

FAMILY COURT COMMITTEE

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MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1980

The Forty-fourth meeting of the "School District No. 43 Joint Family Court Committee" was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Hall, 1111 Brunette Avenue, Coquitlam, B.C. on Wednesday, November 19, 1980 at 7:30 p.m.

IN ATTENDANCE:

- Port Moody: S. Francis (Chairman)  
J. Taylor
- Coquitlam: A. Emerson
- Electoral Area B: L. Weinberg
- Also Present: C. Phillips, Horizon  
B. Roest, Probation Services  
S. McKibben, Human Resources  
J. Maddalozzo, Kincaid House  
W. Mudge, S.H.A.R.E.  
S. Aikenhead, Secretary

1. FAMILY COURT COMMITTEE MINUTES - JUNE 19, 1980.

Sherry McKibben requested that the minutes be amended on page 1 as follows. In the third paragraph of her remarks, the Minutes should be amended to read "School Districts No. 42 and 43." and in point 2 of her remarks "Horizons" should be deleted and "Kincaid" inserted in its place.

MOVED BY A EMERSON  
SECONDED BY J. TAYLOR

That the Family Court Committee Minutes of June 19, 1980 as amended, be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. UNIFIED FAMILY COURT SYSTEM.

Sheila Francis informed the members of the Committee that she had tried to get someone from the Surrey Court System to come to the Committee Meeting this evening to speak on the Unified Family Court System but no one was available.

She stated that there will soon be a new Court House in the Coquitlam area and she thought the Committee should be giving some thought as to what Family Court facilities will be placed in this Court House.

Jon Taylor informed the Meeting that he had not heard any discussions about the facility but more about where the building would be located. He stated that he had recently been in an ad hoc meeting of the Bar in Coquitlam and one concern raised was the Family Court facilities. He informed the Committee that they felt they should press to try to get some substantial Family Court facilities as opposed to what we have now in Coquitlam and what we may end up with by default if we don't press the matter.

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Jon Taylor suggested that someone from the Surrey Court facility and perhaps someone from Administration could come to a Family Court Committee meeting to explain how the system works in Surrey and what sort of facilities they have.

Another point raised by Jon Taylor was the fact that Coquitlam does not have an Enforcement Officer to follow through on matters of maintenance.

Bev Roest informed the Committee that the Court Resource Committee has established a booklet and this is the basis on which the architect planned the new Court facility. It did not include any Family Court, but was based on adult facilities only. She stated there doesn't appear to be anyone still lobbying for Unified Family Court in this area but the last word was that, yes, there would be a unit in the new Court House that would take families and children but the original plan had not involved families at all. She stated they seem to have forgotten about the Unified Family Court System and would now like to add family facilities into the Court facilities already planned.

Roy Pettit was suggested as the best person to contact to get information on exactly what was planned for the new Court facility.

Bev Roest explained to the Committee that the Unified Family Court System was to provide services at one location at Supreme Court level and Family Court level so that a family could go there and have matters dealt with right from the beginning of separation through to the divorce papers with workers and resource people available to them through the whole process. She stated at the present time her department offers assistance in conciliation counselling and assistance in maintenance and variance of maintenance but anything else involves the lawyers.

Mrs. Roest also stated that they need more Court days in Coquitlam and can't wait until there is a new Court House. They have too many children and Protection of Children Act matters and time allotted to Court work. She said there has been a great increase in Family and Child Service Act matter and Children of Unmarried Parents Act matters.

Mrs. Roest stated that this would be one area the Committee could look at to see if there is any alternative available. Her department will require more Court time which means another Judge and more support staff.

Alternatives looked at by her Department were portable trailers on the site of the present Court facility and this was found to be too expensive. The other alternative was to move one day of Court to New Westminster but this has been considered too inconvenient.

Bev Roest was asked by the Committee to bring a short report forward to the Committee on what is happening in the Courts, numbers and growth of the problem, and history. Also she was requested to report on what she felt we should have in a new Court facility.

Colleen Phillips reported that often the workers from Horizon have to accompany children to Court and it can take up to six hours before their cases are heard.

### 3. UPDATE FROM KINCAID.

John Maddalozzo presented to the Committee the new Organization chart as of September, 1980 of the Kincaid Treatment Resource. A copy of that chart is attached hereto and forms a part of these Minutes.

With regard to Foster Homes, John Maddalozzo reported that at the present time they only have two but they are hoping by next summer to have between four and six foster homes operating.

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4. UPDATE FROM HORIZONS.

Colleen Phillips reported that since June they have moved into the MacIntosh Street Home in Coquitlam and have an Admissions Committee and have worked out an admissions policy. She stated that in the Port Moody home they have one child at the present. This is a special situation and they were requested by Human Resources to take in this child as there are no other facilities available for him. She confirmed that originally the Port Moody facility was to be used for a group home, but another program is being discussed - Horizons III, a long term treatment program for six to eight children. She stated that the Port Moody home will be required for this one juvenile for at least a year.

Sherry McKibben reported that as a consequence of their department using the Horizons home in Port Moody for this juvenile, they have asked S.H.A.R.E. to open a third facility in order that this particular child can be accommodated in Port Moody. She stated that the Ministry of Human Resources is committed to this program.

Ms. McKibben reported that they are now dealing with children that are more difficult to handle. They present problems that can't be dealt with in facilities that we now have. She stated there is a recognition in their Ministry that in addition to facilities that exist there is a need to house extremely aggressive children in a different type of facility.

5. UPDATE - S.H.A.F.T.

Wynn Mudge reported to the Committee that S.H.A.R.E. was no longer involved with the S.H.A.F.T. program but they will be doing an evaluation of it after six months as will the School Board. She went on to state the extra program money has made quite a difference in the operation of the facility and they now have facilities for 28 students.

John Maddalozzo stated that according to Lorne Harry the program is running very well.

It was suggested that the Committee attempt to get Mr. Pettit and someone from the Court Resource Committee and/or Surrey Court Facility to come to the next Family Court Committee Meeting and discuss the Unified Family Court System and plans for the Coquitlam area Court House.

6. PSYCHIATRIC FACILITIES FOR JUVENILES.

Linda Weinberg suggested that we initiate correspondence with other Family Court Committees regarding psychiatric facilities for juveniles in the Province of B. C.

Sherry McKibben stated it was an excellent time to get together with other Family Court Committees to discuss this matter. A decision has to be made about psychiatric facilities for these children very soon.

It was agreed by the Committee that a letter should go out to the other Family Court Committees in order that this Committee could undertake some sort of action in support of psychiatric care facilities for juveniles.

It was also reported that Dr. Gossage has indicated his willingness to come to a Committee Meeting and discuss this matter.

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ADJOURNMENT:

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

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CHAIRMAN

KINCAID TREATMENT RESOURCE

Sept: 1980

Membership of Coquitlam  
SHARE Society

Board of Directors  
Coquitlam SHARE Society

Executive Director  
Coquitlam SHARE Society

Secretary      Program Director  
John Maddalozzo      Housekeeper

Family Consultant  
Doug Estergaard

King Edward Program  
10-13 years old  
10 Children

1 Teacher  
1 Aide

S.D. #43

Outreach/Aftercare  
12 Children

4 Behavioral  
Counsellors/  
Family Workers

Schoolhouse Program  
6-10 years old  
12 Children

1 Teacher  
1 Aide

S.D. #43

Therapeutic Foster  
Home Program  
\* 8 Children

Sr. Behavioral Couns.  
/Family Worker  
Faye Luxemburg-Hyam

4-6 Therapeutic  
Foster Homes

M.H.R.

\* Are included in the other programs.