

ITEM 17  
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 35  
COUNCIL MEETING May 7/73

17. Re: Creative Writers' Society of Burnaby  
Letter dated April 24, 1973 from  
Mrs. Mary McMillan Olson,  
4175 Ledger Avenue, Burnaby 2, B. C.

Appearing on the Agenda for the May 7, 1973 meeting of Council is a letter from Mrs. Mary McMillan Olson advising that three short stories she wrote for a competition sponsored by the above Society were not allowed to be entered.

The Parks and Recreation Administrator reports that the Creative Writers' Society is a private organization associated with the Burnaby Arts Council, as are many other private culture-oriented organizations within the Municipality.

The Society prepared rules for a writing contest and publicized the event. Mrs. Olson entered three items which were rejected in that they did not qualify as "short stories" but, rather, were considered as articles. In rejection of Mrs. Olson's material, no religious discrimination was implied in any way.

The Parks Administrator also advises that the Society wrote to Mrs. Olson on several occasions explaining the rules of the 1972 competition and indicated, also, that it was possible that the terms of the competition for 1973 would permit consideration of the type of material submitted by Mrs. Olson.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT a copy of this report be provided to Mrs. M. M. Olson, the Burnaby Arts Council, the Creative Writers' Society of Burnaby, and the Parks and Recreation Commission.