



City of New Westminster Sapperton Residents' Association

Sapperton Residents' Association Public Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, April 04, 2019 @ 7:00 pm

Location: Knox Presbyterian Church

Attendance: 15 residents

Executive: Dee, Anita, Wilf, Ross, Monica (minutes) **Regrets:** Geoff, Gerry, Kevin, Leslie, Danielle C.

Presenters: Tom Sparrow, Chief Project Officer, and Leslie-Ann Drummond, Communications Officer – RCH Redevelopment

City Representatives: Harvev

1. Welcome and Introduction of Executive

Dee

- Dee also thanked the owners of the Taco Factory for providing a substantial number of burritos and other goodies from their newly opened restaurant.

2. Approval of Minutes from February 09, 2019 Meeting

Dee

Note: The New Westminster Community Overdose Prevention Team were scheduled and confirmed to present tonight, but did not show up.

3. Urban Academy – Update on Situation

Dee

- The school is now open, and the purpose of today's discussion was to find out from residents what impacts they have been experiencing since it has been opened.
- Dee did a traffic count during Spring Break to get a baseline number of cars during the pick-up hour(s). She will go out again to get a new count based on the number of cars while school is in session.
- Neighbours observed that it doesn't look like many students are taking transit.
- They also noted that the "tone" the school has set so far has not been positive in the neighbourhood.
- Residents complained that parents are taking up all the 2-hour parking along Wilson Street during the prime after-school pick-up time.
- Some suggested the school should have proper crossing guards.

- One resident noted today a class being led by teachers who had no high-visibility vests on. The class had not fully completed crossing the road when the light at Rousseau and Braid turned green. Safety of the children is a concern.
- Tom Sparrow from RCH stated that he had spoken with Cheryle Beaumont to see if a temporary solution to the parking situation can be found. He is suggesting that the Temporary Use Parking Lot on Braid could be used to accommodate parents picking up their children. He is pursuing this as a possible short-term solution.
- One neighbour from Rousseau Street stated that Urban Academy should “be good neighbours instead of talking about being good neighbours”, and that they should wait to see how things work out in this regard with the current number of students prior to proceeding with the proposed addition to the school.
- One neighbour described a “constant flow of cars” during the rat-running time on Rousseau and Wilson, and described a “roar of traffic”.
- Someone suggested having a webcam on their property to record the traffic situation.
- Dee emphasized that there needs to be a coordinated effort among the neighbours on Rousseau and Wilson to raise awareness, concern, and, if need be, opposition to the proposed addition.
- One resident emphasized the importance of documenting everything people observe in terms of parking behaviour, poor driving, and so on, including taking photos and videos.
- One man who lives in the house at the corner of Braid and Rousseau (directly across from the school) talked about the extreme impact his family has experienced: the noise has impacted his aging mother, his daughter decided to move because she could not handle the traffic and noise, and they cannot use the front of their house as the situation is so poor.
- Hardev from the City outlined the current process that Urban Academy is going through.
- The neighbours in that area were encouraged to turn out to the public hearing with all their concerns and documentation. In addition, they were encouraged to email Cheryle Beaumont directly with all concerns they have, and to CC their emails to the RA and City Council members.

At this point in the meeting, we took a break as Elias from Taco Factory introduced himself and shared his burritos, fried potatoes, and cold drinks with residents.

4. RCH Redevelopment Project

Tom Sparrow

- Tom Sparrow gave a brief update.
- An Open House was held last night.
- Patients and staff will be moving into the new Mental Health Facility on April 2, 2020.
- The project is on time and on budget.
- Phases 2 and 3 are out for Request for Qualification.
- The Transportation Study is not complete yet. Once it is, RCH will hold another Open House.
- Slides from the boards from the Open House will be posted online.
- The Transportation Working Group met in early March. RCH will be putting together a working group of all major transportation stakeholders in the area (MOTI, Translink, the City, etc.)

- Sherbrooke Building: when it comes down, there will be a complete rodent control plan in place. This will be part of the contracts with the contractors, that the rodent control plan must be dealt with before the buildings come down.
- RCH will also keep us updated on the other issues we will be dealing with: dust control, filtration systems, heavy truck movement, vibrations, asbestos abatement, and so on. The building will be taken down slowly for health and safety reasons.
- The service lane behind the hospital will be closed until 2024.

5. New Westminster Police Committee

- Leslie Malcom, our new Police Committee representative, was not in attendance tonight.

6. New Westminster Traffic Committee

Wilf

- The area of focus for the NWTC in 2019 is school zones.
- The City will be looking at traffic flows in all school zones in the City. There are huge issues in Queensborough.
- They will also be looking at pedestrian crossings in key areas of the City
- Concerns were expressed at the NWTC over the idea of blocking Richmond and E. 8th Ave.
- The City will be looking at pedestrian-activated crosswalks.

7. New Business

Dee

A. RA Name Change

- Dee made a motion to change the name of the RA from McBride-Sapperton Residents' Association to Sapperton Residents' Association.
- The City will be redrawing the borders of the RAs, and now that Victoria Heights has their own RA, which encompasses part of McBride, it makes more sense to rename our area the Sapperton Residents' Association.
- The Motion was moved, seconded, and carried by all voting residents in attendance.

B. Continuation as a Society

Dee

- This issue was tabled until the next meeting.

C. Sapperton Days – has been cancelled this year.

D. Sapperton Clean-up and Picnic

Dee

- The tentative date for this event is Saturday, September 21.
- Dee has applied for a grant to cover the costs of the event.
- She is looking for Subcommittee members to help organize this day.

8. Other

- A. The S.A.W. group is going to coordinate a construction waste pick-up day in the neighbourhood soon to take waste to the refuse depot. Dee suggested they coordinate a Social Media event around this.
- B. Two residents from a strata in Sapperton (Gatehouse Place) are here tonight to see if their strata can join the RA.
- Dee made an enquiry to the Quayside RA about how they register stratas. Their fee is \$1 per unit. The Victoria Hill RA charges \$5.00 per household.
 - Dee suggests a similar rate to a maximum of \$50 per strata.
 - Question raised: How does this work with voting?
 - A suggestion was made that there needs to be clear rules in place around this.
 - Wilf suggested that we should do some investigation into how other Ras deal with this, and avoid rushing into a decision right now. In particular, we should investigate membership fees, representation for voting, and so on.
 - It was noted that we should ensure we value strata residents and renters; the RA should be inclusive.
 - Dee said she will do some further investigating and invited the residents from Gatehouse to come back to our June meeting. She said that all strata members are welcome to come at any time.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:45 pm.

AGM and Executive Elections:

- The Executive resigned.
- Because Geoff was not in attendance, a MSRA resident stepped forward to run the Executive Elections.
- Dee offered to be Chair of the RA instead of President, and asked if there would be a co-chair.
- Monica agreed to be Co-Chair and Secretary.
- Dee – nominated and voted Chair by acclamation.
- Monica – nominated and voted Co-Chair and Secretary by acclamation.
- Anita – nominated and voted Treasurer by acclamation.
- Ross, Wilf, Gerry, Kevin, Geoff and Leslie – nominated and voted by acclamation.

Elections Completed at 8:58 pm.

Next meeting: Thursday, June 06, 2019 at 7:00 pm – Knox Presbyterian Church.