



City of New Westminster McBride-  
Sapperton  
Residents' Association

## Public Meeting Minutes

**Location:** Knox Presbyterian Church

**Date of Meeting:** Thursday, 6 January 2005, 7:00PM

### In Attendance

- ❑ Executive: Neil Powell, Geoff Pinkerton, Ken McIntosh, Emma Peelstreet, Dave Mullane.
- ❑ City Councilors: Calvin Donnelly, Casey Cook.
- ❑ Brian Coates, city staff member
- ❑ General Attendance: Approximately 64 (35 after finishing off item 2) – 14 new members signed up.

### 1. Introduction & Welcome

Go Green initiative & Royal Columbian Hospital items have been postponed until next public meeting because of the weather.

### 2. Liquor Store Rezoning

Fireside Pub owner Charles Lee attended the meeting to discuss the rezoning of the Cold Beer & Wine store to 444 Columbia. Speaking on his behalf was Wayne Murdoch, who is a spokesperson for many of the liquor establishments in New Westminster and was involved in the writing of the guidelines in the Province for the expanded Beer/Wine Liquor stores.

- ❑ The meeting unfortunately turned into a very confrontational one. The purpose of the meeting was to be an opportunity for Charles Lee to listen to the neighbour's concerns. Mr. Lee and his supporters maintained that the 444 East Columbia St. location was the only one available, largely discounting any resident concerns that were brought up during the meeting.
- ❑ Mr. Lee advised that he would be willing to enter into a Good Neighbour Agreement, but the details of such an agreement were not discussed.
- ❑ He plans to spend \$50-100,000 to refurbish the building.

- ❑ Very few deliveries- approximately 4 per week during business hours, according to Mr. Murdoch.
- ❑ Parking lot at back would most likely be used for staff parking.
- ❑ Can crusher would be located on Columbia St at the front of the building. Not a major noise concern, according to Mr. Murdoch
- ❑ Retail floor space would be 1000 sq ft; half of the maximum under current New Westminster bylaws, but still a substantial increase from the existing facility.
- ❑ Mr. Lee is open to suggestions to the look of the building and had brought a blown up photo of a possible colour scheme.
- ❑ He cannot run the Liquor Store out of the Pub as they are not allowed to sell Spirits.
- ❑ They think that there would be no impact on the neighbourhood as the business already exists and will be just moving across the street.
- ❑ He advised that the Click Shop and Apples & Oranges buildings are not suitable for Liquor Store. Not able to make use of space in new development along Columbia & Knox as it would take too long to complete. The new building next to Macs was suggested but Mr. Lee is focussing on the 444 East Columbia St. site.

#### Residents' Concerns:

- ❑ No-one wants to see the business leave the area.
- ❑ Customers using Major Street cutting through the neighbourhood (along the lane or along Kelly St.) after stopping at liquor store.
- ❑ Feel there are other location options for Liquor Store (Click Shop and Apples & Oranges, Mac's/Panago building, etc.).
- ❑ The City's proposed rezoning of this particular site was going to limit the liquor store to be within 100 meters of the primary. This precluded the Macs site. This bylaw is not in effect, so the Macs site should be available. The City has suggested that they would take a look at other locations to help with resident's concerns.
- ❑ Fireside Pub has not been kept up & many residents feel the same will happen with the Liquor Store
- ❑ Concern that delivery trucks will also use neighbourhood streets and block alley access.
- ❑ .A good neighbour agreement would have to be agreed upon and signed by the affected parties if this site were to be rezoned. Items could include cleanliness, traffic, noise, etc.
- ❑ If this site is rezoned to be a liquor store, because of its prime location, it will be a liquor store forever and could be expanded.

### 3. Heritage and Signage

Emma Peelstreet.

- ❑ \$4000 available for signage for neighbourhoods.
- ❑ Design ideas will be available at the next Public Meeting.
- ❑ Draft of a Plaque for commemoration of Woodlands site is being worked on by Val Adolph who is the author of a book on Woodlands.
- ❑ Project has been delayed because of the resignation of Museum Curator and the arbourist who were helping with project.

#### **4. Livable Region Coalition**

Andrew Feltham of LRC was present to speak on their position.

- ❑ Was formed last summer because of the fast tracking of the Gateway Project - the widening of Port Mann Bridge and expansion of the freeway from Langley to Vancouver.
- ❑ LRC is an apolitical group.
- ❑ Website: <http://www.livableregion.ca/>

LRC Position

- ❑ Widening Highway #1 and twinning the Port Mann bridge will not solve the congestion problem.
- ❑ The future of our livable and sustainable region will be eroded.
- ❑ There are more affordable and effective alternatives.
- ❑ Public participation and transparency are crucial for major transportation projects in the densely populated Lower Mainland.

LRC Tenets

1. Protect the green Zone,
2. Build Complete Communities,
3. Achieve a Compact Metropolitan Area and,
4. Increase transportation choices.

We will discuss possible joining of LRC at the next Public Meeting.

#### **5. Sapperton Days**

Geoff Pinkerton

- ❑ Will be 2 day event June 18-19, 2005.
- ❑ Sapperton Bike Festival on Saturday.
- ❑ Sapperton Family Day on Sunday, Father's Day.
- ❑ Park is now booked, tents and stage reserved.
- ❑ Have applied to City for grant to help offset costs as city will be running the concessions stand.
- ❑ Still looking for more people to help organize.
- ❑ A planning meeting will be organized soon.

## 6. East Columbia Redevelopment

City has made available a grant of \$100,000 available for various projects, (facade upgrade, painting etc). 12<sup>th</sup> street residents' association and merchants' association have created a non-profit society to distribute the grant money. A meeting will be put together later in January with Lauren Wolf to discuss. Meeting date will be posted in the Record and emailed out.

## 7. Traffic Issues

Ken McIntosh

- ❑ Speed Bump Program has been adopted by City. Similar to Burnaby program. If 50% + 1 of residents are in favour of speed bumps, the cost of installation will be applied to the property tax bill of everyone on the block over a 5 year period based on linear footage.
- ❑ Traffic circles in lower Sapperton are to be completed in 2005.
- ❑ Crosswalk Hospital St. & East Columbia St. is to be upgraded. It is 2<sup>nd</sup> on City list to be completed.
- ❑ Action request forms are available from City website and Engineering to point out problems with potholes, etc.
- ❑ Concerns brought up by Resident Sheila Maier about the crosswalk & lighting at Braid & Rousseau Street. She was given an Action Request Form to address her concerns to the City.

## 8. Future meetings

- ❑ Next meeting is scheduled for March 3, 2005 but the Church is booked for that date. Will notify of new date or location and will be posted in the Record.