

# Strathcona Community Council Executive Meeting Victoria Park Fieldhouse October 16, 2023

## Minutes

### **Present:**

Chris Erl (President and Chair), Denise Minardi (Treasurer), Barb Williams, Jason Morse, Brian Hovsepian, Dominic Sorbara.

### **Regrets:**

Ian Borsuk (Vice-President), Michael-Allan Marion Secretary, Jen Dawson, Rosemary Baptista.

### **Guests:**

Stephanie Hilson (Community Engagement and Strategic Initiatives Co-ordinator), Hamilton Police Sgt. Asim Butt.

#### **1. Call to Order, Greeting and Land Acknowledgement:**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7 pm and read the following acknowledgement:

We take this time to recognize that Strathcona is situated upon the traditional territory of the Erie, Neutral, Huron-Wendat, Mississauga, and Haudenosaunee. This land is shared between the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the Anishinaabe nations as acknowledged in the Dish with One Spoon Wampum belt. That wampum uses the symbolism of a dish to represent the territory, and the one spoon to represent that the people are to share the resources of the land and take only what they need.

#### **2. Agenda:**

**Motion:** Moved by Jason M., seconded by Barb W., that the agenda of the October 16, 2023 Executive meeting be approved.

**Carried:**

#### **3. Adopting Minutes:**

**Amendment:** moved by Barb, seconded by Denise that the minutes be changed to reflect "add website to SCC Communications."

**Carried and Minutes are Adopted**

#### 4. **Updates from Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson:**

- Park construction will continue into spring; hope to be completed by the end of May. Fieldhouse closed while bathrooms renovated into universal/gender neutral locations.
- York Blvd construction project plan will be tendered this month; work will commence in the spring. Goals include reducing speed moving on and off Dundurn through removal of slip lanes and changes to pedestrian crossing/access.
- Cost of insurance will be covered by city of Hamilton for the community day.
- Breadalbane and Lochearne returned to the 4-way stop sign with removal of the planter. Questions from community members focusing on looking at the feasibility of the plan; reminded that this is a pilot and not permanent.
- Funding went through from the councillor's office for the SCC website.
- Lighting at north end of Victoria Park was addressed; a line was cut. If the cut cannot be resolved within a week's time, project manager will be followed up with.

#### 5. **Update from Hamilton Police Sergeant Asim Butt:**

- **Statistics for Strathcona** January 1 2023 to present
  - Auto theft: 7 cars stolen
  - Break and enter: 34
  - Robberies: 4
  - Theft from auto: 76 reported
  - Theft over \$5K: 3
  - 124 total occurrences. Crime was up from last year by 72%. 300% in January, 72% in May, and 42% currently
- **Project Chain Reaction:** focused on trend of criminals riding bicycles around the city to commit crimes; May 1 to September 30. 97 interactions; 15 arrests. 110 tickets (riding on sidewalk, no bell, no light, etc). This was for the whole of downtown (Sherman to Dundas, Escarpment to water).  
Addressing the 300% spike, these were crimes of opportunity that were happening everywhere; there was the spike. Project was put in place (Project Wallaby) that targeted hotspots and arrests were made. Increased patrols and car presence.

## **6. President's Report:**

Chris said the AGM will require a date and a venue. Possible venues raised were Staircase (not accessible), Erskine, Good Shepherd. Looking at the week of November 20 to 23.

## **7. Treasurer's Report:**

Denise M. advised us that the account was opened in June. As of October 12, the total in the account is \$1310.30.

**Motion:** Moved by Denise M., seconded by Barb W., that the Treasurer's Report be approved.

**Carried.**

## **8. Committee Reports:**

**Governance:** no updates

**Events:** focus on the upcoming October 28 community event. There is concern given the amount completed in preparation compared to the timeline. The fieldhouse has already been booked. Talk focused on committing to a scaled-down event OR pursue something in the spring. Consensus was to pursue a later date. Easter weekend was put forth. There was mention of pursuing a tandem of communications and events to up publicity. Decided to look at combining with reopening of Victoria Park in late May.

**Policy and Advocacy:** no updates

**Communications:** There is funding to move forward with the website. Web address will be hosted by a new service. Commitment to having the website go "live" by end of October. By December the existing website will go down.

## **9. Business:**

A: **Meeting Code of Conduct.** Reference to safe, respectful, efficient meetings. Looking for norms that address respect, unconditional regard, etc. Also include an introduction to the purpose of SCC including who SCC is and what the purpose is, what is expected at meetings, land acknowledgment. Suggested that this may fall under the governance committee.

B. **Questions around Queen and York.** Pedestrian light is short. Suggestion was to contact Manager of Transportation and Operations: Mike.Field@hamilton.ca

**10. Time of next Meeting:** will be the AGM; date, time, and location TBD

**11. Adjournment:**

**Motion:** Moved by Barb W., seconded by Denise M., the meeting be adjourned  
**Carried.**