

MINUTES — AWWCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

Monday, March 4, 2013

Location: St. George's Reformed Episcopal Church, 134 Emerson St.
Present: Shelli Eisenberg, Paul Faure, Carolyn Kinsley, Barb Mansfield, Ken Moyle, Jay Parlar, Ira Rosen, Vinnie Welsh
Regrets: John Wigle, Kevin Russell, Lois Freeman
Call to Order: 7:00 p.m. by President Jay Parlar
Recording Secretary: Jay Parlar
Quorum (seven)? Yes
Guests: Councillor Brian McHattie, Sgt. Scott Moreton, Kate Whalen (Senior Manager - McMaster University Sustainability), Daryl Bender (City of Hamilton – Cycling)

Police Report

- 0 robberies
- 0 commercial entries
- 0 student home entries
- 4 residential entries
- 1 entry at McMaster
- 0 stolen autos
- 2 thefts from autos (one at rinks, one parked on street)
- St. Patrick's Day is on Sunday; 33 officers assigned from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 a.m., including Mac 91/92 [I had noted 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m.]
- 11 officers at Hess that night
- Mac 91/92 on Friday and Saturday as usual
- If the weather is going to be really cold, the number of officers will be scaled back, but still a presence
- Ramping up presence this year so we don't have incidents like others around the province.
- Bike project started on Sunday: one week of prevention, three of enforcement. Westdale BIA, Sterling corridor, and Cootes crosswalk
- Good Student Awards: 27 nominations put forward. Ceremony March 25 at 11:30 a.m.

Councillor's Report

Brian will be meeting with Paul Shaker later this week for the project looking at Ainslie Wood West and Westdale North. He's mapped all the student houses throughout the neighbourhood using our data. He's taken committee of adjustment applications for Westdale North and will start talking about design issues in that area.

The CoA had an application for 151 Cline South, with significant pushback from residents. The applicants wanted to exceed the allowable height. Brian put together a session with the concerned residents, the synagogue, and the family that will be moving into the house. The people who were there agreed to move ahead. Ira has suggested writing a letter of support for the application.

The man who did the major work on Holmes has a similar application for the corner of Whitney and Emerson. The CoA is in the process of turning it down. It was too large for the character of the neighbourhood. The CoA tends to work with Brian, but they weren't in agreement this time.

1100 Main St. West (corner of Cline) is going to be a purpose-built student house (and managed housing).

The city is considering putting bump-outs at the Westdale Secondary School crossing on Longwood to reduce the number of lanes that students have to cross.

Tennis courts at Westdale Secondary are almost done, as well as a basketball court.

Dalewood Recreation Centre is going to final design this year, and will be "shovel ready."

Still working on Dalewood/Arnold parking issues. Maybe prohibit parking on the north side of Arnold except for school buses. Eliminating parking on Dalewood still needs to be weighed, because parking can act as a traffic-calming measure. There's currently no parking from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Agenda Items

1. Open discussion to deal with cycling issues in AWW

Joined by Kate Whalen from McMaster, and Daryl Bender from the city's public works department. Ira invited them to discuss cycling issues in the community. Vinnie pointed out that traffic calming on King Street West in front of George R. Allan School has made the bicycle problem worse by increasing congestion on the sidewalk.

Darryl discussed rolling out classes, doing formal education, sending out messages, etc. It's a difficult challenge with 20 per cent of the population changing every year. Kate described the Can-Bike program. It cost \$90 and required four to six participants. McMaster ran one in the fall for \$60-\$70. A new pilot version will be run in March, costing only \$20. The course covers bike dynamics, how to repair a tire, how to avoid a rock, rules of the road, how to deal with traffic. There is both in-class and on-bike instruction. The long-term plan is to run the course for \$20 every month during the eight-month cycling season. McMaster also runs bike-to-work days, and they want to increase bicycle education at those.

Sgt. Moreton discussed the police enforcement pilot project to be held in March and October. The first week will consist of education, followed by three weeks of enforcement. The project used to consist of two weeks of education and two weeks of enforcement. It was suggested that the Silhouette run an article leading up to this. Kate said that they will put notices in the McMaster Update e-mail, as well as on McMaster's online Daily News.

Daryl said that more bike lanes will be going in near G. R. Allan while that section of King is being resurfaced. They're also looking at bike lanes along Sterling from Newton to Forsyth. A route through Churchill Park is also planned.

2. Do we use our housing database for the new MSU housing site? (Jay)

Follow-up discussion from previous meeting with Max Bonnell. Everyone was generally okay with the idea, but Ken wondered if it's really necessary. Wouldn't it be better for Max to pre-populate with *all* homes in the area and use auto-completion when a user starts to enter an address? This prevents them from missing an address because it's not in our database.

John suggests we can put a small agreement together to protect AWWCA interests if we release the data, but there's most likely no legal problem.

Jay will follow up with Max.

Follow-up

1. Update on parking issues on Dalewood and Arnold

Addressed above.

2. Letter to support variance application for 151 Cline Ave. South

Vinnie will write the letter.

3. Update on Open Streets

Ira was invited to a meeting. The committee made some leadership changes, as two-thirds of the founding members have moved on to other things. They're now incorporated and in the process of creating a board of directors and hoped someone from the AWWCA would join the board. If they hold another Open Streets in Westdale, it'll be in the BIA.

4. Update on Wilson Hall Community Consultation Group

Ira attended the meeting, as Jay was out of town. Neighbours are concerned about the service area for garbage and deliveries, as it will face Forsyth. There will be underground parking.

5. Plan to increase membership

Held until next time.

6. Good Student Awards

Addressed above in police report.

7. AGM location

Vinnie and Jay will meet. We will need to get insurance.

8. Update on outstanding membership fees

Held until next time.

9. Casino poll

The results of our poll were sent to Janice Brown and others opposing the casino. With council postponing the vote, it doesn't look as if the results will be used anytime soon.

Corresponding Secretary's Report (Cary) [this was in the agenda]

Jan. 24-31: String of e-mails re the Community Justice Initiative

Jan. 30-Feb. 6: String of e-mails between Janice Brown (Durand Neighbourhood) and Jay re the casino

Feb. 7: E-mail from Dalewood Middle School's principal to Brian, copied to Ira, about parking near the school

Treasurer's Report (Barb)

We have \$2,897 in ING including \$7.00 earned since the last report. In TD we have \$4,865. Deposited \$1,200 in membership renewals. Issued cheques to FUN and TGAO.

PACCR (John)

Paul Martindale from WINK Properties is concerned about the rental-housing-licencing bylaw and also that they don't have representation on the community-plan subcommittee (This is the community subcommittee working with the planner looking at Ainslie Wood West and Westdale North.)

TGAO (Vinnie)

The annual meeting will be in May in Windsor.

Next Meeting

Monday, April 8, 7:00 p.m., St. George's Reformed Episcopal Church, 134 Emerson St.