

SWANSEA AREA RATEPAYER'S ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF MEETING, Tuesday, January 15, 2008

Present: Nick Singh, Bill Roberts, David Fleming, Heather McCulloch, John Meijer, Kate Lawson, Ed Gaigalas, Chris Korda, Bill Steele, Sybil Wilkinson
Regrets: Bill Jermyn, Ian McIsaac, Louis Gris, George Dubauskas

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:

The meeting was called to order by Nick Singh at 7:38 pm.

2. AGENDA AMENDMENTS & APPROVAL:

Upon motion by Bill Roberts, seconded by Ed Gaigalas, and carried, the amended Agenda for January 15, 2008 was approved.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Bill Roberts, seconded by Kate Lawson, and carried, the amended Minutes for December 11, 2007 were approved.

4. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

a) Membership: John Meijer presented the membership report. The report was accepted upon a motion by John Meijer, seconded by Bill Roberts and carried.

b) Fundraising: Kate Lawson reported that she has reconciled the ticket sales. 75 tickets were sold at \$16.00. With \$500.00 paid to the Village Playhouse, SARA raised \$707.00.

c) Treasurer's: Kate Lawson presented the financial report. The report was accepted upon a motion by Kate Lawson, seconded by John Meijer and carried

d) Expenses: Bill Roberts submitted \$20.00 for expenses for parking and photocopies for the Centralized Planning meeting. Kate Lawson reported that \$90.72 is needed for payment of the post office box at the Town Hall. David Fleming motioned that the expenses be paid. The motion was seconded by Ed Gaigalas and carried.

5. CURRENT MATTERS

a) New Members and Guests: None

b) Adopt a Block: Heather McCulloch reported that she has rebuilt the Display Poster infrastructure. Bill Roberts suggested that the master copies of the literature be stored in a separate sleeve for safekeeping.

c) Property Encroachment at 55 Mayfield Ave - Willard Gardens Parkette: No news.

- d) Traffic Studies in Swansea: Nick Singh reported that he had dropped by Councillor Saundercook's office to enquire about the status of SARA's questions. Some phone calls were made, but still no news.
- e) Meeting with Cheri DiNovo: No news. Nick Singh will follow up.
- f) Flyer to promote SARA to new Swansea Residents: Chris Korda reported that the group will be getting together on January 16, 2008.
- g) Swansea Town Hall Web Site Redesign: Ed Gaigalas reported that the new website is up and running with content from SARA. Item will be closed.
- h) Humbergate Initiative: No news. See item 5d.
- i) Waterfront Master Plan and Western Beaches: No news. Ian McIsaac to report at the February 19, 2008 Executive Meeting, or provide a written summary.
- j) Discussion of Co-hosting All Candidates Meetings with BWVRA: Ed Gaigalas reported that he has sent some emails to his BWVRA contacts. No news yet.
- k) Development on Bloor Street, East of Swansea: Nick Singh reported that he has no news.
- l) High Park Off-Leash Dog Zones: Heather McCulloch reported that the letter was sent to the High Park Advisory Committee. It will be read into record at their January 15, 2008 meeting.
- m) 21 Old Mill Road: Bill Roberts reported he contacted the Old Mill Residents Association via email to see how we can help. He will follow up.
- n) Local Matters - Decision Making Being Transferred to Planning and Growth: Bill Roberts attended the meeting, and explained the proposed process to decide if planning matters will be decided by the Planning and Growth Management Committee. SARA's letter was filed. Local groups essentially want local matters to remain local with the local Councillor involved in the decision. Avenue Studies and Secondary Planning should remain local unless they cross a community boundary. As well, CORRA has asked for transparency in completing the application planning process. That is, while the complete application is being assembled, both the ward councillor, and possibly the community, via the ward councillor, is involved. The public should be guaranteed that at a minimum, the ward councillor and possibly the public have access to, possibly at a reasonable cost, reports used in the application.
- o) Capital Budget – Homeowners Subsidizing New Development: David Fleming will send the Executive an email from FoNTRA that describes the issue. Essentially, 10% of infrastructure costs are paid by the development industry, with the rest being picked up by taxpayers. It was also discussed that the planning department is understaffed. Sybil Wilkinson motioned that she write a letter to ???????? that SARA is concerned, that the Planning Department is understaffed, and the low proportion of development charges as they relate to the cost of new development. The motion was seconded by Bill Roberts and carried.

6. LAND USE ITEMS

a) Past Items:

- 86 Deforest Road: Kate Lawson reported that she filed an appeal to the OMB on behalf of her mother, Marita Bagdonas at 88 Deforest Road. The hearing has been sheduled for a half day. Bill Roberts suggested that she request mediation, and to go the the OMB to copy all itemes currently in the file.
- 35 Beresford Ave: David Fleming reported that the pad had been approved, a temporary curm is in, can a permit will be issued. There has been no reponse from the City Right of Way Management, or Concillor Saundercook on questions of landscaped open space and soft landscaping.
- 169 South Kingsway: Nick Singh reported that he will follow up with the inspector
- 29 Dacre: No news. John Meijer to follow up.
- Windermere by the Lake: David Fleming ask the Committee of Adjustment if any appeals were filed.

b) 14, 16, 18 Mossom Road: David Fleming to ask the Committee of Adjustment if any appeals were filed.

c) New COA Matters: None.

7. COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

a) Community Police Liaison Committee: No news.

b) High Park Community Advisory Council: Heather McCulloch reported that there are many events happening at the park. The park web site has all of the details.

c) Swansea Community Recreation Centre & Rennie Park: Ed Gaigalas reported that the New Years Eve party at the rink was a big success. Kate reported that there will be a “Mardi Gras – Better late than never” fundraiser in the spring.

d) Swansea Memorial Library and Friends of the Library: No news.

e) Swansea Public School: No news.

f) Swansea Town Hall Board of Management: Bill Roberts reported that a motion was passed to not collect memberships. He encouraged everyone to join the Town Hall Association. A letter for the Board advisor, Bill Slean, seems to indicate that the Board is trying to dissolve the Association. The role of the Association within the Board was discussed. The AGM will be Tuesday February 26, 2008.

g) J.T. Bonham Residences: Ed Gaigalas reported that the AGM will be Thursday February 21, 2008.

h) CORRA: See item 5a.

8. ITEMS BEING MONITORED

- a) Windermere by the Lake: See item 6a.
- b) Southport Plaza: Georgian Homes has significantly raised management fees for the tenants. Because of this, the convenience store will be closing. Sybil Wilkinson motioned that she write a letter to Councillor Saundercook, apprising him of the situation. The motion was seconded by David Fleming and carried.
- c) Former Joyco Station: No news.
- d) Dark Horse (liquor license): Nick Singh reported that he sent in his opposition to the application. There has been no news yet.
- e) Humber Bay Treatment Plant: No news.
- f) Proactive Measures to Preserve the Character of Swansea: No news. Bill Roberts will contact Stuart French regarding the attempted designation of Riverside Drive as a Heritage Conservation District.
- g) Storm Water Management Plan – Ellis Ave/Colbourne Lodge Dr: No news.
- h) South Kingsway Ramps Redesign Meeting: Chris Korda reported no new issues, and is monitoring Community Council and Committee meeting agendas. Community members she has on her mailing list have been responding favourably.
- i) Bloor West Urban Design Study: No news.
- k) 86 Deforest Road: See item 6a.
- l) Booking of Swansea Town Hall Rooms for SARA Meetings: David Fleming to book a room, near the end of May 2008, for the AGM. Bill Roberts will talk to Councillor Cliff Jenkins to see if he is interested in speaking at the AGM.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

Promotion of SARA in local papers: Nick Singh reported that he sent an editorial letter to the Gleaner. Chris Korda will summarize the letter, and submit it to the other local papers.

51 St Olaves: Mr Bunergy at 189 Windermere contacted Nick Singh about work being done at the property.

Humber Odeon Development: Nick Singh reported that a community member told him that all of the buildings to the west of the Odeon have been purchased. Both Nick Singh and Bill Roberts will make inquiries with Councillor Saundercook and others.

10. NEXT MEETING: Tuesday February 19, 2008

11. ADJOURNED: 9:13 PM