Minutes of the 2nd Meeting of the Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee (2024-2027) of the Tuen Mun District Council

Date : 26 March 2024 (Tuesday)

Time : 2:30 p.m.

Venue : Tuen Mun District Council (TMDC) Conference Room

Present

Mr MO Shing-fung (Chairman)	TMDC Member
Mr FUNG Pui-yin (Vice Chairman)	TMDC Member
Mr TSUI Fan, MH	TMDC Member
Ms SO Ka-man	TMDC Member
Mr WAN Tin-chong, MH	TMDC Member
Mr KAM Man-fung	TMDC Member
Mr LI Chiu-hung	TMDC Member
Mr LAM Tik-fai	TMDC Member
Ms CHAN Mang-yi, Vincci	TMDC Member
Mr CHAN Ho-ting, Mac	TMDC Member
Mr CHAN Tsim-heng	TMDC Member
Ms MAK Mei-yee, Pamela	TMDC Member
Mr CHUI King-hang	TMDC Member
Mr TSANG Hing-chung	TMDC Member
Mr YIP Kat-kong, Kenneth	TMDC Member
Mr TSOI Shing-hin	TMDC Member
Ms TSE Yuk-ling	TMDC Member
Mr KWONG Man-tik	TMDC Member
Ms YU Cheuk-ling, Katherine (Secretary)	Executive Officer (District Council)3,
	Tuen Mun District Office, Home Affairs Department

In Attendance	
Mr LAU Yu-hang, Henry	Senior Liaison Officer (1), Tuen Mun District Office,
	Home Affairs Department
Ms CHAN Yin-ling, Cannes	Senior Liaison Officer (3), Tuen Mun District Office,
	Home Affairs Department
Ms FONG Yuen-wah, Irene	Senior Liaison Officer (4), Tuen Mun District Office,
	Home Affairs Department
Mr LAM Lok-hang, Kelvin	Liaison Officer i/c (District Facilities),
	Tuen Mun District Office, Home Affairs Department
Mr CHENG Hon-fai	Senior School Development Officer (TM)1, Education
	Bureau

Ms LEUNG Fung-shan, Alice	Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support)
	Tuen Mun, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms NG Wing-tung, Chris	Assistant District Leisure Manager (District Support)
	Tuen Mun, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms LEE Wing-yee	Manager (New Territories West) Marketing & District
	Activities, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms LAM Fong	Senior Librarian (Tuen Mun),
	Leisure and Cultural Services Department

I. <u>Opening Remarks</u>

The Chairman welcomed all present to the 2nd meeting of the Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee (CICRC) (2024-2027).

2. The Chairman reminded Members that those who were aware of their personal interests in any matters discussed at the meeting should declare the interests before the discussion. He would, in accordance with Order 22(4) of the Tuen Mun District Council Standing Orders, decide whether the Members who had declared interests might speak or vote on the matters, might remain at the meeting as observers, or should withdraw from the meeting. All cases of declaration of interests would be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

II. <u>Absence from Meeting</u>

3. The Secretary reported that no applications for leave of absence had been received from Members.

III. <u>Confirmation of the Minutes of the Last Meeting</u>

4. As Members proposed no amendments to the minutes of the last meeting, the Chairman announced that the minutes of the 1st meeting of the CICRC (2024-2027) were confirmed.

IV. <u>Discussion Items</u>

 (A) Tuen Mun District Office Yearly Plan for Projects under Community Involvement Programme (CICRC Paper No. 5/2024)

5. Mr LAU Yu-hang, Henry of the Tuen Mun District Office (TMDO) said that Tuen Mun District Dragon Boat Race would be held on the day of Dragon Boat Festival, i.e. 10 June 2024. The Tuen Mun District Dragon Boat Race Committee would convene a meeting in April to discuss the details of the race.

6. A Member asked whether there would be live music accompaniment at the night market, Vespere Tuen Mun, after the nighttime live music show. He suggested playing nostalgic music after 8 p.m. to attract visitors.

7. Ms FONG Yuen-wah, Irene of the TMDO said that following the end of the nighttime music show at 8 p.m., videos of the youth neon light workshop would be played at the venue of Vespere Tuen Mun. If music continued to be played after the music show, the noise might affect the residents nearby. In addition, the organiser of the night market had applied for a copyright licence and could only play music within the time limits specified in the licence.

8. Apart from the key events highlighted in the paper, a Member suggested that the TMDO provide Members with information on the community involvement activities scheduled for 2024-25 at the next meeting, so that Members could take a long view of the community involvement projects in the district and offer advice.

9. The Chairman said that since the amount of funding for the Community Involvement Programme had yet to be confirmed, information on the community involvement projects might not be available until the next meeting.

10. A Member expected that more visitors would be attracted to Golden Beach and Cafeteria New Beach after the end of the Tuen Mun Beach Festival, and was worried that the lack of lifesaving services at Cafeteria New Beach during weekdays might require the assistance of lifeguards at Golden Beach, which in turn led to manpower and safety problems. Another Member suggested including performances such as quincuncial piles dance in the beach festival.

11. Ms FONG of the TMDO said that activities of the Tuen Mun Beach Festival, including the award presentation and performances, would be mainly held at Golden Beach. The TMDO had taken note of Members' suggestions on the organisation of beach festival activities.

12. Ms LEUNG Fung-shan, Alice of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) said that the Department would try its best to coordinate the lifesaving services at the above two beaches.

13. A Member, who was also the vice chairman of the Tuen Mun District Dragon Boat Race Committee, said that the Tuen Mun District Dragon Boat Race held last year was very popular among the public. Due to a large number of participants, members of the public were required to wait in a queue for two to three hours before they could enter the venue and watch the race. Some even went near the shore to watch the race. In such circumstances, the safety of participants was concerning. He suggested refining the public gallery arrangements for this year's dragon boat race to facilitate the public to watch the race.

14. A Member indicated that he was neither a member of the Working Group on Boosting Local Economy nor a member of the Working Group on Tuen Mun Major Activities, and asked about the details of inviting merchants to participate in Vespere Tuen Mun and where he could find relevant papers for the three events. 15. Mr LAU of the TMDO said that he would pass Members' opinions on the dragon boat race to the Tuen Mun District Dragon Boat Race Committee.

16. The Chairman asked about the ticket distribution arrangements for this year's Tuen Mun District Dragon Boat Race.

17. Mr LAU of the TMDO said that reference would be made to previous practice when arranging for the distribution of tickets. Members were welcome to put forward their views on the ticket distribution arrangements.

18. Miss FONG of the TMDO said that activities for Vespere Tuen Mun and Tuen Mun Beach Festival 2024 had been discussed in detail with relevant working groups, and the details of the activities as well as the discussion papers had been uploaded onto the website of the TMDC. Members could view such information on the website. Separately, the TMDO had earlier issued invitations to major shopping malls in the vicinity of the event venue and asked for their cooperation on the Vespere Tuen Mun initiative. Some major shopping malls had agreed to assist in promoting the event on a voluntary basis and would provide shopping and consumption offers.

19. A Member suggested organising activities that could be used to apply for a Guinness World Record so as to encourage residents in the Tuen Mun District to participate and, at the same time, showcase community spirit and enhance the sense of belonging of different sectors in the community.

20. Mr LAM Lok-hang, Kelvin of the TMDO said that the TMDO had taken note of Members' views on the organisation of community involvement activities. Since the amount of funding for the coming year's Community Involvement Programme had yet to be confirmed, he suggested Members coming back to the issue of future activities for an in-depth discussion later on.

21. Apart from distributing leaflets and offering discounts, a Member asked whether the shopping malls would organise other activities in light of Vespere Tuen Mun. He suggested that the shopping malls organise other relevant activities to inject impetus into the night economy in the vicinity from every aspect.

22. Ms FONG of the TMDO said that retailers in the shopping malls near the town centre would provide consumption offers to consumers in connection with the Vespere Tuen Mun initiative. Considering that Vespere Tuen Mun would

help attract visitors from within and outside the district to spend money, she believed that the above arrangements could help boost footfall in the shopping malls nearby, creating a synergy effect with neighbouring shopping malls while stimulating the night economy.

23. The Chairman asked the departments to take note of Members' views and assist in the follow-up. He also asked the TMDO to provide Members with further information on the Community Involvement Programme at the next meeting.

[Post-meeting note: The TMDO would regularly upload a summary of the application results of the Community Involvement Programme for 2024-25 onto the website of the TMDO to facilitate the public's access to information on the activities approved under the programme.

(Website link: <u>https://www.had.gov.hk/en/18_districts/my_map_17.htm</u>)]

- V. <u>Item for Information</u>
- A. Leisure and Cultural Services Department -
- (i) Extension Activities Programmes of the Public Libraries in Tuen Mun District from April 2024 to March 2025;
- (ii) Recreational and Sports Activities Plan for Tuen Mun District from 2024 to 2025
 (CICRC Paper No. 6/2024 and 7/2024)
- 24. Members noted the content of the two captioned reports.

25. Ms LAM Fong of the LCSD said that the LCSD would organise "Read Together for Half an Hour" activities during Hong Kong Reading Week. То further promote reading in Hong Kong, the Government had designated 23 April of each year as the "Hong Kong Reading for All Day" starting from 2024. With the support of different stakeholders, the Hong Kong Public Libraries would hold the first Hong Kong Reading Week from 20 to 28 April, during which online and offline reading promotion activities would be held at different locations. Among them, the "Read Together for Half an Hour" activities were aimed at encouraging the public to spend half an hour on 23 April to read together at different locations in the community so as to develop a habit of reading. Apart from Hong Kong, Shenzhen, Guangzhou, Dongguan, Macao, Nanning and Haikou would also hold the same event on that day. Members of the TMDO were invited to support and participate in the "Read Together for Half an Hour" activities on 23 April by setting up reading locations at their offices or other suitable venues in order to promote the benefits of reading citywide. There were no restrictions on the format of the activities and the details of the invitation would be provided to Members through the Secretariat after the meeting.

[Post-meeting note: The Secretariat emailed the invitations of the above activities to Members on 2 April 2024.]

26. The Chairman asked Members to participate in the above activities actively.

27. A Member asked why the activities organised by the Tuen Mun Public Library were focused on the themes of parent-child and humanities, and whether consideration would be given to providing more books related to STEAM education as well as innovation and technology. He also asked whether the libraries currently accepted donations of books from members of the public or external parties.

28. Ms LAM of the LCSD said that currently, the Tuen Mun Public Library had two special collections, namely "Food and Nutrition" and "Tuen Mun History and Culture". Every year, each district library would organise activities such as seminars and book exhibitions on their special collections. The LCSD set up the Chinese Culture Promotion Office this year, and the Tuen Mun Public Library had organised relevant activities for promoting Chinese culture. In addition, the LCSD would organise STEM workshops for the public at the opening ceremony of this year's Hong Kong Reading Week. Apart from the above activities, the libraries would also hold book exhibitions on different subjects regularly. As for donations of books, the libraries generally only accepted donations of books that were rare and not readily available in the market.

29. A Member asked whether the libraries would organise activities to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the birth of Jin Yong.

[Post-meeting note: After the meeting, the LCSD added that the Tuen Mun Public Library would stage an exhibition on Jin Yong's novels in July this year.]

30. A Member expressed support to the Department for organising activities to promote Chinese culture, and asked whether the libraries had organised similar activities. For more effective use of library resources, he asked whether the libraries had worked with schools in the Tuen Mun District.

31. Ms LAM of the LCSD said that every year, the Department would organise a tea gathering with school library representatives from the Tuen Mun District at the Tuen Mun Public Library to discuss a collaboration plan. In addition, the libraries would introduce school library representatives to public library services that were catered for different needs of schools and would organise visits to schools in the district to explain to students how to use the online resources of the public libraries, as well as maintain close contact with school library representatives.

32. The Chairman asked how the Department would encourage schools that were not so keen on participating to take part in the activities organised by the libraries.

33. Ms LAM of the LCSD said that the libraries would actively reach out to schools through various means, such as by making telephone calls to school library representatives and inviting them to tea gatherings with other school library representatives, so as to encourage schools to participate.

34. A Member suggested launching a reading scheme with primary and secondary schools in the Tuen Mun District to keep up the efforts in promoting a reading culture.

35. A Member said that his school benefited from the services of the libraries and considered them resourceful. He suggested making good use of the platforms of the school heads associations to step up the publicity.

36. Ms LAM of the LCSD said that the Department would consider ramping up its publicity efforts through the school heads associations in the future. Separately, the libraries had launched a reading scheme for the youth, under which the reading records of participants would be shared between the public libraries and schools and the participants would be awarded with a certificate once they had achieved a specific reading target.

37. A Member asked whether all the recreation and sports programmes mentioned in the paper were organised by the LCSD, and how the estimated numbers of classes and participants for each training course were determined. He suggested organising training courses on Baduanjin and public square dancing.

38. Ms LEUNG of the LCSD said that all the recreation and sports programmes mentioned in the paper were organised by the LCSD. The Department would take into account factors such as the popularity of the past recreation and sports

programmes in the district, the changes in overall population and the needs of the local community for recreation and sports programmes when drawing up the annual plans for recreation and sports programmes. As regards the estimated number of participants for each training course, the numbers were determined according to the coach-to-participant ratios as recommended by respective sports associations. As for activities such as Baduanjin and public square dancing, the Department planned to organise such activities in other forms such as fun days or carnivals in the Tuen Mun District.

39. A Member asked why lawn bowls was selected as the district sports activity with local characteristics for the Tuen Mun District and whether this could be changed. If the district sports activity could not be changed, he asked what should be done to facilitate the development of lawn bowls in the district.

40. Ms LEUNG of the LCSD said that back then, when the LCSD decided on a district sports activity with local characteristics for each district, the Department had considered factors such as the geographical environment and demographics of a district. Wu Shan Bowling Green was located in the Tuen Mun District and was the first outdoor artificial turf bowling green provided by the LCSD in the New Territories West. Thus, lawn bowls was selected as the district sports activity with local characteristics for the Tuen Mun District. The LCSD had been working with relevant sports associations to promote lawn bowls through activities such as fun days, training courses and competitions. She said that she had taken note of Members' views and would check with the Department on the details of changing the district sports activity with local characteristics.

41. A Member expressed support for the Department's Community Garden Programme, and asked how frequently the programme would be held at the two community gardens in the district each year. He suggested organising the programme more frequently so that more citizens could join. Separately, he asked whether seminars and greening activities would be held alongside gardening activities in each phase of the programme.

42. A Member said that at the moment, the LCSD only organised 5-a-side soccer training courses and 11-a-side soccer matches, and suggested organising 5-a-side soccer matches. He also asked how many of the elite athletes in the 9th Hong Kong Games had participated in the above soccer activities.

43. Ms LEUNG of the LCSD said that every year, the Department would run a total of four community gardening activities at the two community gardens in the

district. Each garden would accommodate two classes, with each spanning 18 weeks. The course would be held in the form of gardening course and planting practice. Under the guidance of qualified instructors, participants could learn how to grow ornamental plants, fruits and vegetables in the gardens and take home the harvest to share with others. Gardening seminars and other greening activities, such as narcissus bulb cutting classes and planting days, would be held at other venues. Separately, the Department had taken note of Members' suggestion of organising a 5-a-side soccer match. As for sending a soccer team to take part in the 9th Hong Kong Games, two 5-a-side soccer teams had been selected through try-outs to represent the Tuen Mun District in this year's Hong Kong Games.

44. A Member asked whether the Department would organise activities on new sports at the moment and what was its plan for such activities.

45. Ms LEUNG of the LCSD said that the Department planned to organise new sports activities in the form of a fun day or carnival in the Tuen Mun District. In addition, to tie in with the 2022 Policy Address, the Department would assist in promoting urban sports, which had gained popularity among young people in recent years, by organising activities on breaking, sport climbing, 3-on-3 basketball and so on, in order to encourage more young people to participate in recreation and sports programmes.

VI. Any Other Business and Date of Next Meeting

46. The Chairman said that the amount of funding for the Community Involvement Programme was expected to be confirmed after the start of the new financial year, i.e. in April. To allow Members to get hold of relevant information as early as possible for discussion at the next meeting, which was scheduled at the end of May, he asked the TMDO to first give a summary at this meeting of the community involvement activities that had been held by the Working Group on Community Involvement (WGCI) under the District Facilities Management and Environmental Hygiene Committee last year.

47. Mr LAM of the TMDO said that last year, the WGCI had organised nine community involvement activities, including arts and sports events. In terms of arts events, the WGCI had organised a variety show and a painting and calligraphy exhibition. As for sports activities, the WGCI had organised competitions for the Tuen Mun District including 3-on-3 basketball, tennis, soccer, swimming, table tennis and badminton, as well as a fun day cum carnival of floor curling.

48. The Chairman said that the CICRC would discuss an activity plan for the coming year at the next meeting, and Members were welcome to put forward their views on the organisation of activities.

49. There being no other business, the Chairman announced the meeting closed at 3:27 p.m. The next meeting would be held on 28 May 2024 (Tuesday) at 2:30 p.m.

Tuen Mun District Council Secretariat Date: April 2024 File Ref: HAD TMDC/13/25/CICRC/24