feels and respected her decision.

All those that are in attendance please try and come to the District of Coquitlam Council meeting on August 24th, 1981.

Moved by Alderman A.K. Muldoon:

Seconded by Judith Cathie:

That the meeting of "School District #43 Joint Family Court Committee do now adjourn.

At 10:15 the meeting adjourned.