

BOARD BANTER

SELECT COMMITTEES:

HANDLING DAY-TO-DAY ISSUES:

What do you do if an irate citizen calls you, their elected representative, to request a grant, or to complain about an arena's condition, the need for a new community swimming pool, or their neighbour's messy yard?

With complaints that come from citizens or for ideas that members of the Board have to improve the organization, there are a number of ways to enter those into the system to make sure they are addressed.

1. GIVE IT TO ADMINISTRATION

Either have the affected party call, or the member can call, the CAO to deal with the matter and report back. For those issues that are controlled by policy, administration can provide the answer immediately. For those issues that fall outside policy, administration will review alternatives for resolving it and provide the necessary research on legislation, precedent, and financial implications. When a report is prepared, it will go to the appropriate select committee or the Board for discussion.

2. BRING IT TO COMMITTEE

Each of the Board's select committees has a well-defined terms of reference. A member may simply choose to raise a matter at the appropriate committee for discussion. The basis for good decision-making, however, is good information. It is important that the members allow for due process and refer these matters to administration for a report. If it is merely a question that you want raised for the public's information, please advise administration beforehand so they can provide the desired report.

3. BRING IT TO THE BOARD

There may be some issues that a member may wish to bring directly to the formality of a Board meeting for a decision. The Board allows for this to be raised under the Directors Motion section of the Board agenda. Because we are so legislated and have an obligation for consistency and fairness, on most issues the Board is encouraged to receive these types of issues and refer them back to the CAO. Administration is then able to provide a report providing the background information necessary for making an informed decision.

The Terms of Reference for the RDOS Select Committees are outlined in a Board Policy, adopted in 2009 and amended most recently in 2015. Some of the subject matters covered by each committee are:

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Parks, recreation facilities and programs, trails, public transit, cultural pursuits

CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Governance, HR, legislation, litigation, communications, financial matters, property acquisition, bylaws, and policy

ENVIRONMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Waterworks, sewerage systems, liaison with Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, solid waste collection, street lighting

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Sub-regional growth strategy, land use bylaws and land development, climate change, economic development, bylaw enforcement activities including Building bylaw

PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Emergency planning, wildfire risk, crime prevention, 9-1-1 emergency telecommunications

Want more information on these matters?
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