



# **City of New Westminster McBride-Sapperton Residents' Association**

## **McBride-Sapperton Residents Association Public Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** Tuesday, January 24, 2016 @ 7:15 pm

**Location:** Knox Presbyterian Church

**Attendance:** 12 residents

**Executive:** Rnold, Lutz, Jerry, Anita, Dee, Ross, Monica (minutes)

**Regrets:** Kevin, Wes, Geoff, Babar

**City Representative:** Rupinder Basi

### **1. Welcome and Introduction of Executive**

**Rnold**

### **2. Approval of Minutes from November 22, 2016 Meeting**

**Rnold**

### **3. NWCPC – Police Update**

**Lutz**

- Lutz reported that he attended a short NWCPC meeting the previous week. Apparently, because of the snow and cold lately, there hasn't been much crime.
- Lutz reminded everyone once again to call the police about any suspicious activity in the neighbourhood. Reminded people of the map available on the NWP website about crime.
- Anita mentioned the presence of homeless persons who have set up camp on E. Columbia Street outside of Hawkes Martial Arts. Lutz said to call the Lookout Society to report any homeless people who could benefit from shelter.
- He also said that if anyone has gently used coats, and so on, these can be donated to the Lookout Society also to benefit the homeless.
- One resident mentioned that there were people coming around their neighbourhood asking to check on people's furnaces. He said this is a scam, and that people should not let in their home any "official" looking furnace repair people coming to the door unsolicited asking to come in and check their furnaces.

**Action Item:** RA should send an email out to the residents notifying them to be aware of this scam.

### **4. NWTAC - Traffic Update**

**Rnold (in Babar's absence)**

- Rnold read out an email update from Lisa Leblanc, the City Transportation Manager, about the progress of the Sapperton Transportation Plan Study. She had been invited to attend tonight to present, but was unable to attend.

- The key part of the email that Rnold wanted to share with everyone was that the City wants to set up a Sapperton Transportation Study Focus Group. This group would meet four times between now and April to represent the RA's interests as the City works on transportation management ideas for our area.
- Rnold asked who would be interested in being part of this group. Those interested are: Wilf, Colm Morgan, and Monica. Rnold will forward these names to Lisa Leblanc.

## **5. Old Business**

**Rupinder**

### **A. OCP Update**

- City Staff is aiming to take the draft OCP Plan and Revised land use map to Council on January 30, 2017.
- If Council approves this draft, staff would then undertake another round of public consultation towards the end of February. Details will be made available after the Jan. 30 Council meeting. Residents are welcome to attend the Jan. 30 meeting in person, or review the draft OCP documents online.
- Some people asked questions about laneway housing, which Rupinder addressed.

### **B. 145 – 201 E. Columbia Street (Wesgroup's proposed building)**

- The last meeting with Council on this issue was Oct. 17, 2016, but since then, there have been no updates as Wesgroup is focussing on other projects.
- When they are ready, they will come back to the RA for further consultation.

### **C. General questions to Rupinder.**

- A question was asked about the status of the Arenex given its recent collapse.
- Rupinder was not sure. He will ask Parks and Rec and get back to us.
- Another question was asked regarding the status of the Sapperton Park redevelopment. Residents were curious about the estimated date of completion. Rupinder was not sure, so he will check with Parks and Rec and get back to us.
- A third question was asked regarding damaged asphalt due to the snowplow work on the laneway near Blair/Buchanan and E. 8<sup>th</sup>. Rupinder and others reminded residents of the ClickFix App that the City created with which residents can report areas of the city that need fixing/maintenance.

## **6. Brunette Interchange – Update/Discussion**

**Rnold**

- Rnold shared information about the Joint Task Force created by New Westminster and Coquitlam in regards to this project. The Task Force hopes to gather information and present its findings to MOTI by the end of February.
- MOTI responded to our RA letter with thanks and a promise to provide a “more fulsome response” in the New Year. However, we haven't received anything yet. The Executive feels that we likely won't see much progress on this before the election.
- Question from Rnold: How do we make this an election issue? How do we elevate this to a level where others will care and politicians will listen?
- Concerns expressed by Rnold:
  - Consultation process – MOTI asks for feedback, but it can come from anywhere (as such is hard to authenticate)

- Lack of research done on the part of MOTI as part of their option proposals (i.e. If they had done their research, how could they not know there would be a new school built at Rousseau and Braid?)
- Lutz added another concern: there is no “big picture” plan. All the planning is piecemeal, and done in isolation from the other components (e.g. Patullo Bridge, Massey Tunnel replacement, etc.)
- Should insist on:
  - Looking at the Stormont Connector as an option
  - How to get people out of their cars
  - Top-notch pedestrian/cycling connections
  - Improving transit through the corridor by looking at the big picture
  - Top-notch pollution/noise/visual impact mitigation
- A general discussion ensued over issues related to the B.I.P.
- The need to listen to what the Task Force decides upon was emphasized before any further action is taken.
- However, it was also felt that we need to have a position ready before the March meeting so we can be ready to go from there. The March meeting is the last one before the May election.
- Rnold had an idea of using up to \$1000 to hire a communications person to formulate a communications strategy. A concern was raised over the optics of using money to influence the election.

**Motion made by Lutz:** to table the issue until the March meeting and wait until New Westminster and Coquitlam provide their joint feedback. **Voted upon - Carried.**

## 7. New Business

### A. Trash Mob

**Anita**

- Anita would like to hold the Trash Mob in the spring, sometime after the March meeting. She will have a date ready at the next meeting.

### B. March Meeting

**Rnold**

- The March meeting is currently scheduled for March 21, but Rnold suggested moving the date to March 28 as that is after Spring Break and we will likely have a larger attendance.

**Vote: Carried.**

**C. Sapperton Garage Sale** – the date this year will be Saturday, June 24.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 9:10 pm.

**Next meeting:** Rescheduled the meeting to March 28, 2017, at 7:15 pm. Rnold will notify the membership of the date change.