(Translation)

Islands District Council Minutes of Meeting of the Community Affairs, Culture and Recreation Committee

Date : 2 November 2020 (Monday)

Time : 10:30 a.m.

Venue : Islands District Council Conference Room

Present

Ms LAU Shun-ting (Acting Chairman) Mr YU Hon-kwan, Randy, MH, JP

Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, SBS, MH (Left at around 12:50 p.m.)
Mr YUNG Chi-ming, BBS, MH (Left at around 12:30 p.m.)
Mr CHAN Lin-wai, MH (Left at around 11:55 a.m.)

Mr WONG Hon-kuen, Ken

Mr HO Chun-fai

Mr HO Siu-kei (Arrived at around 10:45 a.m.)

Ms WONG Chau-ping

Ms TSANG Sau-ho, Josephine

Mr KWOK Ping, Eric

Mr TSUI Sang-hung, Sammy (Arrived at around 10:40 a.m.)

Mr FONG Lung-fei Mr LEE Ka-ho

Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho

Mr WONG Chun-yeung (Left at around 1 p.m.)

In Attendance

Ms LEUNG Tin-yee, Christy
Ms CHOW Yuen-on, Alice
Assistant District Officer (Islands)2, Islands District Office
Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support) Islands,

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Ms CHU Po-yee, Polly Senior Librarian (Islands),

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Ms WONG Fan-ni, Jasmine Senior Manager (New Territories South) Promotion,

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Mr WONG Kin-sun Senior Community Relations Officer (Hong Kong West/Islands),

Independent Commission Against Corruption

Ms LAM Fong-shing, Florence Senior School Development Officer (Wanchai & Islands),

Education Bureau

Mr WONG Chi-leung Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Central Western/

Southern/Islands)2, Social Welfare Department

Mr LAM Kit-sing Representative, Islands District Sports Association

Ms CHOI Kwok-por Representative, Hong Kong Islands Cultural & Art Association

Secretary

Mr YEUNG Chiu-cheong, Mark

Executive Officer (District Council)1, Islands District Office

Absent with Apologies

Mr WONG Man-hon Ms YUNG Wing-sheung, Amy

Welcoming Remarks

The Vice-chairman Ms LAU Shun-ting said that the Chairman was unable to attend the meeting due to other commitments and she would preside at the meeting. She welcomed representatives of government departments and organisations as well as Members to the meeting and introduced the following government representatives who attended the meeting:

- (a) Ms LEUNG Tin-yee, Christy, Assistant District Officer (Islands)2, who stood in for Mr LI Ho, Thomas; and
- (b) Ms LAM Fong-shing, Florence, Senior School Development Officer (Wanchai & Islands) of the Education Bureau who succeeded Ms KWAN Wai-yin, Katy.
- 2. Members noted that the Chairman and Ms Amy YUNG were unable to attend the meeting due to other commitments.

I. <u>Confirmation of the Minutes of Meeting held on 9.9.2020</u>

- 3. <u>The Acting Chairman</u> said that the above minutes had incorporated the amendments proposed by government departments and organisations and had been distributed to Members for perusal prior to the meeting.
- 4. <u>Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho</u> said that two agenda items at the last meeting had not yet been discussed. The Chairman had mentioned that a follow-up meeting would be arranged, but Members did not receive any notification of the meeting. He therefore enquired what the arrangement would be.
- 5. <u>The Secretary</u> replied that although attempts had been made to arrange for the follow-up meeting, an appropriate meeting date could not be finalised. Also, as mentioned by the Chairman at the last meeting, if Members wanted to discuss the remaining questions, they might raise them again for discussion at the next meeting.

- 6. <u>Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho</u> enquired whether the Chairman or the Secretariat had informed Members of the failure to arrange for the follow-up meeting, and why the meeting at present was not held as the follow-up meeting. It was incomprehensible to him about the Secretariat's arrangement which required Members to raise the undiscussed questions once more. He also said that he did not receive any notifications.
- 7. The Secretary said that he had enquired Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho whether he would raise the undiscussed questions again over the phone on the day immediately after the deadline of submitting questions and motions by Members for this meeting. However, the Secretariat did not receive any related documents submitted by Mr LEUNG. According to the established procedures, Members were required to submit questions, if any, to the Secretariat before a meeting and the Secretariat would convey the questions collected to the Chairman for consideration. As the relevant questions were not received, the meeting agenda would not include such questions.
- 8. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho said that since each Member was allowed to raise only three questions at a meeting, the requirement of re-submitting the questions was a disguised form of reducing the number of questions he could raise at another meeting. As he had pointed out during the telephone conversations with the Secretary, it was not appropriate for asking him to raise the question again, which could not be discussed due to insufficient meeting time. He said that under the influence of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) epidemic (epidemic), the same problem was faced by all meetings but none of the Chairmen of the committees handled it immediately. He had expressed dissatisfaction at several meetings, and the questions he raised were undiscussed due to the epidemic. Despite this, the Secretariat continued to handle the situation according the established criteria without flexibility.
- 9. <u>The Acting Chairman</u> stated that there might be some problems in communication in this case. She proposed that the undiscussed questions at a meeting should be discussed in the following meeting if similar situations recurred.
- 10. Mr LEE Ka-ho said that at the onset of the epidemic, Members might have to raise the undiscussed agenda items once again for discussion at the next meeting if some agenda items could not be discussed at a meeting due to insufficient meeting time. However, as what Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho had said, the arrangement had deprived Members' opportunity to raise questions. He said that as the current-term District Council (DC) had operated for more than half a year, some of the meeting arrangements had already been improved. For example, he had just received the notification of the follow-up meeting of the Islands District Council (IDC) by emails. However, the practice of some committees or working groups was still undesirable, as they still required Members to raise the undiscussed questions for the second time. He considered the existing problem was that not all the questions raised could be discussed at a meeting due to the shortened duration of meeting. Hence, arrangement should be made for discussing the undiscussed questions at some other time instead of requiring Members to raise such questions once again at other meetings. He also considered

that it was an issue of the system which could not be solved simply by communication. He hoped the Secretariat and Members would jointly work out the solution.

11. Mr Randy YU expressed his views as follows:

- (a) Regarding the arrangement for the follow-up meeting of the IDC, the Secretariat needed to book the Conference Room from the Central and Western District Council (C&WDC). However, the C&WDC venue was available for booking only on 30 November 2020. He understood that it was not desirable for holding the follow-up meeting and the next IDC Full Council Meeting at an interval of two weeks only. Since there was no alternative, the follow-up meeting was scheduled for that day. He hoped Members understand that it was difficult to hire the meeting venue to a certain extent.
- (b) Regarding the practice of the Chairmen of the DC and its committees during the epidemic, only two meetings could be held at most each week and each meeting would not last for more than two hours when the epidemic was raging throughout the territory previously. Regarding the undiscussed agenda items, if the Members concerned who had submitted the questions were satisfied with the respective written replies from the relevant departments, no follow-up action would be taken. Otherwise, the Members concerned might submit the relevant agenda items once again at the next meeting. He agreed with Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho that the current arrangement was not so desirable. If a Member had raised three questions and was not satisfied with all the written replies, he/she would have no opportunity to raise new questions at the next meeting. In case the above situation arose, he suggested that Members should communicate with the Chairman of the respective committee by emails, explaining that the discussion on an agenda item was very urgent and requesting to temporarily increase the quota for question raised by Members at the Chairman's discretion. If the fourth wave of the epidemic unfortunately took place in Hong Kong, the Council would continue the practice and he hoped that Members would be as cooperative and understanding as possible. As he remarked, it happened that there was an appropriate date for holding the follow-up meeting after the last full council meeting of the DC, but such arrangement might not be made every time. He pointed out that Members would mostly have adequate time to raise agenda items. He reiterated that if any questioners were discontented with the respective written replies, they should actively raise the questions concerned once again.
- 12. <u>Mr Eric KWOK</u> said Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho had just indicated that the Secretariat did not give further notification. He therefore enquired whether Mr LEUNG had received the written replies made for his questions. He opined that if Mr LEUNG was discontented with the written replies he received, he might, as stated by Mr Randy YU, raise the questions once again for discussion at this meeting.

13. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho stressed that the Chairman should not shift the responsibility onto Members. If the written replies were satisfactory, further discussion would not be necessary. Members could then simply communicate with the departments concerned by emails, and there was no need for the latter to attend the meeting. So, he thought that the arrangement had wrongly put the cart in front of the horse. He said that he was not contented with all the written replies made to his questions since he had become a DC Member ten months ago. He considered that interaction between Members and government representatives was necessary.

As regards Mr Eric KWOK's views, he opined that the undiscussed agenda items were not due to a matter of personal issue, so it was unreasonable for him to raise the items once again. In his opinion, other committees should follow the practice of the Chairman Mr YU by striving for the arrangement of a follow-up meeting. Under the influence of the epidemic, each meeting could not last for more than two hours and there might be many uncertainties as well. He criticised the Chairman for adopting double standards, as the last DC meeting was not adjourned until 6:00 p.m., but at present the Chairman claimed that a follow-up meeting could not be arranged due to the epidemic. He held that the handling should be standardised.

- 14. Mr HO Chun-fai said that it was necessary to clearly explain the practice with a view to facilitating a smoother operation of the DC in the future. He agreed with Mr Randy YU that, under the influence of the epidemic, Members might request for making special arrangement if they were discontented with specific written replies. He hoped Members understand that nothing was perfect in every way. He suggested that when Mr LEUNG answered the Secretariat whether he was contented with the written replies, Mr LEUNG should indicate that no further arrangement was necessary if he gave an affirmative reply, or he should raise such questions again for discussion if he gave a negative reply.
- 15. As clarified by Mr Eric KWOK, he did not mean that Members should bear the full responsibility. He then cited the committee meetings chaired by him as examples. In the case of undiscussed agenda items during meetings, the Secretariat would enquire the questioners whether they were contented with the respective written replies. Even if the Members concerned were contented with the replies, the Secretariat would continue to ask whether it was necessary to invite concerned government representatives to attend the next meeting for discussion. He enquired whether the Secretariat had asked Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho by emails if he was contented with the written replies after conveying such replies to him, and if he wanted to continue to discuss the questions concerned at the next meeting. He opined that the Secretariat was responsible for communicating with Members and should not simply convey the written replies without any follow-up action.
- 16. <u>Ms Josephine TSANG</u> said that she, being the Chairman of a committee, understood that Members wanted to have their questions handled promptly. Nevertheless, in view of the situation of the epidemic, the meeting time was shortened and, as a result, there might be not enough time to discuss all the questions raised at a

meeting. She had recommended that the written replies from the departments concerned should be provided to Members first. In case Members were discontented with the written replies, they might request the Secretariat to invite the departments concerned to attend meetings for responding to the questions, or re-submit the questions for discussion at the next meeting.

17. Mr Randy YU expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He would discuss with the Secretariat on the standardisation of meeting arrangement for committees and working groups. In the case of the undiscussed agenda items at a meeting, the Secretariat would enquire the Members concerned by emails whether they wanted to discuss such items at a follow-up meeting or re-submit such questions at the next meeting. If any questions raised by a Member were undiscussed at a meeting and the Member had already submitted another three questions for discussion at the next meeting, such Member might then determine on one's own which three questions were to be discussed at the meeting, or discuss with the Chairman on the way of handling if necessary. He said that he was also discontented with most of the written replies. Therefore, he had resubmitted the question at the last meeting of the Tourism, Agriculture, Fisheries, Environmental Hygiene and Climate Change Committee, and would discuss questions without urgency at the next meeting.
- (b) He agreed that all people still needed to adapt to the guidelines implemented to cope with the epidemic such as that on dine-in services and prohibition of group gathering, which would change frequently and might even change every week. Understanding that Members had the mandate of the public to represent people's voice and discuss livelihood issues, he requested Members to show more consideration, empathy and tolerance in face of the epidemic. As regards the last meeting chaired by Ms Josephine TSANG and the last DC meeting chaired by him, they were concluded at 6:00 p.m. because the restriction on limiting the duration of a meeting to not more than two hours was not yet imposed Therefore, Members agreed to have the meetings ended at 6:00 p.m. having regard to the situation at that time. Regarding the last DC meeting, there were still 10 agenda items undiscussed when it was already 6:00 p.m. Even if the meeting was to continue, the discussion might still not be completed at 12:00 midnight and air conditioning in the Conference Room would also stop after the time limit. Therefore, he decided to hold a follow-up meeting at some other time. Fortunately, he was relieved that there was a smooth going for holding the follow-up Otherwise, the undiscussed agenda items of the DC meeting finally. would keep accumulating. He once again asked Members for their tolerance and understanding in this respect.

18. Mr Sammy TSUI expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He said that the epidemic had resulted in the accumulation of undiscussed agenda items. Besides, as discussion on all agenda items might not be completed in each meeting, he thought the Chairmen of committees and convenors of working groups had to estimate in advance the progress of discussion on the meeting days. If it was anticipated that not all agenda items could be handled at a meeting, the Chairman concerned should arrange for discussing the agenda items at different meetings in advance, so that the meeting in question could be adjourned earlier that day. Discussion on the remaining agenda items would then be continued at the next meeting.
- (b) He proposed to consult Members on how the undiscussed agenda items should be handled before the conclusion of a meeting. He also opined that the written replies failed to effectively facilitate exchange of views and direct discussion at a meeting would be the best way for solving the problems as it enables Members to give an account of the progress of the agenda items to residents. He did not agree to ask concerned Members if they wanted to discuss the undiscussed agenda items at the next meeting, as he thought that such a practice was illogical. He also stated that items which could not be discussed at a meeting due to inadequate meeting time or situation of the epidemic should be discussed at the next meeting directly or at a special meeting convened. This could avoid increasing the workload of the Secretariat. He remarked that it would be time-consuming and unnecessary if the Secretariat often needed to discuss with Members on handling the undiscussed agenda items.
- Ms Josephine TSANG said that the duties of DC Members were to fight for the 19. rights of the residents and tackle immediate problems. At present, a meeting would be held once every two months, and it might be too late to tackle some problems if action was to be taken only after the problems had been discussed at a meeting. indicated that she seldom raised agenda items because she would immediately liaise with the departments concerned for handling and follow-up when residents encountered She would raise agenda items requesting such departments to make problems. response and explore ways for proper handling of the problems only if the performance of concerned departments was found to be not satisfactory. She did not mean to criticise Members for being too concerned about whether their issues could be discussed at meetings, but thought that urgent problems, such as those related to hygiene and the epidemic, should directly be referred to the relevant departments for handling. Otherwise, it would be too late when they were handled at scheduled meetings.
- 20. Mr Ken WONG suggested that the meeting should commence first since government representatives were already present at the meeting, and that the arrangement of follow-up meeting should be discussed later. He stated that as the Chairman was absent from the meeting, other Members present had no idea of the contents of the conversations between the Chairman and Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho as well as the handling approach they had discussed. He indicated that there were not too many agenda items at the meeting, hence Members might raise comments on the

arrangement of a follow-up meeting after completing the discussion on all agenda items.

- 21. In response to Mr Sammy TSUI's comments, Mr Eric KWOK said that whether the Chairman had made a wise decision would involve Members' communication and discussion. He remarked that the statement just made by Mr Sammy TSUI had spent much time and there had been much enthusiastic discussion by Members, igniting a lot of sparks as well. Discussion on an agenda item was therefore not finished although it had already lasted for half an hour. He reiterated that it could not entirely hinge on the wise decision of the Chairman because there might be many unexpected factors.
- 22. Ms WONG Chau-ping agreed with Mr Eric KWOK that it was difficult to predict what would happen during the epidemic. She also agreed to what Ms Josephine TSANG had said, that is, it was really difficult to timely deal with some livelihood issues through meetings alone since they would only be held once every two To solve the matters of urgency, she would directly contact the relevant government departments for most of the time. As she remarked, if all issues were discussed only during meetings, they might not be resolved even after a long time for discussion. She understood that it might be inevitable to implement special measures for special times, since the whole world had become chaotic during the epidemic. Members also did not mind the attendance of prolonged and additional meetings. However, in view of the epidemic, it was necessary to take into consideration many factors, such as Members' own family, Members themselves and safety issues, in addition to the dates of meetings. She agreed that the Secretariat should enhance communication with all parties concerned.
- Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho said that Members had put the blame on the Secretariat just now. However, he clarified that he had communicated with the Secretary, and both clearly understood the views of each other. He agreed to the logical reasoning stated by Mr Sammy TSUI that Members should not re-submit questions that had previously been raised. He did not want to make further comment on the issue since it had been discussed for some time. Nevertheless, since there were not so many agenda items for discussion and the Chairmen of other committees were present at the meeting, he hoped to discuss the issue of follow-up meeting. He held that the Secretariat had done well and understood his views, and trusted that the Secretary would reflect his views to the Chairman. He requested Members to consider whether they would continue to follow the original procedures for handling the issue.

24. The Secretary responded as follows:

(a) The Secretariat understood that Members wanted to discuss all questions raised at the meeting. When the last meeting of the Community Affairs, Culture and Recreation Committee (CACRC) was held on 9 September 2020, the DC proceeded to hold the meeting in accordance with the meeting arrangement announced by the Home Affairs Department (HAD) under the epidemic. Under the arrangement, only two meetings would be held each week for each DC, and the duration of each meeting was

limited to not more than two hours. The requirements had shortened the meeting time and made it difficult to arrange the date for a meeting. In this connection, the Secretariat failed to arrange for a follow-up meeting for the last CACRC meeting.

- (b) As he explained, the follow-up meeting of the last DC full council meeting could be arranged not because the Secretariat only focused on the DC and ignored other committees thereunder. It was because the above restriction on meeting time during the epidemic had been relaxed when the last DC full council meeting was held. As such, it was easier for the Secretariat to arrange a follow-up meeting for such meeting, and no special preference had been given to DC meetings.
- (c) He said the existing established procedure was that after Members had raised questions for discussion at a meeting, the Secretariat would invite the relevant departments to attend the meeting and provide written replies respectively. If a department would not be able to attend the meeting and had provided a written reply, the Secretariat would take the written reply as the department's response made to Members. The Secretariat noted that Members would like to discuss questions with concerned departments at a meeting instead of obtaining written replies only. The Secretariat would consider asking Members if they were contented with the replies and if they wanted to have further discussion on the questions at the next meeting after the departments concerned had provided the written replies. The Secretariat would make a reply to Members after exploring the practice.

(Post-meeting note: After discussion, the Secretariat decided that in the case of similar situation in the future due to the epidemic, it would enquire whether Members were contented with the written replies provided. If they gave a negative reply, it would enquire whether Members wanted to discuss the undiscussed questions at the next meeting and would make the corresponding arrangement accordingly.)

- 25. <u>The Acting Chairman</u> invited Members to vote by a show of hands whether they confirmed the minutes of the last meeting.
- 26. Members did not make other proposed amendments and voted by a show of hands. There were 15 voted for, one against and zero abstaining. The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed.

(Members voted for included: the Vice-chairman Ms LAU Shun-ting, Mr Randy YU, Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, Mr YUNG Chi-ming, Mr CHAN Lin-wai, Mr Ken WONG, Mr HO Chun-fai, Mr HO Siu-kei, Ms WONG Chau-ping, Ms Josephine TSANG, Mr Eric KWOK, Mr Sammy TSUI, Mr FONG Lung-fei, Mr LEE Ka-ho and Mr WONG Chun-yeung. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho voted against.)

<u>Islands District International Day of Disabled Persons Working Group</u>

- 27. The Acting Chairman said that working report of the Working Group was tabled at the meeting for Members' perusal. Members were requested to consider whether to endorse the report.
- 28. Members voted by a show of hands. There were 15 voted for, zero against and one abstaining. The report of the working group was endorsed.

(Members voted for included: the Vice-chairman Ms LAU Shun-ting, Mr Randy YU, Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, Mr YUNG Chi-ming, Mr CHAN Lin-wai, Mr Ken WONG, Mr HO Chun-fai, Mr HO Siu-kei, Ms WONG Chau-ping, Ms Josephine TSANG, Mr Eric KWOK, Mr Sammy TSUI, Mr FONG Lung-fei, Mr LEE Ka-ho and Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho. Mr WONG Chun-yeung abstained.)

(Mr Sammy TSUI joined the meeting at around 10:40 a.m. Mr HO Siu-kei joined the meeting at around 10:45 a.m.)

- II. Question on promotion of street dance culture (Paper CACRC 57/2020)
 - 29. <u>The Acting Chairman</u> welcomed Ms WONG Fan-ni, Jasmine, Senior Manager (New Territories South) Promotion of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) to the meeting to give response to the question.
 - 30. Mr FONG Lung-fei briefly introduced the question.
 - 31. Ms Jasmine WONG said that the LCSD was dedicated to promoting local arts and cultural development including implementation of the Community Cultural Ambassador Scheme every year. Under this scheme, local performing arts practitioners/groups with potential would be invited through an open invitation exercise to act as Cultural Ambassadors to conduct outreach activities in parks and public spaces in the community, making arts a part of everyday life for the people. "Producer Works Theater", one of the Cultural Ambassadors in 2019, had organised a series of street dance activities under the Street Dance Theatre "Hidden Dragon" of the scheme. When the "Community Arts Scheme" in Islands District was implemented this year, the LCSD would invite professional arts groups to provide various free arts programmes including street dance theatre in addition to organising enhanced training activities and performances of musicals. Moreover, the LCSD would provide performance venues for hire for organising street dance activities. Eligible non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in Islands District might apply for subsidy of venue sponsorship if they hired the Tsuen Wan Town Hall for organising street dance competitions.
 - 32. <u>Mr WONG Chun-yeung</u> agreed that many young people in Tung Chung were interested in street dance. However, their culture might sometimes be misunderstood

by the public. He therefore hoped that students could enhance their dance techniques and deepened their understanding of street dance culture through the related courses. Besides, he proposed to make use of the LCSD venues, such as the spacious parks and public spaces of low utilisation rate in Tung Chung, to promote street dance for optimising land use of such sites. He requested the LCSD to take note of the above views and provide additional resources for promoting street dance culture.

- 33. Mr FONG Lung-fei said that, as currently stipulated, only NGOs were eligible to apply for organising street dance competitions. In his opinion, the arrangement was convenient for the LCSD to manage, but it did not help to promote public participation. Besides, applicant organisations might not be familiar with the application procedures. He suggested that the LCSD should regularly organise street dance competitions to help young people loitering at public space in the nighttime (young night drifters) develop their interest. According to his observation, many youth centres in Yat Tung Estate were almost unused. So, he proposed to open them to young night drifters at night with staff deployed for management at scene, so as to prevent them from drinking alcohol, shouting and yelling on the roof of buildings, which was prone to danger and noise nuisance. He remarked that the problem of young night drifters could not be solved by holding performances alone. At present, some people had voluntarily taught young people in the district to learn street dance for free. As he believed, this could better help them obtain self-understanding and integrate into the community. Being a department responsible for recreation and sports programmes, the LCSD should take the initiative to organise related activities to make street dance culture more popular, rather than relying solely on NGOs for organising the activities.
- 34. Mr Eric KWOK understood that there would be a certain degree of difficulty for the LCSD to assume the role of organising these activities. As the LCSD representative had just mentioned that the arrangement for street dance activities by "Producer Works Theater" was in progress, he enquired whether the young people in Tung Chung would be recruited to participate in these activities in response to Mr FONG Lung-fei's request. He also requested the LCSD to provide information on this arts group.
- 35. Mr WONG Chun-yeung said some NGOs had reflected that the application procedures for organising activities were complicated. As some young people thought, the LCSD held activities simply for "meeting a quota in performance", and therefore those who were interested in participating in the activities might not be benefited. He agreed to Mr FONG Lung-fei's remarks that the LCSD should allocate additional resources to the activities, such as deploying staff to understand the needs of young people and providing equipment and venues for them. He believed that it would be more effective and would help save resources by doing so than planning street dance courses. Members of the welfare sector had also reflected to him that some NGOs submitted project proposals were only seeking funding but had no intention of promoting street dance culture.
- 36. Mr Randy YU understood that Mr FONG Lung-fei was concerned about the problem of young night drifters. However, he opined that as the LCSD was a

department mainly responsible for organising recreational and cultural activities, it should work with the Social Welfare Department to explore ways to tackle the problem of young night drifters. Regarding Mr WONG Chun-veung's suggestion of opening venues at night, he said that staff should be deployed for management at scene and the improvement to audio equipment was necessary. He therefore requested the LCSD to study whether resources could be allocated to tie in with the arrangement. He had assisted the Central, Western & Islands District Youth Outreaching Social Work Team of Hong Kong Young Women's Christian Association in organising street dance training and competition a few years ago. As reflected to him by some young people, it was difficult to attract young people to participate in many street dance activities held at night due to undesirable lighting at the LCSD venues. He understood that there would be certain difficulties for the LCSD to provide venues meeting all the requirements of this kind of activity, but still hoped that it would proactively identify suitable venues for the activity. As regards the problem of young night drifters, he urged all participants of the meeting to actively explore solutions to avoid the problem from getting worse. According to his observation, some young people had improvement in emotional control after they had developed an interest in street dance. Hence, he believed that street dance was a way to help alleviate the problem of young night drifters, but it should not be over-relied on.

- 37. Mr FONG Lung-fei and the Chairman Mr YU held opposite views. young people mainly performed street dance at Yat Tung Estate Lai Shuk Ying Memorial Plaza. During his site visit to the venue, he found that there was no lighting equipment. However, some young people said that lighting was not necessary, and playing of music would be good enough. Besides, spectators did not shout or cause nuisance to others. The activity ended at 1:00 a.m., and no complaints were received during the activity. These young people had organised street dance competitions at their own expense, which had received enthusiastic response. He therefore hoped that the LCSD or other government departments would provide simple venues (such as small squares) and audio equipment to assist young people in organising small-scale street dance activities. Although youth problem could not be solved overnight, the LCSD had to address it. Regarding Members' proposal of directly requesting District Officer and the government departments concerned to follow up, he said that he had made phone calls to the relevant departments, some of which had not made any replies He had asked some young people what time they would usually go street dancing. They replied that they would usually do so between 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. lest other persons should be adversely affected. It was perceived that most participants were self-disciplined. It was also noted that some people came from Sheung Shui to Tung Chung for street dance, so he believed that there was potential for the development of street dance activities in the district. As these activities could better help young people achieve self-understanding, he urged the LCSD to actively study the issue.
- 38. <u>Ms Josephine TSANG</u> said that she had provided service in Yat Tung Estate, Tung Chung for 14 years. During this period, she found that many young people simply idled away their time. She criticised for the lack of venues in the district for them to get together. She agreed that street dance was a way for young people to express their emotions. She also pointed out that a group of young people often drank

alcohol and caused trouble on roofs in Yat Tung (I) Estate. She hoped they might be attracted to participate in street dance activities. As regards venue constraint, Lai Shuk Ying Memorial Plaza was near residential premises and residents therein had often lodged complaints against the activities held at the venue in the past. She pointed out that the space of the stage at the lower portion of the plaza was not big enough for holding such activities. Besides, the venue was not installed with a canopy, so young people needed to identify some other places for carrying out the activity during bad weather. Situated near residential premises, the Golden Bull Plaza was also not a suitable venue for holding the activity. She urged the LCSD to identify places that could be regularly open to young people for getting together or holding recreation and sports programmes.

39. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho said that Mr FONG Lung-fei had raised an issue of software rather than that of hardware. It was understood that the LCSD had organised competitions for social dancing, Chinese dance, jazz, western folk dance and so on. In his opinion, as street dance had become popular for about 10 years, the LCSD should consider including it as one of the recreation and sports programmes. Mr FONG Lung-fei had just mentioned that the young people he met were self-disciplined ones, but Mr LEUNG worried that there would be exceptions. He therefore hoped that the LCSD would provide venues for young people to develop correct values through dancing. As regards the lighting or equipment which was not so perfect at present, he opined that there was no big problem in these aspects, and that the LCSD should carefully consider the proposal at this stage.

40. Ms Jasmine WONG made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) The LCSD noted the proposed inclusion of introducing street dance culture in street dance courses and undertook to reflect the proposal to the relevant units.
- (b) In response to the proposal of organising street dance activities at parks and public spaces of low utilisation rate in Tung Chung, she undertook to reflect it to the relevant units so that they might study the feasibility when organising activities in Tung Chung in the future.
- (c) In response to the enquiry of whether the LCSD would organise or coorganise street dance performances or competitions with NGOs, she invited the LCSD representative of the relevant unit to make a reply because organising street dance activities was outside the scope of cultural services for which she was responsible.
- (d) In response to Mr Eric KWOK's enquiry of the information on "Producer Works Theater", she said that it was a Cultural Ambassador in 2019. Under the Community Cultural Ambassador Scheme, it had organised a series of street dance activities under the street dance theatre "Hidden Dragon". The street dance theatre was also one of the performing programmes of the Community Arts Scheme in Islands District this year,

which would be staged in the district. Members and residents in the community were welcomed to attend the performances and comment on the details of the programme, thereby promoting the interaction between the arts group and the public, and bringing arts and culture into the community.

41. Ms Alice CHOW said that the LCSD organises a wide range of recreation and sports activities for different age groups to build up a healthy lifestyle through regular participation of sports and physical activities. When planning new sports activities, it was necessary for the LCSD to consider various factors such as resources and facilities availability. It was also necessary for the LCSD to discuss the feasibility of promoting the activities with the relevant national sports associations (NSAs) under the Sports Federation and Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China, and facilitate the LCSD learn more about the trend of promoting such sports activities in Hong Kong and the requirement of ancillary facilities for these activities. In addition, the relevant NSAs would provide professional advice and technical support in several aspects to ensure the quality of activities, including the nature and arrangement of activities, standard training hours, instructor to participant ratio, venue requirements, instructor and referee resources, etc. In view of no NSA designated for the development of street dance in Hong Kong, the LCSD did not organise the training courses of street dance at present.

42. Mr Sammy TSUI expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He said that the LCSD's response had deviated from Mr FONG Lungfei's opinion. Mr FONG suggested that the LCSD should take the lead in organising street dance competitions, providing venues or platforms for young people to participate in the competitions. As stated in the LCSD's response a while ago, dancing performances would be included in the Community Arts Scheme. He therefore enquired whether street dance, being a district culture, would also be included. He opined that, as just stated by the LCSD, if street dance was to be developed into a professional sport by the NSAs, it might be necessary to participate in international competitions and meet certain international standards, which would be too high a level. He also opined that the LCSD, as an administrative department at district level, could organise open competitions for residents' favorite activities such as chess, mahjong or street dance competitions, and promote proper development of these activities.
- (b) As regards the proposal of organising street dance activities by NGOs, he opined that NGOs might only invite people of their own social circles (such as young people who were their clients, or their partner organisations) to participate in the activities. Subsequently, they would grab the related resources, while children playing in the streets, who had not joined any activities organised by such NGOs, could just continue to stay in the streets and engage in their usual activities. He said that the LCSD only needed to provide a platform for those interested in

participating in such competitions, which were like singing contests held in the mainland, the United States and Europe, on which the space, venues and rights for public participation were ensured. It would not be as complicated as what the LCSD had indicated.

- 43. <u>Ms Josephine TSANG</u> opined that the response just made by the LCSD was "divorced from reality". She indicated that no one requested the LCSD to develop street dance into an activity for competition in the Olympic Games or a large-scale activity. Mr FONG Lung-fei simply wanted the LCSD to provide a venue for holding street dance activities for enjoyment by participants, facilitating the public to learn more about street dance as a sports activity so that they would not feel worried about letting young people participate in it.
- 44. Mr Ken WONG criticised the LCSD for being out of tune with the times because it only organised the existing sports activities and was unwilling to promote the new ones. He remarked that the LCSD should keep abreast of the times since the world was always changing, and Members simply requested the LCSD to provide a platform and venues for holding street dance activities instead of promoting the sport.

45. Mr FONG Lung-fei expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He said that dancing performances in the style of dama show took place at Golden Bull Plaza every morning. Some community organisers even dressed like supermen for joining the dama shows of dancing last year. As they had attended the dancing classes organised by the LCSD, it was not known whether the LCSD would consider it a successful example of its efforts. He also said that his request was simple. He just wanted to promote innovative thinking without following the traditional bureaucratic practices. He pointed out that the Chief Executive had mentioned design thinking in the 2017 Policy Address, that is, the people-oriented philosophy and empathetic approach should be adopted instead of sticking to the established practice. Otherwise, it would be needless for Members to hold discussion if it only used the same set of practice at all times.
- (b) He noticed that when some young people practiced street dance at night, many other young people would gather, stand and watch from a distance. He guessed they might be hidden youths who watched dancing practice from a distance when they knew some people were dancing. He said it proved that street dance could attract such youths to "step out of their comfort zone". Therefore, such activities were not held purely for competition, but more importantly for helping these young people. He remarked that it would be simple indeed to do so because the LCSD only needed to provide venues for public participation. If the activities were to be organised by NGOs, they would only become the so-called small-circle activities as described by Members.

- (c) He said that he often paid attention to the activities organised by the LCSD. However, he could only learn about them through the publicity posters. He seldom saw the organisers recruiting participants openly while the same group of people would often participate in activities organised by such organisers. He criticised the LCSD for performing duties by simply sticking to the rules without innovation, and urged that the LCSD would seriously conduct a review of it. He remarked that reference could be drawn from the "Tao Arts Islands Community Arts Scheme" which was organised by the LCSD and funded by the IDC. He stressed that public events should be held for the participation of the general public rather than small-circles. So, he objected to frequent collaborations with NGOs and considered that monitoring should be strengthened if collaborations with NGOs were necessary.
- 46. Mr LEE Ka-ho was disappointed with the LCSD's reply just made. He said that Members only requested the LCSD to provide regular activities for participation by children and young people, and not all activities had to march towards the international arena. According to this approach of thinking, he wondered if it meant that all the LCSD activities (such as swimming classes and public library activities) should reach international level, and whether Members should assess the LCSD's performance with international standards. He urged the LCSD to conduct a review.
- 47. Mr HO Siu-kei expected that the LCSD would understand what Members thought. He was pleased that the young street dance lovers could behave themselves, and he considered that they had developed a proper mindset. Nevertheless, being the government department responsible for recreational and cultural work, the LCSD failed to provide ancillary software and hardware support in this respect. Therefore, he urged the LCSD to respond well to the needs of the district in its youth work.

48. Mr WONG Chun-yeung expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He said that after Members had raised questions and motions, government representatives would often only say they had taken note of them. So, he enquired the LCSD representative about the post-meeting handling procedures of the raised matters. For example, he enquired whether a meeting would be convened to study or assess these matters and then take follow-up actions, or whether the matters would be left unsettled after the representatives had listened to them.
- (b) He suggested that proposals should be submitted basing on the basic needs of the community. For example, at present, halls and dance studios inside community halls were the only dance venues available in Tung Chung. So, there was a lack of appropriate venues for use by dance organisations (of social dance, Latin dance, ballet and so on). He enquired whether the LCSD would use conference rooms that had been left unused for a long time as temporary venues for dancing. As he thought, when compared with the pattern of organising activities in

collaboration with NGOs or other organisations, the pattern of allocating resources and providing venues for these activities would facilitate the LCSD to draw on more experience in organising activities and explore more ways to promote the activities.

- 49. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho said that, as the LCSD had just stated, it would only examine and organise the activities of the authorised dance associations in Hong Kong (dance associations). However, he noted that some unheard dances were staged in the Hong Kong Dance Expo 2019 organised by the Hong Kong Dance Federation (Dance Federation), such as the Hungarian dance "Ordongosfuzesi". The performers should belong to dance organisations under dance associations. If street dance organisations under dance associations could participate in the activities of the respective dance associations, he enquired whether the LCSD would permit these organisations to hire the LCSD venues for use. He also said that as many organisations participating in the Hong Kong Dance Expo 2019 were formed by secondary school students, reference might be drawn from the experience of this activity for organising activities in future.
- 50. Mr Randy YU said that after he had listened to the response from the LCSD representative, he expected that Members might not get a satisfactory answer that day. He urged the LCSD to respond to the two questions just raised by Members. First, Mr WONG Chun-yeung wanted to understand matters such as the LCSD's internal operation and processing procedures. Second, Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho enquired whether the LCSD would consider organising similar activities only after the Dance Federation had organised such activities. Although the LCSD representative had stated that they could not make an immediate response to some other issues, they might discuss with the related officers for understanding the relevant situation and provide written replies afterwards, thereby facilitating Members to learn about their follow-up action and proposals.
- 51. Mr Eric KWOK agreed to Mr Randy YU's remarks. According to the mechanism of the LCSD, the LCSD representative might not be able to give an immediate response to Members. As there were many young Members in the CACRC, he proposed to set up a working group on youth culture under the CACRC. Upon the approval obtained at an IDC meeting in the following financial year, young Members would take the lead of the working group to apply for and make use of resources to promote the youth cultural work. He proposed that the working group should operate in a way like that of the Working Group on the promotion of bazaar development in Islands District. He hoped to promote cultural, arts, dance, singing and other activities beloved by young people at present through the working group and implement them by the CACRC.

52. <u>Ms Jasmine WONG</u> made a consolidated response as follows:

(a) Regarding Mr WONG Chun-yeung's enquiry of the LCSD's follow-up work to be taken after the meeting, she indicated that matters related to programme planning and orientation would be referred to the programme offices for handling and follow-up. She said that the LCSD had always

been in collaboration with the IDC to make arrangement for performances in free cultural programmes, such as the "Tao Arts Islands - Community Arts Scheme" implemented this year. If Members would comment on the details of the Community Arts Scheme, the LCSD would reflect them to and discuss with the programme offices after the meeting. The LCSD would also consult Members when there were new programme proposals or recommendations.

(b) Regarding the arrangement of dance competitions, she was not in the position to respond since it was outside the purview of the Cultural Services Branch.

53. Ms Alice CHOW made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) Regarding Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho's question, the Hong Kong Dance Sport Association Limited (HKDSA) was not designated for the development of street dance at this stage. Therefore, the LCSD was unable to organise street dance competitions for the time being because HKDSA have not provide referee support at present. In addition, as street dance would involve difficult and demanding movements, professional advice from the above dance association was thus very important. She cited the Hong Kong Games Cheering Team Competition as an example, illustrating that the LCSD would consult the Cheerleading Federation of Hong Kong, China and seek its professional advice on difficulty of movements to be performed by the cheering teams (such as stunts with height limit as well as the actions of toss).
- (b) Regarding Mr WONG Chun-yeung's question, she indicated that it was similar to Mr FONG Lung-fei's on chess activities, which was raised at the last meeting. LCSD would examine the relevant resources and explore the possibility of organising such activities next year when it was to formulate the recreation and sports programmes for the following year in November or December each year.

54. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho expressed his views as follows:

(a) He said he absolutely understood that the LCSD could not hold street dance competitions due to adjudicating problems. However, he had just referred to the Hong Kong Dance Expo for illustration. He indicated that adjudicators were not required for some dances such as Mexican Dance and St George's Dance of Albania. Members were concerned about the organising of street dance activities, so he did not see why the LCSD representative focused on competition. He enquired whether it meant that the LCSD could operate new dance courses if performance of these dances could be staged by some dance organisations in activities organised by the Dance Federation. He reiterated that Mr FONG Lungfei's focus was on organising the activities rather than developing such

- activities to international level, and the aim was to help youth at risk and young night drifters develop positive thinking through street dance.
- He indicated that not too many sports, except cycling and windsurfing, in Hong Kong had reached the international level. Although some sports such as basketball and soccer did not have high rankings in the world, activities of these sports were still frequently organised by the LCSD. He requested the LCSD to promote emerging sports such as Roundnet and Flyball, and criticised the LCSD for not being able to keep pace with the times. He also indicated that Taiwan and Singapore were higher than Hong Kong in terms of sports standard. He said that full-time athletes were currently available only in a few sports in Hong Kong which were subsidised by the Government. Basketball was one of the sports receiving commercial sponsorship which was not related to the LCSD. He was desirous of having more full-time athletes in Hong Kong. enquired the LCSD again whether it would adopt and organise the related dance activities provided that performance of some dances had been staged by some participating organisations in activities organised by the Dance Federation.
- 55. <u>Ms Alice CHOW</u> noted Members' views. The LCSD would keep contact with the relevant NSA for understanding the details of street dance and its development.
- 56. Mr WONG Chi-leung said that regarding the services provided for young night drifters about which Members were concerned, he would liaise with the NGOs responsible for youth service and provide support for the young people in need.
- 57. <u>The Acting Chairman</u> requested the LCSD to take note of and take into consideration Members' views.

(Mr CHAN Lin-wai left the meeting at around 11:55 a.m.)

III. Reports by Working Groups

(i) CACRC Vetting Group

58. The Acting Chairman said that the CACRC Vetting Group (Vetting Group) had processed 29 funding applications for community involvement (CI) projects to be held from November to December this year at the meeting on 8 September 2020. The proposals had been endorsed by CACRC by circulation of paper. Moreover, the Vetting Group had processed 31 funding applications for CI projects to be held from January to March 2021 at the meeting on 28 October 2020. The proposals had been endorsed by the Committee by circulation of paper. Furthermore, the application deadline of IDC funds for organising CI projects in 2021/2022 was endorsed at the meeting.

59. Members noted the contents of three activity evaluation reports.

(ii) CACRC Activities Working Group

(a) "Funding Women's Development Program" 2020-21

• Letters were issued by the CACRC Activities Working Group (Working Group) to women groups and non-profit making organisations in the district to invite them to submit activity proposals, and three proposals were received by the deadline. After vetting, the Working Group proposed to recommend Women's Commission to allocate funds to the Neighbourhood Advice-Action Council Tung Chung Integrated Services Centre for organising the "Funding Women's Development Program" of the Islands District this year. The proposal was attached at Annex 1.

(b) "Cantonese Opera for the Lunar New Year in the Islands District"

- "Cantonese Opera for the Lunar New Year in the Islands District" would be held at the Recital Hall of the Hong Kong City Hall on 15 and 16 February 2021. After vetting, the Working Group decided to commission the Super Talent International Limited as the contractor of service provision for the above Cantonese opera performances.
- 60. Mr LAM Kit-sing said that the organiser of the DC-funded Activity No. 212 "35th New Territories Regional Swimming Gala" was the Sha Tin Sports Association Limited (STSAL). It was a general practice for the Islands District to participate in the competitions. Regarding Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho's awareness of the cancellation of the activity only upon arriving at the scene, Mr LAM explained that many activities could not be held as planned under the influence of the epidemic and restrictions had been imposed on various aspects such as activity venues. As the organiser had issued a belated notification to the parties concerned, the Secretariat of the Islands District Sports Association (IDSA) was not able to inform Mr LEUNG of the cancellation in He therefore would like to make an apology for this. Nevertheless, he considered that it was unfair for Mr LEUNG to give a rating "Unsatisfactory" to all assessment items and negative comments in the activity evaluation report. As noted, the activity venue of the DC-funded Activity No. 213 was on Cheung Chau, and the notification of cancellation was also issued on the activity day. However, Mr LEUNG only requested the organiser to give early notification about cancellation of activity without rating all assessment items as "Unsatisfactory" in the activity evaluation report. He queried if Mr LEUNG had prepared the two reports with double standards, thereby requesting him to make amendments to the ratings in the first report and undertaking to give immediate notification to Mr LEUNG should similar activities be held in the future.
- 61. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho said that the swimming gala concerned under the DC-funded Activity No. 212 was scheduled to be held at the Ma On Shan Swimming Pool from 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on the activity day. So, he went there from Cheung Chau

by ferry departing at 9:00 a.m. on the activity day but, upon arrival at the venue, he was told by a security guard at his enquiry that no competitions would be held there that day. He immediately called the organisation with the telephone number set out in the activity evaluation report, and the staff answering the phone told him that the competitions had been cancelled. He remarked that as no athletes of the swimming gala turned up at the venue that day, it was thus clear that they had learnt of the cancellation of activity in advance. However, even the Secretariat was informed of the cancellation only in the following day, causing him to waste time on the trip. was discontented with this, holding that it was justified for him to give negative As regards the DC-funded Activity No. 213, the activity venue was Cheung Chau Sports Ground. Before he departed for the activity venue that day, he was informed of the cancellation of the activity by telephone. He opined that he prepared the activity assessment reports with consistent standards. Despite improper arrangement for Activity No. 213, he was at least informed of the situation prior to his departure for the activity. In this connection, he only reminded the organiser to give early notification of any changes in arrangement to Members and the Secretariat next Regarding the request of the Chairman of the IDSA made to him for amending the activity evaluation report, he enquired the Secretariat if he would be allowed to do so.

- 62. Mr LAM Kit-sing apologised to Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho for wasting his time without proper reason. However, he explained that the IDSA was informed of the cancellation of the activity at a very late stage, and few Members had previously conducted visit to the activity. In this case, he admitted that it was not handled properly. He stressed that the activity was worth promoting, but Mr LEUNG might not have a thorough understanding of the quality of the activity as he was not directly involved in it. For this reason, he hoped that the Secretariat would allow Mr LEUNG to amend his comments, lest they should adversely affect the DC's impression of the activity.
- 63. Mr WONG Chun-yeung said that the matter had also been discussed at the last meeting of the Vetting Group, during which Members noted that the IDSA did not have a full-time secretary. As the IDC had allocated resources to the IDSA for organising the activity, it was a pity for the cancellation of the activity. However, he did not understand why notification was only given to athletes while the DC was forgotten, and therefore enquired whether the IDSA had no intention to notify Members at all, or whether it was the first time for the IDSA to handle such situation and thus give rise to the mistake.
- 64. Mr Sammy TSUI opined that the organiser had made improper arrangement for the activity, and stated that he would also give a rating "Unsatisfactory" to all items in the activity evaluation report if he learnt about the cancellation of the activity only after he had arrived at the activity venue. During the vetting of the application, he had enquired what arrangements the organiser would make if the activity could not be held due to the epidemic. At that time, someone replied that notification would be given seven days prior to the activity. As a matter of fact, the notification was only issued on the day of the activity in the end. He said that it was not justifiable for giving

notification to the organisations concerned on the activity day about whether the activity could be held as planned. Seeing that there was improper handling in the arrangement, Members could not be blamed for making negative comments. Being funded for organising the activity, the IDSA had to bear the responsibility for this. The absence of a full-time secretary was not a substantial ground for not giving prior notification of the cancellation of activity. He thought at least one person-in-charge should be designated for each activity, and proposed to remind other organisations to improve the activity arrangements amid the epidemic.

- Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho requested the Secretariat to reply in due course regarding whether the comments stated on the activity evaluation report could be amended. Moreover, as just stated by the Chairman of the IDSA, the activity was co-organised by the New Territories Regional Sports Association and the STSAL. Besides, there were no full-time staff for the IDSA, so it would organise activities in collaboration with professional bodies every time. He therefore queried whether funding applications should be jointly submitted by the New Territories Regional Sports Association and the STSAL in the future. Otherwise, if the Secretariat made a telephone enquiry to the IDSA in the future as to whether an activity would be held as planned seven days before the activity day, he wondered whether the IDSA still needed to enquire the STSAL before answering the Secretariat, which would then convey the information obtained from the STSAL to Members. Furthermore, he proposed that the DC-funded activities should be classified by organisations submitting funding applications, that is, by the IDSA or other professional bodies. This would help prevent the IDSA from being a In this case, as the activity was not organised by the IDSA, the organiser did not notify the IDSA after the activity was cancelled, and therefore it could not give notification to Members on time. Even so, he still wanted to continue to organise the activity. Regarding the number of funding applications, he considered it necessary to differentiate between the organiser and co-organiser of an activity. Otherwise, some organisations could submit funding applications indefinitely through other organisations.
- 66. Mr HO Siu-kei said that the Chairman of the IDSA Mr LAM Kit-sing and the DC had problems in communication, and the misunderstanding was caused by the epidemic. He considered that the IDSA should bear the responsibility of this incident to a certain extent because it did not notify all concerned parties after learning the cancellation of the activity. However, the DC should provide support for organising healthy sports activities. As the IDSA would often invite Members to attend their activities, both sides should maintain close communication to support sports activities in Islands District.
- 67. Mr Ken WONG said that he, being the Vice President of IDSA, did not participate in the discussion on the assessment of the funding application concerned due to his identity. He opined that Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho's remarks were fair and reasonable because Members should not have been told that the activity was cancelled upon his arrival at the activity venue. Even if the activity was held in Cheung Chau, the arrangement was still undesirable since it was impossible for the relevant organisation to learn about the cancellation of activity only on the activity day. He

took the practice of Rural Committees (RCs) as an example, indicating that the decision of cancelling an activity due to the serious situation of the epidemic would be made one month in advance of the activity day. He opined that the IDSA should admit the mistake because the STSAL would have given the notification of cancellation at least three to four days prior to the activity. The IDSA should admit that it had committed a careless mistake in the way of handling. As regards Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho's proposal of not accepting the IDSA's funding application as stated in his comment of the activity assessment report, the IDSA might still be able to submit the funding application at the next meeting. Nevertheless, he hoped that the organiser had learnt a lesson and would not make any mistakes again. Although the IDSA might shirk the responsibility to the STSAL in respect of the problems of the swimming gala concerned, it still could not do so if the activity was held on Cheung Chau. The IDSA should have foresight and had to be accountable to the public and athletes, hence they should not notify the DC of the cancellation of any activities until the respective activity days. He said that as he had withdrawn from meeting during the assessment of the funding application, he had no idea whether there was a rejection of reimbursing a certain amount of funding to the IDSA due to its failure of not giving a one-week notice of the cancellation to all concerned parties. If it was so, the IDSA could blame no one else He opined that the negative comments given by Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho served as a reminder, alerting all to be vigilant in their work.

68. Mr FONG Lung-fei opined that since the IDSA was the body which had applied for DC funds, it should enquire the organiser whether the activity would be proceeded one to two days before the activity. It should not make an excuse that the mistake was caused by resources problems. He queried why the DC was not informed of the cancellation of activity while all athletes concerned had learnt about it. He enquired when the organiser had notified Mr LAM Kit-sing of the cancellation. Seeing that the IDSA had applied DC funds for organising the activity, Mr LAM's explanation could not be considered justifiable. Lastly, he did not understand why the IDC applied DC funds for subsidising the participation in an activity which was organised in Sha Tin, thus requesting the Secretariat to make a response.

(Post-meeting note: Regarding Mr FONG Lung-fei's enquiry of the funding application submitted by the IDSA for organising the "35th New Territories Regional Swimming Gala", according to the Secretariat's records, the IDSA was the applicant organisation of the funding application and the details of the activity were to, instead of providing funds to the STSAL for organising activities, subsidise the IDSA for forming a sports team which would represent Islands District to participate in the activity organised by the New Territories Regional Sports Association.)

69. Mr HO Chun-fai recalled that he used to participate in sports activities organised by the DC when he was young. At that time, villagers had actively supported the activities and residents of various areas such as Lamma Island, Cheung Chau and Peng Chau would also try their best to make contribution to the outlying islands. Nevertheless, owing to the possible factor of the ageing residents who had become less

energetic, the situation was not like before in the past ten years. On the contrary, the constituencies of Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho and DC Members in Tung Chung were of stronger demand for organising these activities, but the IDSA was not able to adequately meet the needs. If the situation was due to shortage of manpower, the project proponents should actively seek assistance from the relevant working groups and committees. He enquired whether Members, Islands District Office or even the LCSD would help resolve the problems. He opined that they might request the LCSD for assistance. The IDSA took charge of all the related activities in the past, but might not tie in with them all in the current-term DC as there was a significant increase in the number of sports activities to be organised. He hoped the IDSA would strengthen communication with the DC which was duty-bound to strike a balance of interest among various outlying islands, and increase the transparency of arrangement for the well-being of residents in Islands District.

- 70. Mr LEE Ka-ho thanked the Chairman of the IDSA for attending the meeting, facilitating Members to learn about the process of organising activities by the IDSA. He held that the IDSA should accept Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho's comments for improvement. Since the IDSA had applied DC funds for organising activities, it was natural for the DC to make evaluations.
- 71. Mr FONG Lung-fei agreed to Mr HO Chun-fai's remarks. In case the IDSA encountered problems in organising activities, it should seek assistance from the DC. He enquired whether the IDSA was a partner of or an authorised institution in collaboration with the DC. If it had both identities, the DC was duty-bound to assist the IDSA in solving the problems. However, if it was an organisation which had only applied DC funds for organising activities, the DC was not responsible for providing assistance. The IDSA should assess if it had adequate resources to organise activities in advance instead of requesting the DC to assist in solving resource problems after it had been allocated with funds. He wanted the Secretariat to respond whether the DC was responsible for providing assistance for the IDSA. If IDSA was neither the DC's partner nor a designated authorised institution, the DC needed not bear the responsibility of providing the IDSA with assistance.
- 72. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho apologised for causing misunderstanding to other He learnt from the application form of the IDSA that the activity was organised by the STSAL. From among the funding applications submitted to Tuen Mun District Council, he identified that the Tuen Mun Sports Association Limited had submitted an application for DC funds for participation in and training for the 35th New Territories Regional Swimming Gala. He said that the IDSA might have done something wrong in word use, causing Members to mistake all the time that the IDSA was the organiser of the activity concerned, and therefore had the responsibility to give notification of the related matters to the athletes. He indicated that the information on the 34th New Territories Regional Swimming Gala in 2018 had been uploaded onto the The IDSA had sent representatives to participate in the website of the STSAL. competitions, and his duty was to conduct inspection to the IDSA's participation in them without giving comments on its performance in the activities. Therefore, the discussion on the IDSA's application should be carried out. As all members of the

Vetting Group previously mistook that the IDSA submitted the application of DC funds for organising the activity concerned, he proposed that the Acting Chairman should consider whether it needed to convene a special meeting for the discussion on the issue or continue to discuss it at the meeting.

- 73. Mr LAM Kit-sing said that as it was a DC-funded activity, the IDSA was required to inform the inspection parties of the situation, stating that it had written to the IDC Secretariat for giving an account for the situation at that time. He explained that the STSAL had not been able to identify a venue for the activity due to the epidemic and informed the IDSA of the cancellation very late. The IDSA was only a participant of the activity, representing one of the nine districts in the New Territories to participate in the swimming gala concerned. As Islands District was one of the nine districts in the New Territories, the IDSA participated in the competitions at invitation and had all along been representing Islands District in the relevant competitions. Being in lack of funds, the IDSA had to apply for DC funds for participating in the competitions concerned all along. Accountable expenditure on identifying coaches and athletes would also be reimbursed to the IDSA with DC funds. If a funding application was not approved by the DC, the IDSA would need to seek subsidy from other sources. funding was provided, the IDSA would proceed to implement the project. had been participating in the New Territories regional competitions for the district on a voluntary basis for many years. As there were double standards in the two activity assessment reports, it was unfair to the IDSA. He reflected the view to Mr LEUNG As he worried that the comments would bring the IDSA into disrepute for the application of DC funds, he had already provided clarification and given an explanation accordingly. He remarked that the IDSA was just a participating team of the swimming gala and asked Members' tolerance for the mistakes it had made.
- The Secretary responded that there were no guidelines forbidding Members to 74. make amendments to any submitted activity assessment reports. If Mr LEUNG considered that amendment was necessary, he might inform the Secretariat of the request and submit the amended assessment report. Regarding the applicant organisation, the Secretary could not make a reply on this matter immediately because the relevant application form was not at hand. As he understood it, the IDSA was stated as the organiser in the application form submitted by the IDSA. The Secretariat would process the application in the same way as it did for other applicants. With the exception of the waiver implemented to the restriction on the maximum number of applications for DC funds, there was no difference in other aspects for vetting. At present, the administrative work related to the last meeting was being handled by the Vetting Group and, upon the completion of the administrative arrangement, the Secretariat would inform all CACRC Members of the arrangements by circulation of paper for endorsement. Regarding the processing of applications, there were no endorsed proposals which were necessary for reporting to Members for the time being.
- 75. <u>Mr Eric KWOK</u> held that the Secretariat should make a clear reply to Mr FONG Lung-fei's enquiry of the IDSA's identity, that is, whether the IDSA applied DC funds for organising CI projects in the capacity of an ordinary organisation or an IDC partner. The Secretariat had replied that waiver of the restriction on the maximum number of

applications for DC funds had been implemented to the IDSA, just like that to the RCs, which therefore could submit funds applications for organising activities without limit. Members would need to review the situation again before the end of the transitional period on 31 March next year. He therefore considered that the Secretariat had to respond to Mr FONG's enquiry.

(Post-meeting note: Regarding the enquiries raised by Mr FONG Lung-fei and Mr Eric KWOK, the Secretariat had checked the relevant documents after the meeting and confirmed that IDC had not designated any specific organisations as partners under the CI Programme. Regarding the transitional arrangement as mentioned by Mr Eric KWOK, it was believed that Mr KWOK had referred to the requirement that the DC could provide funding to five CI activities organised by RCs and the Discovery Bay City Owners Committee at most in 2021-22. The requirements would be further reviewed before 31 March 2022, and Members might refer to Paper IDC 60/2020 for details. Regarding the waiving of restriction on the maximum number of applying DC funds for organising CI projects by the IDSA, according to the existing "Guidelines on the Use of Islands District Council Funds (Guidelines)", funding support would be provided by IDC to a maximum of 3 CI projects or district festive projects for each organisation in the same year. Nevertheless, the above restrictions could be waived for organisations providing training for representatives of the district to participate in open competitions. The IDC Secretariat had always processed all funding applications for organising sports activities in accordance with the Guidelines, including all applications submitted by the IDSA.)

- 76. Mr WONG Chun-yeung said that literally, the organiser of the activity was the STSAL, whereas the IDSA was only an event participant. However, the IDSA had filled out in the application form for funding that it was the organiser. He thus queried whether the funding application could be endorsed in this way.
- 77. The Secretary said that the relevant form had not yet been found. However, it was the general practice that the Secretariat would process the application by examining the organiser of activity as stated in the application form which was submitted by the applicant organisation. As he recalled, the IDSA was filled out as the organiser in the application form and was thus regarded as the organisation applying for DC funds.
- 78. <u>Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho</u> enquired whether it needed to arrange a special meeting for discussing the issue and, owing to mistakes involved in the paper, whether the IDSA Chairman needed to withdraw from meeting for serious handling of the incident.
- 79. <u>The Acting Chairman</u> proposed to discuss Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho's question at the next meeting of the Vetting Group, and enquired whether there were any objections from Members.

- 80. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho stated that at the time the next meeting of the Vetting Group was held, this financial year had already ended. In his opinion, a special meeting should be held to promptly handle the issue.
- 81. Mr Randy YU opined that it was necessary to hold detailed discussion on the agenda item which belonged to the terms of reference of the Vetting Group. Members agreed that a review of various items, such as the subsidy for hiring the maximum number of tour coach and food allowances, would be conducted before 31 March next year, and it would be most appropriate for handling the issue by the relevant working group.
- 82. Mr Eric KWOK said that as mentioned in the last meeting of the Vetting Group, the Secretariat had to arrange meetings to review the vetting criteria of funding application before 31 March 2021. Members had raised many views on the vetting criteria over the past year, and the Secretariat was making arrangement for a meeting for Members to raise comments.
- 83. Mr HO Chun-fai said that restriction on the maximum number of application of DC funds for organising CI projects by each organisation in the same year might not be applicable to the IDSA because it was representing many outlying islands in Islands District. Given the particular circumstances, problems might arise if there was a limitation of the number of funding applications submitted by the IDSA.
- 84. Since the agenda item had been discussed at the previous DC meeting and Members had agreed to conduct a review before 31 March next year, Mr Eric KWOK thought that it was not appropriate to discuss it further at the meeting.
- 85. As Members of the Vetting Group had endorsed to hold a special meeting to discuss the vetting details for the next financial year, such as the regularisation of funding applications submitted by organisations and all the related requirements, Mr HO Siu-kei thought that Members might discuss in detail and express their opinions at that time. Besides, any disputes and questions could also be discussed in detail at the special meeting.
- 86. Mr WONG Chun-yeung agreed to hold a special meeting during which he wanted to recommend the setting up of a database for the 18 districts as well as, in the light of the vetting procedure, clarify the identities of organiser and participating organisations and discuss the ways to deal with duplicate applications.
- 87. Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho believed that it was not the first time for the IDSA to participate in a swimming gala over the years, because it was one of the participating organisations in the last swimming gala. However, none of the DCs in the past had found that the IDSA was not the organiser of any of the swimming galas. He wanted to know why this would have happened, considering that the mistakes contained in the paper submitted for application might have caused wrong provision of funding. He therefore requested the Secretary to explain this. He opined that the Chairman of the

IDSA should withdraw from meeting if the discussion was to continue, and clarification had to be made because it was of great difference between the application of DC funds for participating in activities and the application of DC funds for organising activities. If Members and the IDSA had not noticed the mistake over the years, he wanted to know the reason for it. If the funding was provided wrongly, correction should be made. In fact, the problem lied in the criteria adopted for vetting the IDSA's funding applications in many swimming galas held previously, and it did not happen only in the last two or three years. He enquired if the Secretariat could immediately check the relevant information.

- 88. Mr Ken WONG said that the eight Ex Officio Members, being Vice Presidents and representatives of RCs, had withdrawn from meeting without participating in the vetting of the IDSA's application. He considered it necessary for the Secretariat to conduct data collection with a view to exploring whether the application of the IDSA was in compliance with the Guidelines. Moreover, he considered it necessary for the Chairman to lead the Vetting Group to study whether there were any irregularities in the funding application. Furthermore, he considered that the issue should not be handled at the meeting since the eight Members who were representatives from RCs had withdrawn from meeting when the vetting of the paper concerned was conducted. He therefore requested the Acting Chairman to make a decision.
- 89. <u>The Acting Chairman</u> decided to shelve Mr LEUNG Kwok-ho's question for discussion during the next review to be conducted by the Vetting Group.
- 90. Mr LEE Ka-ho said that the application form in question was found in an email. The IDSA had stated under the column "Objectives" of the proposed project in the form as follows: "To organise a team representing the Islands District to participate in an activity organised by The New Territories Regional Sports Association (translation)". As it did not state that the activity was organised by the STSAL, Members had no idea which districts would send representatives to participate in it. They only knew the IDSA would lead a team to participate in it, and therefore had submitted application for funding the expenses of transportation, athletes and so on. Despite the unclear presentation in the form, it was not a serious problem indeed. Besides, the roles of the applicant organisation being the organiser of the activity or the leader of the delegated team had not been confused. As regards whether it was necessary to set up a working group for handling this matter, he considered it necessary to do so because the IDSA was responsible for many similar kinds of activities in addition to the activity In this connection, there was a need to hold meetings for a detailed review.
- 91. <u>Ms Josephine TSANG</u> requested the Acting Chairman to make arrangement for discussion on and review of the questions raised by Members just now, and clarify the role of the IDSA for aiding the vetting of applications in future. Moreover, she expected that the Secretariat had to make the necessary preparatory work so that the issues could be discussed together during the review.
- 92. <u>The Acting Chairman</u> requested the Secretariat to make arrangement for a meeting for review.

- 93. <u>The Acting Chairman</u> invited Members to endorse the above reports of the Vetting Group and the Working Group, as well as the application deadline of the IDC Funds for organising the CI project.
- 94. Members noted and endorsed the reports of the above two working groups as well as the deadline of application for the IDC Funds for organising the CI project.

(Post-meeting note: According to the "Manual on the Use of DC Funds" (Manual) published by the HAD, the DC funds were to be used for meeting district needs. The ambit of the DC funds was to cover district leisure and sports programmes. The IDSA had submitted an application for the IDC funds for the "35th New Territories Regional Swimming Gala", aiming to subsidise sports organisations to form a delegated team to participate in the above activity on behalf of the Islands District. The completed application form was sent to the Vetting Group for Members' perusal before the Vetting Group meeting was held on 29 June 2020. As the nature of the activity was covered by the DC funds, the Secretariat had vetted the application and recommended endorsement of the funding application by the Vetting Group. The proposed funding was endorsed by the CACRC by circulation of paper on 3 August 2020. The organiser could not hold the activity as planned at last, and subsequently informed the Secretariat that the activity had been cancelled. The Secretariat would make arrangement for reviewing the Guidelines for vetting funding applications for activities at the next Vetting Group meeting.)

(Mr YUNG Chi-ming left the meeting at around 12:30 p.m. Mr CHOW Yuk-tong left the meeting at around 12:50 p.m.)

- IV. Reports on the work of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department in Islands District
 - (i) <u>Cultural Activities</u> (Paper CACRC 58/2020)
 - 95. <u>The Acting Chairman</u> welcomed Ms Jasmine WONG, Senior Manager (New Territories South) Promotion, of the LCSD to the meeting to present the paper.
 - 96. <u>Ms Jasmine WONG</u> briefly presented the paper and consulted Members on the proposed extension of the implementation period of the Community Arts Scheme in Islands District. She said that many activities such as workshops on musical could not be implemented as scheduled due to the outbreak of COVID-19. As only five months were left in the current financial year, she believed that it would be impossible to hold all the activities within a short time. It is therefore proposed to extend the programme

for one year to March 2022. In this way, activities could be organised in an orderly and phased manner to achieve the expected results when the epidemic situation subsided.

She said that there were 10 more cultural programmes in addition to the musical "Defying Gravity". In case Members agreed to extend these programmes for one year, the LCSD would closely monitor the development of the epidemic and organise the performances under safe conditions. For example, the LCSD had just held a jazz concert at the Tung Chung Community Hall on 26 October 2020. She indicated that owing to the impact of the epidemic at present, the LCSD could not organise performances or other activities in outdoor venues, and could only identify venues at the Tung Chung Community Hall or Discovery Bay Community Hall for use. In view of the constraint on the location of activity venue, the LCSD could only arrange the programmes for enjoyment by local residents instead of benefiting residents of all outlying islands in Islands District for the time being. In addition, all walks of life in the territory had suffered substantially as a result of the epidemic including performing arts practitioners. It is believed that, if the activities could be implemented in an orderly manner, they would bring to the performers performance opportunities and income.

97. Mr Eric KWOK expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He opined that the LCSD's remarks were self-contradictory because on the one hand it worried about the situation of the epidemic and on the other, it planned to continue to promote activities in indoor environment and seek Members' advice on the approach. The inconsistency lied in that the possibility of transmission of the COVID-19 virus in indoor environment was higher than that at outdoor environment with better air circulation. He also opined that as long as the number of persons in group gatherings did not exceed the limit as specified in the prohibition of group gathering regulation, the LCSD had to provide scientific evidence supporting that the number of participants permitted for its indoor activities was safe. Otherwise, the LCSD's remarks were contradictory.
- (b) He supported the extension of implementation period of the Community Arts Scheme. In addition, he noted that all the performances would be staged in schools. As stated in the paper, the objective of the activity was to link up mainland and non-ethnic Chinese residents in Islands District for the promotion of cultural diversity. However, he had not received any promotional materials so far, and did not know whether the performances would only be staged at the performing venues stated in the Annexes, such as the Ching Chung Hau Po Woon Primary School and the HKFEW Wong Cho Bau School, and whether the documents would only be received at the above venues. If this was the case, the LCSD had to clearly inform the public the related information. Since the activities were open performances, he requested the LCSD to clearly explain the

following questions: whether the activities were open performances; whether there would be open publicity for the performances; and whether other residents could come to the venue to watch the performances.

98. <u>Mr FONG Lung-fei</u> expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He agreed with Mr Eric KWOK because, in the case of some school programmes which seemed to be organised by the LCSD, the publicity was focused on specific organisations and the targets for publicity were members of specific organisations. He had raised enquiries about this, and would sometimes be told that the relevant activities were organised for specific members only. He said that this had happened for more than one time.
- (b) He enquired why only specific members were eligible for participation and why people could participate only at invitation if the activities were open activities. Noting that most of the participants were aged residents in the community, he seemed to be unwelcomed for appearing at the activity venues and had been asked by someone what he was doing there. He hoped that the LCSD, being the funding department of activities, should strengthen the monitoring to prevent activities funded by the Government from becoming specific private programmes of some organisations.

99. Ms Jasmine WONG made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) She said that the programmes set out in the Annexes of the paper were not programmes under the Tao Arts Islands - Community Arts Scheme, but were programmes provided by the LCSD to various target groups through different schemes. The information paper aimed to facilitate Members to learn about the LCSD's activities organised for Islands District; to tell Members about the impact of the epidemic on the "Tao Arts Islands - Community Arts Scheme"; and to seek Members' advice on them. Therefore, the programmes set out in the Annexes had excluded those arranged under the Tao Arts Islands - Community Arts Scheme.
- (b) As the epidemic had been gradually easing, the LCSD had resumed the staging of performances with live audience at its indoor venues. However, compliance with the relevant requirements was needed, including the conducting of body temperature screening on all persons before entering a performance venue, the arrangement of seating in a way without having more than four consecutive seats in the same row, as well as the implementation of corresponding disease prevention measures for performers who could not wear masks due to singing or wind instrument performance, such as installation of railings and provision of effective partitioning to maintain adequate distancing between performers and the

- audience. Moreover, the LCSD would select and stage suitable performances having regard to the situation of the epidemic; implement adequate disease prevention measures to protect the health of performers and audience and prevent the spread of the epidemic.
- (c) She said that if Members wanted to suspend the programmes amid the COVID-19 epidemic until the epidemic situation subsided, the LCSD would take note of Member's views.
- (d) Regarding the enquiries of the publicity of "Defying Gravity" and whether public participation would be excluded, she said that owing to the influence of the epidemic, the complementary activities such as the workshops of musicals were cancelled. Therefore, the publicity had been suspended until the activity was resumed. If Members thought certain performances could be resumed first, the LCSD would carry out the related publicity work, and the public could enjoy the performances for free.
- 100. Mr Eric KWOK said that the LCSD had given an account of the programme arrangements and the requirements for compliance amid the epidemic. connection, he considered it unnecessary to consult Members at the meeting. understood that the two Annexes had set out different programmes. As the LCSD had just responded that it would inform Members, Members' ward offices or stakeholders in the district of the publicity details of the Tao Arts Islands - Community Arts Scheme, he wanted to ask whether the programmes to be held in schools, as stated in the Annexes, would be promoted among schools only or in open publicity campaigns to attract resident participation. For example, as indicated in an Annex, the activities planned to be held in the Ching Chung Hau Po Woon Primary School during the period from October 2020 to May 2021 had been suspended since October 2020 due to the epidemic. He enquired whether an open publicity would be carried out when these activities resumed; whether posters would be posted up at Members' ward offices, venues of the RCs or other stakeholders in the district such as mutual aid committees; or whether the publicity campaign would only be carried out at the Ching Chung Hau Po Woon Primary School.
- 101. Ms Jasmine WONG apologised for misinterpreting Mr Eric KWOK's question. She said that the Annexes had set out the LCSD's schemes for promoting arts education or popularising the arts, and the target groups of the schemes were mainly students. The LCSD had organised various school arts schemes for students by age and by sector, such as the Arts Experience Scheme for Senior Secondary Students and the arts scheme activities suitable for junior students. As the target groups of the schemes were students, the targets for publicity would mainly be schools. The responsible office would invite schools to participate in the schemes by issuing letters or publishing pamphlets, and schools would make their own decision for participation or not. In case a particular scheme was well-received, the participating school would be determined by lot-drawing or sorting. This would be introduced in the LCSD's website and no open publicity would be carried out.

102. The Secretary gave supplementary remarks to the LCSD's proposed extension of the Community Arts Scheme to the financial year 2021-2022. Regarding the administrative procedure, according to the HAD's Manual, the DC funds applied by and allocated to government departments had to be used in the same financial year and could not be brought forward to the next financial year for use. If the LCSD wanted to continue to implement the scheme in the following year, it might submit further funding applications for organising the proposed activities in the next financial year, together with the budget, to CACRC before the end of this financial year. After vetting and granting of approval, implementation of the relevant scheme could be continued in the following year. The LCSD might incorporate Members' views into the proposed activities and then submit the funding applications.

(ii) Extension Activities held in Public Libraries (Paper CACRC 59/2020)

- 103. <u>The Acting Chairman</u> welcomed Ms Polly CHU, Senior Librarian (Islands) of the LCSD to the meeting to present the paper.
- 104. Ms Polly CHU briefly presented the paper.
- 105. Mr Eric KWOK said that according to Annex 1, only one person participated in the first book display organised by the South Lamma Public Library. He enquired whether the books procured by the LCSD was not attractive enough. It was his understanding that many aliens were residing on Lamma Island. In this connection, the book display might not attract them if only Chinese books were displayed. He enquired if the LCSD had found out the reason(s) for it. He pointed out that as shown in Annex 1, there were 35 participants in the first book display organised by the North Lamma Public Library and 154 participants in the second one. The number of participants in this kind of activity organised by the South Lamma Public Library was obviously less than that organised by the public libraries in other areas. He enquired why it was so and whether the LCSD had conducted a review and submitted a study report for the effective utilisation of resources.
- 106. Ms Polly CHU said that the attendance in extension activities of the South Lamma Public Library had always been lower than that of other public libraries in Islands District. Regarding the causes of further decrease in the low attendance in recent months, she would find out whether the topics were not attractive enough or whether it was the epidemic that had resulted in the reduction of visitors to public libraries.

(iii) <u>Sports and Recreational Activities</u> (Paper CACRC 60/2020)

107. <u>The Acting Chairman</u> welcomed Ms Alice CHOW, Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support) Islands of the LCSD to the meeting to present the paper.

- 108. Ms Alice CHOW briefly presented the paper.
- 109. <u>Mr Eric KWOK</u> said that Mr FONG Lung-fei had raised enquiries of street dance at the beginning of the meeting. He suggested that the LCSD should consider including street dance as a fun day activity for participation by young people.
- 110. <u>Ms Alice CHOW</u> said that the LCSD would review the feasibility of implementing the activity with the relevant NSAs in due course.
- 111. <u>The Acting Chairman</u> requested the LCSD to take note of Members' suggestions.

(Mr WONG Chun-yeung left the meeting at around 1:00 p.m.)

V. <u>Date of Next Meeting</u>

112. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m. The next meeting would be held at 10:30 a.m. on 4 January 2021 (Monday).

-END-