

SWANSEA AREA RATEPAYER'S ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF MEETING, Tuesday, June 16, 2008

Present: Nick Singh, Bill Roberts, David Fleming, Heather McCulloch, Kate Lawson, Sybil Wilkinson (arrived 7:55), Ian McIsaac, John Meijer
Regrets: Louis Gris, George Dubauskas, Bill Steele, Ed Gaigalas, Chris Korda

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

The meeting was called to order by Nick Singh at 7:32 pm.

2. AGENDA AMENDMENTS & APPROVAL:

Upon motion by Bill Roberts, seconded by David Fleming, and carried, the Agenda for June 16, 2008 was approved.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Bill Roberts, seconded by David Fleming, and minutes for April 15, 2008 was approved.
Upon motion by Bill Roberts, seconded by David Fleming, and minutes for May 20, 2008 was approved with minor amendments.

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: None.
- c) Treasurer's: Kate Lawson reported that report is not available.
- d) Expenses: None.

5. CURRENT MATTERS

- a) New Members and Guests: Bonnie Taylor, Toronto Waterfront Marathon. In its ninth year it raised 1.2 million for 45 charities. It will be held September 28, 2008, between 7:30 and 10 am. There is a community challenge, with a site at Windermere and Lakeshore. The cheering group gets \$1000 to organise cheerers. The best cheering sections win cash for their charity. The group is provided a stage, sound equipment, and four runners' entrance entries. The site is available and reserved for SARA until the end of July.
Chris Taylor, President, 20 Southport. Chris represents 770 residents at 20 Southport, and is involved in many community issues, especially High Park. Chris has had some conversations with Nick and Bill regarding the ramps, and would like to be involved in any working groups or committees that SARA participates in.
- b) Property Encroachment at 55 Mayfield Ave - Willard Gardens Parkette: John Meijer motioned that to allow up to \$110 for Bill Roberts to get a title search on the road parcel, 55 Mayfield, and the adjacent property to the west have not yet been done. The motion was seconded by Ed Gaigalas and carried.

c) Flyer to promote SARA to new Swansea Residents: Membership is very low, and is a big concern. We need to build our profile in the community. Building an email list and creating a better electronic presence might help.

d) Humbergate Initiative: Nick Singh reported that he has no response from Councillor Saundercook or his office.

e) Waterfront Master Plan and Western Beaches: Bill Roberts, Nick Singh, and Ian McIsaac attended the charette on May 31, 2008, at St Josephs Hospital. Four groups representing four areas were assembled to discuss possible changes and make decisions. Issues addressed were: Parking, encouraging year round access, moving cyclists closer to roadways away from greenspace, closing Colburn Lodge to traffic, urbanise Parkside and the Queensway, reduce Lakeshore to two lanes by moving one lane to the Gardiner, converting the Lakeshore to a more “park like” state. There were no real solutions to the break wall. Bill, Nick, and Ian will monitor the issue.

f) Development on Bloor Street, East of Swansea: No news.

g) 21 Old Mill Road: No news.

h) Complete Applications: Bill Roberts reported that the process is still ongoing. Developers, ratepayers, and planners will be meeting next week.

i) AGM – Wednesday June 18, 2008: Chris Korda and Ian McIsaac will put up posters and set up the SARA table for Adopt-A-Block and membership. Ed Gaigalas will set up the set up the coffee. Chris Korda will bring up to \$50 of snacks. Bill Roberts motioned that the slate will be Nick Singh, President, David Fleming, Secretary, Kate Lawson, Treasurer, and no Vice President. Bill Roberts, Sybil Wilkinson, Ian McIsaac, John Meijer, Louis Gris, George Dubauskas, and Ed Gaigalas will remain on the board. Bill Steele, Chris Korda, and Heather McCulloch are resigning their positions. The motion was seconded by Ed Gaigalas and carried.

j) South Kingsway Ramps: SARA’s position is balancing traffic, pedestrians, and cyclist, and will to support the new proposal with some additions to be considered: Making the cross walk’s operation independent from either direction, aligning the bus stop to the streetcar stop. Ed Gaigalas motioned that the above position be taken by SARA, and David Fleming to submit letters of support as needed. The motion was seconded by David Fleming and carried. Bill Roberts motioned that Chris Korda provide talking points to the Villager, to be vetted by Bill Roberts and Nick Singh before submission. The motion was seconded by David Fleming and carried.

6. LAND USE ITEMS

a) Past Items:
169 South Kingsway: Nick Singh reported no news.

b) New COA Matters: None.

c) 69 Beresford Avenue - Parking Pad Appeal: David Fleming reported that there is neighbourhood poll for a parking pad request. The neighbours, two to the north, and one to the south are opposing the appeal, and would like SARA’s in the matter. It appears that there are some deficiencies in the proposal. David will keep the executive informed.

7. COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

- a) High Park Community Advisory Council: No news.
- b) Community Police Liaison Committee: No news
- c) Swansea Community Recreation Centre & Rennie Park: The Rennie Park Community Garage Sale was successful, raising \$900. Kate Lawson signed up four new Adopt-A-Block sponsors. John Meijer will inquire to see if the Adopt-A-Block is still an official city program.
- d) Swansea Memorial Library and Friends of the Library: Bill Roberts reported that usage is up dramatically in March, 211%.
- e) Swansea Public School: Bill Roberts reported that the convocation will be June 23, 2008. Sybil Wilkinson will attend. SARA will present our usual award.
- f) Swansea Town Hall Board of Management: Bill Roberts reported that the Board's Committee dealing with continuing the Association has recommended meeting with the Association four times a year and rewriting the constitution to clarify some wording with respect to the Association.
- g) J.T. Bonham Residences: No news.
- h) CORRA: Bill Roberts reported that they are discussing the role of the mayor and mayoral powers, Heritage Districts, and Corporate Applications.

8. ITEMS BEING MONITORED

- a) Windermere by the Lake: No news.
- b) Southport Plaza: No news.
- c) Former Joyco Station: Work is progressing. The neighbouring concession stand and washroom may be incorporated into the finished building.
- d) Dark Horse (liquor license): Nick Singh reported that submissions are completed, and he is waiting for the decision.
- e) Humber Bay Treatment Plant: No news.
- f) Proactive Measures to Preserve the Character of Swansea: There is a City report from Planning and Preservation on the use of Section 37 monies and Heritage Districts. Swansea is listed as a potential Heritage District as it has many unique aspects. Bill Roberts motioned that we support the concept in general, and David Fleming will write a letter of support. Bill will provide information. The motion was seconded by John Meijer and carried.
- g) Storm Water Management Plan – Ellis Ave/Colbourne Lodge Dr: No news.
- h) Bloor West Urban Design Study: Revisit item in September, possibly with Councillor Saundercook and Planning and Growth Management.

- i) Traffic Studies in Swansea: No news.
- j) Discussion of Co-hosting All Candidates Meetings with BWVRA: No news
- k) Humber Odeon Developments: No news.
- l) High Park Off-Leash Dog Zones: More consultation will be done..
- m) Development Charges: No news.
- n) Adopt-A-Block Program and Display Poster: See AGM report.
- o) 21 Old Mill – Section 37 Monies: No news.
- p) Booking of Swansea Town Hall Rooms for SARA Meetings: Book in December 2008.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

Bill Roberts reported that there were rumours that Swansea Mews may be redeveloped like the Regent Park project. Nick Singh reported that his contact indicated that no new development would be happening there in the near future.

10. NEXT MEETING: Tuesday September 16, 2008

11. ADJOURNED: 9:00 PM