

MINUTES — AWWCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

Monday, October 6, 2014

Location: St. George's Reformed Episcopal Church, 134 Emerson St.
Present: Terri Bocz, Julianne Burgess, Shelli Eisenberg, Cary Kinsley, Jay Parlar, Ira Rosen, Kevin Russell
Regrets: Paul Faure, Lois Freeman, Steve Metham, Ken Moyle, Councillor Brian McHattie, John Wigle
Guests: A/Sgt. Gino Ciarmoli, Brian Lewis (Ward 1 councillor candidate)
Call to Order: 7:00 p.m. by President Jay Parlar
Recording Secretary: Terri Bocz
Quorum (Nine)? No

Approval of Minutes – Shelli moved and Kevin seconded that the September minutes be accepted; the motion passed.

Police Report (A/Sgt. Gino Ciarmoli)

- 3 commercial entries
- 14 residential entries (10 of them through unlocked doors or open windows)
- 1 graffiti incident (at Churchill Park Clubhouse)
- No thefts from autos
- No stolen autos
- 500 Crime Prevention Bulletins geared toward students were hand-delivered by police to Ainslie Wood houses that appeared to be occupied by students
- McMaster's Welcome Week was generally quiet compared to recent years
- Homecoming Weekend: Student parties began in the morning, and many had been partied out by the time late evening rolled around. This resulted in a somewhat quieter evening than usual for Homecoming Weekend. However, Sterling Street was still busy and noisy. Plainclothes officers patrolled. One problem officers often encountered was that they were unable to get cabs for people who needed them; a concert downtown may have monopolized cabs.
- Our local police are once again running a bicycle safety awareness campaign during the early weeks of the new university year. The six-week campaign will start with a two-week educational component, during which anyone seen riding unsafely will be stopped and spoken with, but no fines will be given out. This will be followed by a one-month enforcement campaign, during which fines will be given out. The police want to get 50 sets of bicycle lights to give free to students who are stopped at night with no lights.

Councillor's Report – Deferred to next meeting.

Additions to the Agenda –

3.0 Concern about members who do not use e-mail being cut off from communications from the AWWCA.

Agenda Items

1.0 Candidates for Ward 1 councillor

- Brian Lewis introduced himself and gave a short presentation. A brief question and answer period followed.
- Ira Rosen gave a short presentation. A brief question and answer period followed.

2.0 Communication with AWWCA members who don't have e-mail

- At the AGM, some members expressed concern to membership secretary Kevin Russell that they are cut off from communications from the AWWCA. Some of our long-time AWWCA members do not use the Internet and therefore do not receive our weekly e-mails and cannot access the AWWCA webpage or read the board's minutes. In the absence of a volunteer to produce a newsletter, the minutes inform members about what the AWWCA is doing on behalf of members and the community.
- Even if we did have a volunteer to produce a newsletter, we would need to get the newsletter to our 30 or so members who do not have e-mail. Cary suggested she could assemble minutes and mail them to these members every 3 or 4 months. Kevin will give Cary the names and addresses of members who have not given us an e-mail address.

Follow-up Items

1.0 Debriefing on the all-candidates debate and our AGM - Jay

- Some attendees of the debate commented that the evening was more of an information session than a debate. The formal discussions did not bring out clear differences between the candidates' stances on many issues. The

evening, had indeed been planned as an information session, and questions had been chosen accordingly from the many that people had submitted.

- The questions that were to be asked at the debate had been selected the night before the debate, but additional questions were collected and decided upon at the debate.
- The format of the debate had been determined one week in advance, but Jay had to wait to find out how many of the six candidates could participate before he could figure out how to break up the time. A total of 120 minutes was planned for the debate. Jay expected to fit in 10 questions, allowing 10 minutes from start to finish for each question, but the average answer was shorter than expected, so he was able to fit in 13 questions.
- Jay was happy with the attendance. From the back of the room Steve and Kevin counted 230 people, but people kept coming and going.
- Approximately 50-60 people stayed after for the debate for our AGM. Many of them probably stayed to hear Councillor McHattie's report, the first item on the AGM agenda. The business portion of the AGM only took 10 minutes.
- A couple of days before the event, the Strathcona Community Council asked Jay if their organization could sell snacks at the event. Jay thought it would be fair to permit them to raise funds this way, since the AWWCA would be accepting money that night from renewing members, which is equivalent to fundraising.

2.0 Donation to Joey Coleman for live streaming the debate

- The video that Joey Coleman made of the all-candidates debate (<http://new.livestream.com/joeycoleman-ca/YHMvoteWard1Debate/videos/63530793>) is a great resource for the election in Ward 1 and interesting for the mayoral campaign too. The AWWCA is considering sending Joey Coleman some money, since, as Cary pointed out, Joey relies on crowdsource funding. Steve suggested the AWWCA send \$100 to Joey. Although this is a small amount for the work Joey did, we hope the Kirkendall and Strathcona community associations will also make a contribution to help cover Joey's costs. We did not have quorum at the October meeting, so could not decide to donate. All seven board members in attendance voted to donate \$100, but we need to get two more votes to pass the motion.

3.0 Prince Philip Committee – Ira

- The French public school board has put in a bid for the Prince Philip School property. It is higher on the priority list than the city.
- If the French board decides not to buy the property, then we would need to do a feasibility study before going ahead with a community center.

4.0 Churchill Park Clubhouse– Ira

- Tomorrow at 7:00 p.m., their AGM will be held at the clubhouse. Under discussion will be: the accomplishments of the steering committee, what opportunities and challenges lie ahead, and what will need to be done during the upcoming period of transition. The clubhouse will be transitioning to a community-based, community-run facility, which is managed by the city.

5.0 SASH (now West Hamilton Seniors) meeting – Ira

- West Hamilton Seniors will have a meeting in two weeks.
- Events being planned for the group are:
 - games nights
 - an information session with police geared toward seniors
 - CAT (Combatting Auto Theft) information session

6.0 Code of Responsibility/Oath of Office – Julianne

- General support was expressed for the proposed Code of Responsibility and oath of office. Suggestions were made for stronger wording, and the possibility to seek reconsideration if a member is voted off as a result of violating the oath. No specifics were offered.
- We noted that conversations were not to be included in meeting minutes, just issues and outcomes.
- The Code of Responsibility and oath of office will be posted on our website, to inform members and potential board members.
- Action: Julianne will revise and send an update for consideration at the board's next meeting.

New Business –

- 1.0 The AWWCA will work out a consistent set of guidelines for developers, to outline attributes the community would find attractive and would be able to support in purpose-built multi-person residences.

2.0 New provincial legislation is being phased in for non-profit and charitable organizations. Kevin will update our bylaws accordingly.

Treasurer's Report (Steve)

- At the AGM, we took in \$1,140 (\$360 in cheques, \$755 in cash, and \$25 by credit card).
- Month-end account balances: TD chequing \$235.69, ING \$2,937.77.

Membership Secretary's Report (Kevin)

At the AGM

- We received 90 membership renewals.
- Five lapsed members rejoined.
- One member donated \$15 to the AWWCA.

Corresponding Secretary's Report (Cary)

Jay and the Kirkendall and Strathcona associations exchanged a number of housekeeping e-mails about the all-candidates debate. The only e-mail of general interest was from the MSU president as follow-up to his visit to the AWWCA board in September: He'd met with the director of the Student Community Support Network, who said there would be a community cleanup after Homecoming and that he is working on an information page about the peer-to-peer services offered by the SCSN and would share it with the AWWCA for us to distribute as we see fit.

Committee Reports (Jay)

- PACCR (Ira) – There is a meeting in two weeks. Ira will be busy with the election, so Jay will attend in Ira's stead.
- Town and Gown Association of Ontario (TGAO) – Nothing to report.
- Police Liaison (Ken) – Report deferred.
- Licensing and Land Zoning – An application was made to the Committee of Adjustment to sever a residential single family lot at 198 Broadway into two lots. The plan appeared to be to demolish the home and accessory building that currently straddle the proposed new lot line and build two new homes, one on each of the lots. The owner did not provide enough information on the plans to enable the AWWCA to decide whether to support or oppose the application. We wrote a letter requesting the committee put this application on hold until more detailed information is provided. The CoA did postpone the decision, pending further information. The owners will have another opportunity to be heard when the CoA is re-established under the new municipal government; it will start meeting again in four to six months.
- Participatory Budgeting Advisory Committee (Steve and Ed) – Steve is resigning from this committee. The AWWCA needs a member to replace him to ensure we get directly filled in on processes used and decisions made. Terri said that her husband, Tibor, had been thinking of applying to sit on the committee, and she would see if he is still interested.

Next Meeting – Monday, Nov. 3, at 7:00 p.m., St. George's Church, 134 Emerson St.