

MINUTES--AWWCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
Monday, November 3, 2014

Location: St. George's Church, 134 Emerson St.
Present: Terri Bocz, Julianne Burgess, John Coakley, Shelli Eisenberg, Linda Ellis, Paul Faure, Cary Kinsley, Steve Metham, Ken Moyle, Jay Parlar, Ira Rosen, Kevin Russell
Regrets: Lois Freeman
Guests: West Town Crime Manager A/Sgt Gino Ciarmoli, Councillor-elect Aidan Johnson, Vinnie Welsh
Call to Order: 7:00 p.m. by President Jay Parlar
Recording Secretary: Cary
Quorum? (nine): Yes

POLICE REPORT (Gino)

Oct. 1 to Nov. 2:

1 robbery

0 graffiti

0 stolen autos

3 thefts from auto (all unlocked)

0 commercial entries

10 residential entries including 6 unlocked student houses and 1 other unlocked house

Break-and-enters: The police will be preparing another safety bulletin for students before they leave in December. Monthly safety bulletins are posted on Facebook, and in October volunteers hand delivered 500 flyers to student houses. **Julianne** offered to distribute police flyers to student houses in her area, as unlocked houses attract thieves. **Gino** will investigate getting extra copies of the safety bulletin delivered to her when the December bulletin is ready.

Gino and the chief of police met with the McMaster Students Union president about student safety at night. Student safety is one of Teddy's platform items. Student feedback suggests that they see the police only in an enforcement role and would like more of a community presence for a feeling of safety. As a result, the Action team and auxiliary officers will be patrolling at night.

Given the students' perception of the police, the bike safety project discussed at our October meeting will be four weeks educational rather than two weeks educational and two weeks enforcement with fines. **Ken** will get lights for bikes through a partnership with Mac Security, as some students ride in dark clothes with no lights. The police will give them out when they stop bicyclists.

Vinnie suggested that **Gino** contact Jennifer Kleven at the off-campus housing office and have her suggest to landlords that they use combination locks that lock automatically.

Stabbing on Whitney: **Gino** was away but nothing indicates it involved students. He will talk to the detective in charge and let us know. (He subsequently did; it seems to have been random and did not involve a student party.)

Mac 91/92 officers were on duty Halloween night.

Gino asked that we send out a reminder to our members to call the police non-emergency number about parties because he's not in his office at night, and to call early before they get huge. **Cary** will do this.

Roving noise: Terri says she gets a noncommittal reply when she calls the police because she can't give a specific address; Gino suggested giving a house number in the vicinity. Ira says the groups seem to be larger, 10-15 people looking for parties. Could Operation Hush be re-activated? He asked **Gino** to talk to Scott Rastin.

OCTOBER MINUTES

Terri had to replace her laptop so couldn't finalize the minutes; deferred to the next meeting.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. 1098 and 1100 Main St. West (Terri and Vinnie): David Hitchcock couldn't attend tonight to report on the Oct. 23 Committee of Adjustment meeting but e-mailed a summary. Terri and Vinnie spoke to him afterward. He lives on Cline near these addresses at Main and Cline and was concerned about the 19 variances the owner was asking for. We did not write to the CoA after reviewing the application. Vinnie explained that if an owner wants to make changes to a building with grandfathered non-complying situations (such as setbacks that don't meet current requirements), he first will have to apply for variances to cover them. The CoA said there were too many variances requested, the plans are not in keeping with the secondary plan, and the intensity of use is too high. The owner instead must apply to have the building rezoned, Vinnie guesses to medium-density residential. It costs \$10,000- \$15,000 to apply for rezoning versus approximately \$1,000 to apply for variances before the CoA. The two addresses (a house and a former office building) are on one title. There would be only nine parking spots for 48 students, and commercial areas nearby are afraid students would use their parking. Ira said the owner plans to have racks and storage for bikes. We are not opposed to this change of use but would prefer that both buildings be demolished and replaced. David apparently is going to canvas the student homes on his street to confirm his parking assumptions.

2. Code of responsibility and oath of office (Julianne and Vinnie):

Vinnie revised Julianne's original version presented at our October meeting.

They favour keeping an oath of confidentiality because of situations that can't be revealed immediately. She and Julianne drafted a statement to be signed by board members.

Kevin wonders whether a board member removed by the board could appeal at the AGM. **Julianne** will consult John Wigle about the wording of the last item in the draft version of the oath in relation to our Bylaw 9e.

FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

1. September minutes: We did not have a quorum at the October meeting so had to postpone voting to accept the minutes till this meeting. It was moved by Ira and seconded by Kevin that the September minutes be accepted; all were in favour.

2. Donation to Joey Coleman: At our last meeting, Cary suggested we make a donation to Joey Coleman for live streaming the all-candidates' debate, as he's a self-financed independent journalist, but we didn't have a quorum to vote. It was moved by Paul and seconded by Terri that we donate \$100 to Joey; all were in favour. **Jay** will pay Joey and get reimbursed by our treasurer; he'll also ask the Kirkendall and Strathcona associations if they can match our donation.

3. Prince Philip School (Ira): Ed Sculthorpe is head of the Prince Philip Committee; he met with Councillor McHattie and representatives of the two French boards. Both the French public and French Catholic boards are seeking funding to buy Prince Philip. The public board has asked the Ministry of Education for the money, and the two boards are also talking about sharing in the purchase. Rumour is that the French Catholic school (École secondaire Georges-P.-Vanier) on Macklin doesn't fill the Catholic

board's needs. Shalom Village (next to the school on Macklin) needs more space, and Ira thinks they would like to buy it to expand.

Prince Philip might be demolished for a new building if bought by one or both of the French boards. There is some talk about using city recreation-centre funds for Ainslie Wood and not Dalewood. Ainslie Wood hopes for a partnership for a recreation centre if a French board does buy Prince Philip. The boards had 90 days to make their offer, so we should know the outcome by Christmas.

Someone raised the question whether French board schools would be good for Ainslie Wood or only attract students from other areas. Aidan said a student has to have a francophone parent to attend the French schools, but Cary just saw a large ad in the Globe and Mail for French Catholic high schools which said that immersion students are welcome.

4. Churchill Park Clubhouse (Ira): There is a meeting Thursday (Nov. 6) at 7:00 p.m. at the clubhouse to form a new board of directors. The building will be used for community purposes, determined by the board. The city will handle maintenance and pay for the utilities. Ira said that the organization should be incorporated.

5. West Hamilton Seniors (Ira): Ira is stepping down as our liaison and John Coakley will replace him. Lots of activities are planned, and they may use the Churchill Park Clubhouse and Shalom Village. Ira will ensure that West Hamilton Seniors has John's contact information before our next board meeting.

6. Sample template for minutes (Julianne):

We could rotate among board members who are willing. Shelli said she physically couldn't write for two hours. Jay said he could make up a schedule.

Linda and Terri would prefer a point format. Steve said that tables might be a problem for some people to work with.

We discussed recording the meetings; this would require everyone's permission, and the recording would be deleted once the minutes have been approved. Jay described a "live scribe pen" and said he would charge his and bring it to the next meeting so we could try it. They cost about \$100, and the board could buy one.

Action items need to be highlighted, though Jay said there are not many at most meetings.

Julianne suggested that a question about conflict of interest be part of every meeting to keep it top of mind.

Ira can't open the docx documents we circulate; he still uses doc. Members suggested he use open-source software or Google Drive.

Cary suggested we try to recruit a member to take minutes. Jay said there is no opening on the board unless the person comes from Ainslie Wood East or South, and we've had no response from those areas.

NEW BUSINESS

Remembrance service at the West Hamilton Cenotaph on Nov. 9: Ken has e-mailed St. George's Church to let them know that he and Ira would like to lay our wreath.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT (Cary)

2014.10.5 Change of e-mail address from Cecile Steinberg

2014.10.7 Thank you e-mail to the board from Brian Lewis

2014.10.10-15 E-mails concerning dangerous driving on Sanders Boulevard (Paul Faure, Councillor McHattie, city staff, A/Sgt Gino Ciarmoli)

2014.10.16-24 E-mails from David Hitchcock requesting our help regarding the 10/23

Committee of Adjustment hearing about 1098 and 1100 Main St. West and his preliminary report on the hearing

2014.10.29 Jay's congratulations to Aidan and an invitation to our board meeting

2014.10.29 Terri to David Hitchcock re 1098 and 1100 Main St. West

2014.10.31 David Hitchcock's expanded report on the CoA decision regarding 1098 and 1100 Main St.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT (Kevin)

As of Oct. 31 we had 180 voting members, including 20 renewals received in October representing 32 members. There are 191 members who have not renewed whose membership expired in 2014, and 49 whose membership expired in 2013.

Kevin asked Cary to include a reminder to renew memberships in our next few weekly e-mails.

At our next meeting, the board will discuss removing expired memberships from the Mailchimp list.

TREASURER'S REPORT (Steve)

TD chequing account balance: \$1,440.10. ING balance: \$2,941.16.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. PACCR (Jay):

He and Gord Arbeau co-chaired the meeting. There was lots of interesting information, including the report by Terry Sullivan, head of **Mac Security**. He provided a link to their annual report, which Jay will send to Cary for the next weekly e-mail.

Construction on Wilson Hall: Gord says it's behind schedule; fall 2015 is the new completion date. Mac expects noise complaints from neighbours when construction picks up (steel framing). **Trucks** are mostly using the truck plan through campus.

First-year enrollment this year is about 5,200, a little over target. The province expects fewer applications for a while, as there will be a temporary dip in the number of 17 year olds. The university is turning away many qualified applicants in some areas.

88 Forsyth Ave. North: The three options permitted by the zoning are still open, but the neighbours only favour using the house for visiting faculty, the option the university is least likely to choose.

Capital expansion plans: The Ontario government still says it will need 60,000 spots province wide, as it's looking for mature students. Mac is considering lifting whole graduate programs to a **downtown campus**, and the city is willing to help. Mac says it's not practical to have undergrads commuting between classes downtown and the Westdale campus.

The university is still considering building a 400-bed **residence on campus**, but there would be no funding from the province.

Mac is competing with two other universities for capital funding, so all is uncertain.

The MSU president said that his focus is neighbourhood safety for students.

2. Town and Gown (Ira): The next meeting will be in Mississauga. Ira will be TGAO's treasurer.

3. Police liaison (Ken):

He was surprised to learn that the police don't track bicycle thefts.

Noise complaints were so low during Welcome Week that police resources were diverted to public-urination complaints.

Ken will invite the new superintendent to our February or March meeting.

4. Licensing and land zoning: Vinnie gave Aidan a huge packet of information summarizing land-use issues in Ainslie Wood and Westdale.

5. Participatory Budgeting Advisory Committee:

Tibor Bocz, Terri's husband, will join to replace Steve.

Aidan plans to continue PBAC in some form. Ward 2 (Councillor Jason Farr) is the only other ward using this system, but Ward 3 intends to join in. Aidan and Jason Farr will meet to share best practices. When Aidan was canvassing door to door, he was told that PBAC is cliquish. He will report to the board at a later date on PBAC's format and committee makeup.

Aidan mentioned that he has asked Dale Brown and Nikola Patti-Wojewoda, Brian McHattie's assistants, to continue with him and is meeting with them Nov. 4 to discuss this.

6. Student liaison (Shelli): Nothing to report.

Jay adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

December, date and location to be decided.