

MINUTES — AWWCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

Monday, May 5, 2014

Location: St. George's Reformed Episcopal Church, 134 Emerson St.
Present: Terri Bocz, Julianne Burgess, John Coakley, Mark Coakley, Shelli Eisenberg, Cary Kinsley, Ken Moyle, Jay Parlar, Ira Rosen, Kevin Russell
Non-board Members: Craig Burley, Al Norgate, Chris Woronchanka
Regrets: Councillor Brian McHattie, Paul Faure, Lois Freeman, Steve Metham, John Wigle
Guests: A/Sgt. Gino Ciarmoli, A/P.C. Erkan Simsek, Sharon Murray, Vinnie Welsh
Call to Order: 7:00 p.m. by President Jay Parlar
Recording Secretary: Linda Ellis
Quorum (Seven)? Yes

Approval of Minutes – A decimal point is missing in the ING amount. Kevin moved and Ira seconded that the April minutes be accepted with this correction; the motion passed.

Police Report (A/Sgt. Gino Ciarmoli) –

Theft from Autos – 2

Break and Enters – 7 (mostly student houses)

Graffiti – 4. There was graffiti along the Rail Trail and a couple of other locations within the neighbourhood. A couple of Crime Stopper tips since then may have identified the person responsible. The police have been in contact with the city regarding the graffiti along the Rail Trail and they will be addressing this. A press release regarding a graffiti initiative that started at the station has gone service wide. Gino will forward a copy of this initiative to the board.

Citizens are encouraged to call 911 to report incidents of graffiti in progress. All other graffiti can be reported by calling the City of Hamilton Contact Centre at 905-546-2489. The city refers incidents of graffiti involving hate crime, political activism, or gang messaging to the police. Citizens also can contact Crime Stoppers at 905-522-TIPS to report information on graffiti vandals.

McMaster students finished moving out last week. On April 25, Gino and a colleague knocked on doors of student houses where there have been complaints, letting them know there would be zero tolerance. McMaster also provided paid-duty officers, and it was quiet over the four nights during move out.

There will be a pre-season Ticat game on campus June 14. McMaster is hiring paid-duty officers to work from 2:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Councillor's Report – Deferred to next meeting.

Additions to the Agenda - None

Agenda Items -

- 1.0 Review of new rules for not-for-profits prior to AGM (Ira) – In 2010 the provincial government changed the rules regulating not-for-profit organizations. We have not looked at our bylaws for a few years. Kevin would be willing to review them but pointed out that the bill has never been enacted, so technically it is not the law.
- 2.0 AGM location (Jay) – Jay called St. Mary Catholic Secondary School to see if we could use their cafeteria for the venue and was directed to their website. The cafeteria can hold 450 people, and the cost is \$180, plus \$130 for insurance. Since we are co-hosting with the Kirkendall and Strathcona community associations we can speak to them about splitting the cost. Jay is to ask if St. Mary's provides audiovisual equipment and chair setup. He will not confirm anything until the other associations have been consulted. Ward 1 candidates have to register by September 12, and the AGM will take place on September 29. Ira suggested that if we e-mail the city clerk he will provide us with the names of candidates as they register.

Follow-up Items –

- 1.0 SASH (Senior Activities in Southwest Hamilton) - Ira
 - Ira has been meeting with SASH every two weeks.
 - Someone from SASH has volunteered to visit all the venues in the area.
 - SASH wants to build an online calendar so seniors can see what programs are available and where.
 - SASH is planning on having a Tea in the Park at Victoria Park on June 12.

- John had coffee with Norm Newbery from Kirkendall; they spoke about Ainslie Wood's hope to convert soon-to-be-closed Prince Philip School into an all ages' recreation centre. John felt that Norm may support us. A lot of seniors do not like to travel out of their neighbourhood so to have sites in different areas would be desirable.
- John Coakley said he would attend SASH meetings.

2.0 Churchill Park clubhouse (Ira) -

- The clubhouse is now fully open and available for rental through the city's recreation department.
- Notices are being sent to homes in view of the clubhouse asking to move forward with renaming the building.
- There is a meeting this week with the technical representative from the Hamilton Police Service, which most likely will be installing a short-circuit television for a short period to see if the people who keep vandalizing the building can be identified.
- The board is working on a vision statement.
- Board meetings are usually held the first Tuesday of every month, and all are welcome to attend. If visitors would like to discuss specific issues, they should contact one of the co-chairs, Ira Rosen or Jim Steep.

3.0 Prince Philip subcommittee (Mark/Ira) –

- Mark and Ira have rented Prince Philip's gym for May 20 and June 11 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.
- They are reaching out to the Ainslie Wood community hoping to have 15-25 people come to this meeting.
- Councillor Brian McHattie has confirmed he will be at the first meeting.
- MPP Ted McMeekin has told Mary Kiss that provincial money would be available for a recreation centre.
- Mark has asked Ted to come to this meeting, and he said he probably would be able to. He also would like to meet with Mark. Mary Kiss may attend this meeting as the liaison for her own community association, Concerned Ainslie Wood Neighbourhood Residents Association.
- Mark has spoken with candidates for Ward 1 councillor Aiden Johnson and Jason Allen but has not heard back from Sandy Shaw.
- MP David Sweet has also been invited.
- Mark will be giving this subcommittee the 1,500 names, e-mail addresses, and phone numbers collected during a petition drive to convert Prince Philip to a recreation centre. People who want to get involved in this subcommittee should attend the May 20 meeting. Notice of the two meetings will be sent to our AWWCA membership.
- The AWWCA will be covering the cost of these two meetings, at \$111 each. Ira suggested that the second meeting should focus on a clear vision. The city has not bought this building yet, and we need a resolution from city council prior to the election to confirm they will buy it. Ira believes that we should tell the city that we want Prince Philip to be a centre of excellence for seniors and make it available to the entire community, as there is funding available for seniors.
- Kevin moved and Terri seconded a motion that \$222 be allocated to pay for the rental of Prince Philip for these two meetings. All in favour.

4.0 All-candidates meeting (Jay) –

Jay met with Aidan Johnson and told him that once he registers he will be allowed to speak to the board for 10 minutes. Jason Allen contacted Jay asking to meet with him. Jay has a few points he will be sending to all Ward 1 candidates:

- One of the Ward 1 candidates is a vice-president of the AWWCA
- The AWWCA will not be endorsing a candidate
- The AGM in September will be an all-candidates debate
- Candidates are welcome to have a 15-minute coffee with Jay or can come to a board meeting for 10 minutes

5.0 Participatory Budgeting Advisory Committee – Ira gave an update on a recent controversy. A committee had been formed in Strathcona to suggest a public artwork project. They suggested to Brian that a statue be placed in Victoria Park of Frankie Venom, a popular local band member. There was a lot of negative feedback from some Ward 1 residents, and as a result this statue will not be going forward. Ira did raise concerns that if area-rating money for the entire ward is going to be spent, then the entire ward should be notified. Our area was not made aware of this proposal. Residents of Ward 1 are currently submitting ideas of how they would like to see our \$1.5-million dollars spent.

6.0 Cootes to Escarpment EcoPark (Ira) – Ten organizations have come together to maintain the conservation of Cootes Paradise. They would like more people to participate. See <http://www.cootestoescarpmentpark.ca/>

7.0 Spring cleanup (Shelli) – The cleanup went well. Over 40 people signed up.

New Business

- 1.0 1096 and 1100 Main St. West (Ira) – The building at the northeast corner of Cline and Main has been purchased by a developer in Cambridge to be converted into a student rental. Kristen West works for this developer. Kristen is an AWWCA member and used to work for the City of Hamilton as a planner. They would like to attend one of our upcoming board meetings. The people in the area to whom Ira has spoken have concerns regarding traffic and parking. The developer said they will be installing bike racks to promote cycling
- 2.0 1487 Main St. West, opposite Tim Horton's (Vinnie) – Terri and Vinnie met with Councillor Brian McHattie and Darryl Firston from IN8 Developments in Waterloo. Mr. Firston and his planner would like to build a 12-storey condo with 115 units. They want to make the ground floor commercial, with two floors of underground parking and a roof-top terrace. They concentrate on one to two bedrooms with the odd three bedrooms, high-end units that would be suitable for anyone (500, 750, and 1,000 square feet). They are hoping to market to graduate students and medical professionals, expecting to sell 75 per cent to investors and 25 per cent to parents. The secondary plan states three storeys, so 12 are well beyond that.
- 3.0 17 Ewen Rd (Vinnie) – Brian met with the city's lawyer, Mondelez (owner of Cadbury's), and Rise Real Estate (the new owners of this property, who bought it from Auburn Developments). All three parties will have to agree to terms set out by the Ontario Municipal Board. Of benefit to Mondelez, new noise-level standards will be more liberal for industry near residential. It was suggested that the company meet with a couple of us to let us know what their plans are and we will bring this back to the board.
- 4.0 4 Forsyth Ave. North (Vinnie) – This is the house next door to Rob Payne's that sold approximately one and a half years ago for \$800,000 and was then converted into a student rental with at least 10 students living there. Rob pursued the lack of building permits, but the city did not follow up. Rob looked into the Superior Court of Ontario's decision in the Oshawa housing case. The City of Hamilton has never approached this from an illegal-zoning point of view. Oshawa proved in their case that these were illegal lodging houses, as they had short-term leases, one year or less, the tenants were not families, as rooms were advertised on an individual basis, and the landlord picked the tenants. We have asked the city to come up with a strategy and start working on some of the worst cases like the house on Norfolk with 20-plus students. Last August the city solicitor met with us and decided to pursue this one case on Forsyth. There has been one pretrial hearing and another one in September, and then it goes to trial in January 2015. From the time Rob started this until it goes to trial it will be two and a half years. This timeline is unacceptable. It was suggested that we let Councillor McHattie know this is unacceptable, make this a public issue, and get this information out to our members.

Ed Sculthrope had sent around an e-mail to the board proposing we create a list of criteria for developments, as more developers are coming into the area. Vinnie thought she could find a document we worked on for the Binkley development that we could use as a starting point.

Kevin suggested we ask candidates for the provincial election their position on funding for housing on campus.

Treasurer's Report (Steve) -

ING balance: \$2,932.53 (we earned \$2.40 interest).

TD activity: Opening balance: \$872.85. Deposited \$15 (membership renewal). Expenses: \$4.95 monthly service charges, two cheques issued and cashed totalling \$225.00. Ending balance: \$657.90.

Membership Secretary's Report (Kevin) -

As of April 30 there were 346 paid-up members. No new members joined over the last month.

Corresponding Secretary's Report (Cary) -

2014.4.7 - Thank you from G. R. Allan Outdoor Space Committee for our donation

2014.4.25 - Vinnie to city re 4 Forsyth Ave. North

Committee Reports –

President's Advisory Committee on Community Relations – Not sure if Paul attended this meeting, therefore no report at this time.

Police liaison (Ken) – The next meeting is May 24.

Next Meeting – Monday, June 2, 7:00 p.m., St. George's Reformed Episcopal Church, 134 Emerson St.