

AWWCA 16th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – Monday, September 29, 2014
MINUTES

Held at St. Mary Catholic Secondary School

Recording secretary: Linda Ellis

Registration began at 5:30 p.m. for AWWCA membership renewals and new memberships.

The AGM was preceded by an all-candidates debate for Ward 1 councillor, sponsored by our association, the Kirkendall Neighbourhood Association, and Strathcona Community Council. AWWCA president Jay Parlar was moderator.

6:15 – 8:15 p.m.

Ward 1 candidates Jason Allen, Tony Greco, Aidan Johnson, Brian Lewis, Ira Rosen, and Sandy Shaw each had two minutes to introduce themselves. Jay then read an opening question, which had been provided to all the candidates the morning of Sept. 29. Each candidate had one minute to answer. After all had answered, each candidate had 30 seconds for follow up.

This was followed by a series of questions for which all candidates were given one minute to respond. The order of answering for each question was randomized, ensuring maximum fairness.

For the final question, each candidate had one minute to answer, followed by 30 seconds each for a follow-up/rebuttal.

Each candidate then was given one minute for a closing statement.

Each association had prepared one question. Together they selected the remaining questions from ones submitted by residents of Ward 1 through SurveyMonkey. The audience also could write questions on cards the night of the debate. Representative from each of the community associations together sorted and selected these final questions.

Joey Coleman live streamed the debate, which is archived at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9IK5XfxuUKY> .

A short intermission preceded the AWWCA's 16th Annual General Meeting.

Ward 1 Councillor Brian McHattie's Report

- The Churchill Park master plan was finished last year.
- There is money for new pathways in the park.
- The official name of the lawn-bowling building is now Churchill Park Clubhouse.
- Modified Dalewood Recreation Centre plans will be presented shortly that have lowered the estimated cost from \$14-million to \$9-million. They include renovating the main floor and pool and adding an elevator to the second floor.
- The French School Board is interested in purchasing Prince Philip School and has priority over the city. The city has put aside money to purchase this school but probably would build new as the building is not in good shape. The French board's office is in Toronto. Brian will be calling them tomorrow to talk about partnering with them if they end up buying the school.
- There is increasing interest from outside developers wanting to build purpose-built student housing in Ainslie Wood and Westdale.
- The development for 77 Leland is still in planning, and 17 Ewen is before the Ontario Municipal Board; maybe there will be an answer in about a month.
- Brian reflected on his years on council. At his first AWWCA AGM Rob Payne was the new president, succeeding Phyllis Tresidder. McMaster enrollment has since doubled. The Hamilton Police Service, the Off-Campus Housing Office, and the Student Community Support Network work together, which is much improved. The AWWCA, under Rob, took the initiative in creating the Town and Gown Association of Ontario. Brian thinks Ward 1 is the most progressive in Hamilton. It takes good ideas from everywhere, including other countries. It's the best communicator in the city.
- He thanked the AWWCA for 11 great years and getting to know so many folks.
- Brian also thanked his hard-working assistants Dale Brown, mentioning her weekly e-mails to the ward, and Nikola Wojewoda-Patti, whose "compassionate voice" answers the phone.

Jay Parlar, AWWCA President

- Jay thanked the board along with Strathcona and Kirkendall for their help in running the debate.
- Jay thanked the candidates for a successful debate.
- Next year's AGM will return to its regular format.
- The board still has openings for representatives from Ainslie Wood South and East.
- Surplus money was used for Cootes Paradise Elementary School to hire a planner and submit landscape designs for a playground at this amalgamated school to make it welcoming for new and returning students.
- We actively monitor City of Adjustment applications and submit opinions when warranted.
- We have made the challenges faced by this neighbourhood known to Chris Murray, city manager, and Jason Thorne, general manager of planning and economic development.
- Our goal is to formalize our guidelines for developers and continue to work with them so that changes are positive for the community.
- Monthly board meeting minutes are posted on our website.
- Thank you to all the board members for all their hard work throughout the year.
- Thank you to Councillor McHattie as our Ward 1 councillor.

Steve Metham, Treasurer's Report

As of Aug. 30: TD \$260.69 + ING \$2,937.77 = Total \$3,198.46.

This represents a decrease of \$3,942.54 from \$7,141.00 on Aug. 30, 2013 (as presented in the 2013 AGM minutes). This decrease is due to our donation toward the planning costs of the natural playground for the new Cootes Paradise schoolyard, as well as to fluctuations in the timing of membership renewals.

Linda Ellis, Recording Secretary's Report

Linda presented the 2013 AGM minutes, which were printed on the back of the agenda. She made a motion to accept the minutes as if read, Julianne Burgess seconded it, and the motion was carried.

Kevin Russell, Membership Secretary's Report

- As of Aug. 31, the AWWCA had 345 members and 23 friends.
- As of this AGM, 163 household memberships are due for renewal. This represents about 290 individual members. E-mail reminder notices have been sent out.
- Kevin asked members to please notify us if their e-mail address has changed.
- Kevin moved to accept this report, Linda Ellis seconded it, and the motion was carried.