



City of New Westminster
McBride-Sapperton
Residents' Association

Public Meeting Minutes

Location: Knox Presbyterian Church

Date of Meeting: Thursday, March 5, 2009 7:00PM

In attendance: 23 including MSRA Directors

1. Port Metro Vancouver re: Canfor Land

Mark Griggs

- Mark Griggs is the Manager of Development and will be our contact for Ports Vancouver
- Metro Vancouver has now dropped its bid for expropriation of the property
- Ports Vancouver is concerned about the loss of industrial land – Port has been active in purchasing industrial land- They're priorities are properties that are on water, rail or major transportation network.
- Ports Vancouver has entered into agreement with Kiewitt and Flat Iron Contractors for 2 or 3 years lease on the Canfor property. It will be a staging area for the forming for the Port Mann Bridge then shipped by barge to site. Potentially start in May.
- Long Term plans – nothing over the next few years – will work with Coquitlam, New West & residents group with any potential changes.
- Potential uses: Short Sea shipping, Trans load facility, small distribution centre. Not large enough for container use.
- www.portmetrovancover.com
- The Port does not technically pay taxes but pay a pilt equal to the taxes on the un leased land and the lessee's will pay local taxes on the lease

Residents Questions

- Any plans for Sandbar in Sapperton Channel?-No
- Will it be used for deep Sea Vessels? – No
- Is the Port considering Sapperton Island Container yard? – Not on the Ports Corporate Plan (5 year)
- Has the Port done any traffic studies for area – No but they will be done before any development plans

- Do you have to follow City noise bylaws – technically no but we work with municipalities.

2. Property Variance

Pamela Dixon & Mirko Dujmovic

- Have been residents since 1999
- Address: 136 E 8th Ave built in 1951. Driveway and garage built in 1953
- They have renovated their property to match the community
- Did a full reno on the home. Added 1800 sq ft.
- They were contacted by the City to have their property conform to local bylaws since they had renovated property
- The issue is with the driveway that they had off of 8th avenue. City bylaws only permit one access point to property. They just want to keep what they already had.
- There are 18 homes in area with more than 1 access.
- Have submitted application to city.
- There were no objections to the variance from anyone present
- Residents association President Neil Powell will send a letter to Dave Gagner in favour of variance.

3. Electoral Reform

Reena Meijer Drees

- 2005 there was a referendum for BC-STV. This was narrowly defeated. Needs a 60% vote for passing
- Handout has the wording of referendum. Same as 2005 referendum.
- The paper was produced by the yes side, contains mostly factual information.
- STV would bring- Bigger ridings. New West & Burnaby merged together. 3 MLA's. Ridings the size of Federal with multiple MLA's. More proportional results. Pros- better relationship between number of votes & representatives. Downsides: larger ballots
- Preferential Ballots – you would rank the candidates. Excess votes get redistributed. Is more complicated than current system.
- System is very old (late 1800's) – used in Ireland, Tasmania, Scotland, Australia.
- Concerns about losing local identity. Will get more parties. If it passed it would be used in the next election.
- What is done in a by-election – unsure?

- For more information: www.nostv.ca or www.stv.ca

4. Traffic

Dana Hings

- North Fraser Perimeter Road is now off the books
- Still looking to have E 8th and E Columbia St. taken off Truck route.

5. Other Business

North Road Site Update (Crane site)

- Coquitlam wants to change land use from industrial to mixed use
- MSRA President Neil Powell wrote letter on behalf of residents association
- Neil was called by consultant to discuss with RA
- Coquitlam wants another emergency access and pedestrian route to Skytrain
- Do we want a meeting in April or our May RA meeting?
- Was agreed to set up separate meeting April 2, 2009

Sapperton Days

- Do we support the same Charity as the BA for Sapperton Day proceeds?
- Suggestions: for using for Christmas lighting – Christmas tree in Sapperton Plaza, Food Bank
- The majority of group supported choosing our own use of funds