

THE WEST BEND COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Minutes of October 17, 2007

Chair: Duncan Farnan, Minutes: Timothy Noronha
Guests: Gordon Perks, City Councilor; Meri Newton, Councilor Perk's office

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm

1. Report from Councilor Perks

1.1 Baird Park

- Work is going smoothly
- Fence is approved, waiting on contractor

1.2 Developments

Options for Homes (Keele north of Dundas)

- An issue regarding the how the development qualifies for "affordable housing" privileges will be dealt up with in November
- development fees are typically waived by the city for affordable housing based on 50 year life, but these units are only affordable housing until they are re-sold on the market
- Councilor Perks supports a plan deferring the development fees

McBride site

- has NOT been sold – no other news

Bloor/Dundas

- no news; waiting on developer to re-submit application

1640 Bloor (North-east corner of Indian Road)

- no application has been made yet; expecting Dec-Jan

Loblaws/Zellers

- next year it is likely that Loblaws will be moving into the larger space currently occupied by the Zellers
- there are no plans for the existing Loblaws site

There has been a suggestion to implement a holding bylaw on all new developments along Bloor St. pending a proper avenue segment study. Councilor Perks has discussed the idea with the city planning department, but nothing is currently planned

The city currently has no money for completing avenue studies. As a compromise, Councilor Perks would like put more emphasis on a community process to ensure the community's views are heard. The ultimate goal of any process is a mutually acceptable change to zoning bylaws.

1.3 Questions & Answers

Q: Has the city made any cuts due to the budget crunch?

A: The city has implement a hiring freeze for all but health & safety positions. Hours for seasonal worker have been scaled back. The city is looking to rework some fees towards a cost-recovery model

1.4 Community Concerns:

There seems to be increased traffic along Annette and throughout the neighbourhood

- Councilor Perks will look at past traffic studies in the area
- Is the community willing to put in the effort required to participate in a comprehensive traffic study for the area?
- Other thoughts: "no control" zones, narrowing of Dundas

2. Review of Minutes from June 20th, 2007

The minutes from the last meeting were approved

3. Committees and Reports

3.1 Baird Park Improvements

- waiting on the contractor for the fence; should be very soon

3.2 Treasurer's report

- Current account at Scotia Bank has been closed due to \$10/month fees
- Account was opened on May 6, 1974 by the "South of the Junction Residents Association"!
- New no-fee "community association" account will be opened at BMO (Dundas & Keele)
- Motion passed for selection of new signing officers:
President: Duncan Farnan
Vice-President: Hilary Bell

Secretary: Peter Jacques
Treasurer: Timothy Noronha

3.3 September 19th All-candidates Meeting

-the meeting went smoothly – people liked the segment on electoral reform

4. Agenda Planning

Possible themes for meetings: traffic – death valley (Annette & Dupont), real-estate development, raccoons – squirrels – animal services, pools, trees, garbage – waste management, graffiti, neighbourhood recognition – public relations, economic development – BIA – small business, property tax reform, waterfront plan

4.1 Tentative Plans for upcoming meetings

November

Traffic study + Management

Chair: Duncan Farnan

-Councilor Perks will be providing more information about past traffic studies in the area

-possible guest: Steven Brown from city's traffic department

January

Tree committee – Forrestry – Tree inventory

Chair: David White

-possible guest: forestry

February

Animal Policy in the City

Chair: Deborah

-possible guests: Animal Alliance of Canada, Animal Services

March

MPP Visit

Chair: Timothy Noronha

-possible guest: Cheri DiNovo

-constituency report, OMB, uploading/downloading

-possible larger meeting with neighbouring associations

April

Municipal Task Force reports

Chair: Hilary Bell

- possible guests: government officials
- dependent of timely release of the reports

5. Other Business

5.1 Communication Committee

- more that can be done to promote the West Bend Residents association
- further improvements to website, email communications
- motion passed to re-convene the communications committee to discuss these issues

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10pm

