



The Strathcona Community Council
Hamilton, ON
strathconacommunitycouncil@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/strathconacommunitycouncil
http://strathconacommunity.org/
www.twitter.com/hamiltonscc

SCC Annual General Meeting: Thursday, November 23, 2017

Location: Erskine Presbyterian Church

Attendees:

Please see separate attendance list

Meeting called to order at 7:10 PM

Welcome and introductions by Dominic Sorbara

- Introduction
- Discusses agenda
- Introduces guest speakers:
 - Aidan Johnson, Councillor Ward 1
 - Sgt. Amandeep Gill, Hamilton Police Services

Councillor Johnson Updates

- Progress on trail network – three years planned for expansion of trail network behind Cathedral, along train tracks and by Kay Drage Park
- LRT work is ongoing. LRT is happening.
- PBAC – deadline for submissions is December 14.
 - Rob Parsons says a few words
 - Feedback sought from Strathcona residents, Strathcona is usually under-represented in submissions
 - PBAC open-house is next Tuesday
- Questions to Councillor:
- Q: How does the allocation of money to the wards for PBAC work?
 - Wards 1 through 8 receive same funds irrespective of population
 - Different processes by ward: Ward 1 does PBAC; Ward 2 has a voting process, but different from PBAC; Wards 3-8 the councillor decides.
- Q: What was money spent on last year?
 - #1 Westdale Theatre façade
 - + Dundurn park improvements, Victoria Park pool fixes and additions, picnic section by the pool.
 - Visit PBAC website for all details.
- Q: What is the future of bike lanes on Dundurn, word is LRT will end up removing bike lanes there.
 - Send concerns to Councillor so he can speak up for them:
aidan.johnson@hamilton.ca
 - Councillor adds that work on Transportation Master Plan will finally be moving forward in the coming year
- Q: LRT will have 3 stops between James and McMaster. Bus has 16 stops. This is a reduction of service.
 - HSR bus routes will continue along corridor. LRT will be the replacement express route.

- Comment from audience: LRT should be on Main St. Also, the City needs safe injection sites.
- Q: What is progress on 2-way conversion of Queen St.?
 - City is working on this presently.
- Q: Status of Barton-Tiffany work?
 - Not enough money to proceed with work required in respect of remediation.
 - Will be working with other levels of government to see what could be done, but a plan is needed first, and then money. Low income housing couldn't proceed at that location, for example, until there is a plan and money.
- Q: Lights at Queen and York aren't safe, insufficient time
 - Will work on it, please send an email to councillor

7:40 PM

Sgt. Gill updates

- Detailed crime statistics update, numbers of incidents by category
- Attendee comments that some crimes are not listed
 - Sgt. Gill asks that she should get in touch with her and she'll look into it
- Q: Are crime stats improving? Question is in regard to insurance premiums, they should be going down since crime is better now than it was decades ago, the neighbourhood has improved but insurance companies still have the perception that the neighbourhood is "unsafe".
 - Insurance companies look at large areas. L8R postal code is large, all neighbourhoods grouped together, small differences may not be looked at by insurance. L8R has higher crime rates than other areas, but that doesn't necessarily relate specifically to Strathcona.
 - Sgt. Gill can try to look into more detailed overall stats as it might relate to insurance and historical trends.
- Comment and discussion from audience: you can use reasonable force to defend yourself. Sgt. Gill agrees.
- Q: What is being done about increasing homelessness?
 - Police "Social Navigator" program is trying to help.
- Comment: Ever since the Bay St. bike lanes went in, people at York and Bay St. are stopping traffic to panhandle.
- Sgt. Gill does presentation:
 - Reporting is very important! Report all crimes, however small they may seem.
 - Steps through online reporting
 - Phone reporting
 - Online crime mapping website – "anonymizes" the locations, not the exact spots, rather rough locations
 - Can request home security audit: 905-546-4900. Done by a plain-clothes officer. Officer will walk through and identify opportunities to improve home security, free service.
- Q: regarding Admiral Inn
 - Only had one call to Police since a special program focused on it started last year, it has been successful.
- Q: regarding homeless, transients

- Updates re: Wesley Centre at Ferguson and day programming only
- Social Navigator
- Lots of other ongoing projects.
- Open discussion re: Tent city, by train tracks between Cathedral, Tom Street Park, Jones St.

8:30 PM AGM

Approval of 2016 AGM minutes

- Jonathan Therien reviews minutes, in summary
 - Sgt. Gill presentation
 - Update from Councillor
 - Constitutional amendments
 - Elections to the Executive
 - Presentation from Cycle Hamilton
 - Victoria Park update
- **Motion:** Chris White moves to approve minutes
- **Second:** Jason Morse
- **Vote:** 22-0 in favour – Minutes approved.

Financial Report from Celeste Gallant

- Report covers November 24, 2016 through November 23, 2017
- \$573.20 starting balance
- \$4.54 bank fees
- \$0.12 bank interest
- \$504.02 deposits
- \$262.00 expenses
- 1 deposit outstanding of \$25.30
- Cash float in hand of \$150.00
- Total funds available of: 1273.13
- **Motion:** Thomas Bernacki moves to accept financial report
- **Second:** Dave Keane
- **Vote:** 17-0 in favour (1 abstention) – financial report accepted

President's Update:

- Review of events held by the SCC over the year:
 - March 30 – LRT update meeting
 - April 18 – Easter Egg Hunt
 - April 29 – Team up to Clean up
 - June 3 – Spring Fling
 - September 8 – Screen on the Green
- Thanks to various parties sponsoring events, assisting with SCC activities
- Thanks to councillor
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Jonathan presents constitution

- Explains amendments made in preceding year, to be approved at this AGM:
 - Q: request for clarification about “non-partisan”
 - not affiliated with specific parties or candidates
 - Q: request for clarification about “special membership”
 - Businesses involved in SCC activities (e.g. Rolly Rockets, contributing to SCC activities), without voting rights but wish to be in the loop on SCC dealings.
 - Discussion between Dave Keane and Chris White, clauses in respect of executive actions cover who can do what, and approve what. Will move on, no motion requested.
- Dave Keane: suggests that old members list be maintained as an archive.
- Question from audience re: flyer delivery.
 - Flyer delivery is explained, volunteer process on “best effort”. More volunteers to do a better job are welcome.
- Dave Keane: provides some suggested updates to the website
- Q: privacy and FOI act. Is posting minutes a transgression of privacy laws?
 - Discussion in audience.
 - Chris: partaking in a discussion at a public AGM implies that participants agree to have names published.
 - Jonathan: requirement that the neighbourhood association be transparent and publish their minutes.
 - Sarah Jama: Need to be public and transparent as an advocacy group.
 - Jonathan: reminder that SCC is not incorporated.
 - Celeste: Could have a secret password for meeting minutes.
 - Open discussion re: logistics of protected access, etc., in respect of remaining transparent and accessible to neighbourhood.
- Explanation regarding quorum requirements in Constitution
- **Motion:** Ed Castonguay: moves to accept the Constitution as presented in its entirety.
- **Second:** Chris White
- Terry – wishes to review remaining clauses before proceeding with vote. Lengthy discussion in this respect.
- Discussion will continue, **motion withdrawn.**
- Remaining clauses in Constitution reviewed.
- **Motion:** Terry MacDougall: in respect of Clause 2 under membership, that members must be the age of majority.
- **Second:** Dave Keane
- **Vote:** 15-0 (motion carries)
- **Motion:** Dave Keane: in respect of clause 3 under finances by-laws, there should be a clause that of three signatories in total with signing authority, two signatures be required for all financial transactions.
- **Second:** Ed Castonguay
- **Vote:** 14-0 (motion carries)
- **Motion:** Chris White: that the constitution be accepted as presented, with the above two modifications to clauses as previously voted upon.

- **Second:** Terry MacDougall
- **Vote:** 14-0 (motion carries)
- Constitutional amendments now final, having been amended during the AGM.

Executive membership elections

- Celeste Gallant stepping down as Treasurer.
- Jonathan Therien running for position of Treasurer.
 - **Vote:** unanimous in favour.
- Thomas Bernacki running for Secretary
 - **Vote:** unanimous in favour.
- Jessica Aird running for VP
 - **Vote:** unanimous in favour.
- Dominic Sorbara running for President
 - **Vote:** unanimous in favour.
- Other members at large to step forward:
 - Terry MacDougall
 - Rosemary Baptista
 - Ed Castonguay
 - Jason Morse
 - Roy Raghavan
 - **Vote:** unanimous in favour

Motion: Ed Castonguay, moves to adjourn

Seconded: Thomas Bernacki

Vote: unanimous in favour.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:40 PM.