



Sapperton Residents' Association

The purpose of the association is to preserve and enhance the livability and quality of the Sapperton neighborhood.

Sapperton Residents' Association Public Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, June 03, 2021 @ 7:00 p **Location:** Virtual via Zoom

Attendance: 6 residents

Executive: Gagan (Chair), Wilf, Jerry, Anita, Dee, Monica (minutes) **Regrets:** Eileen, Sandra, Geoff

City Representative: Janet Zazubek (Planning Dept.)

Presenters: Gregg Cernes and Carol Swanson, RCH Redevelopment
John (?) – EllisDon
Various Local Business Owners

1. Welcome and Introduction of Executive

Gagan

- Reminder to pay annual dues of \$5 if you have not done so yet this year
- Residents can e-transfer fees to Anita or drop off cash or cheque to her home,

2. Approval of April minutes - Moved, Seconded, Vote: Carried.

Gagan

3. RCH Redevelopment Project

Gregg Cernes

- Gregg provided an update on the ongoing project.
- There is lots of activity on the construction site and there is a big hole in the ground.
- Two tower cranes are up and a third one is almost up.
- The Interim Support Building is on target for a Fall opening. The entrance to this building is from Sherbrooke Street. The entrance for the hospital staff and to the parking lot is from E. Columbia Street.
- Gregg confirmed that the entrance to the Acute Care Tower is from Sherbrooke Street and the ambulance entrance will be from Sherbrooke also.
- The utility locates and drilling are ongoing now. Between May 31 – June 11, there will be work to install the storm and sanitary sewer connections.
- Work is being done in all phases to minimize disruption. They are also trying to monitor what happens on site after hours.
- RCH and EllisDon held a meeting with local residents on May 18 regarding the proposed one-way lane from Garrett Street up to E. Columbia Street and the proposed bike lane (both are awaiting City approval in June). The One-way is only until the end of the project.
- Construction will continue throughout the summer.

- A resident raised concern about the refueling times as these are noisy and disruptive. ED will check about this. A concern was also raised about the streetcleaners, which a resident said were noisy and ineffective. ED said they are doing their best to keep dust to a minimum.
- The ED rep said they are working with Geoff P. in particular on a daily basis regarding the many issues directly affecting him.
- At this point in the meeting, Gagan's neighbour came to her door and reported that his truck had just been hit by a construction vehicle (he identified it as a Traffic Control vehicle). Gagan put him in contact with Gregg from RCH and the EllisDon rep.
- Resident requested that the construction trucks be made to slow down to decrease the amount of dust coming off them.
- The digging of the massive hole will be completed within the next 4-6 weeks, then the current maintenance building will be demolished and the site excavated.
- Concern was expressed about concrete trucks idling on Sherbrooke and the drivers hosing down their chutes there.
- Concern was expressed about the contractor trucks staging on side streets. ED rep said this is not supposed to be happening. Contractors and trades are NOT supposed to be parking within 1 kilometre of the construction site and if they do so, they will be financially penalized.
- One resident noted an incident that escalated into a verbal and physical confrontation. ED said that residents should take photos and contact them with any concerns.
- Anita suggested that ED should post contact information for people who have concerns. ED said the sign will be going up soon. Anita also suggested that perhaps putting flyers with this contact info into people's mailboxes will help them get this information more easily.

4. Update on Ongoing Project

Janet Zazubek, City of NW Planning Dept.

- There is no news on the projects underway in Sapperton.
- Gagan reminded everyone about the City webpage that contains information about the various ongoing projects.
- Dee asked Janet if she is aware of any grants we could apply for to use around Christmas time in the community. Janet will get in contact with the grant person at the City at let Dee know.
- Wilf asked about a potential light at Sherbrooke and Brunette. Monica passed on the current position taken by the City as told to us by Lisa Leblanc that there will be no traffic light planned for Sherbrooke and Brunette.
- This led to a discussion about the future of Sherbrooke Street once the current phase of the RCH project is completed. Monica gave history on the Sapperton Massey-Victory Heights Transportation Plan and the open-ended possibility (as indicated by City staff a few years ago) for further traffic calming in Lower Sapperton as a result of RCH relocating the Emergency to Sherbrooke Street. This will likely be the basis of a discussion in the Fall.
- Wilf expressed that the RA should have a separate meeting with Engineering to get the big picture of what's happening with traffic in the whole area so that the City does not take a piecemeal approach.

5. Police Report

Sandra

- Sandra was not in attendance. There was no Police Report.

6. Old Business

Monica

- Monica provided an update about the City's position on boulevard planting. Dylan Myers from the City will present at the September meeting, but if anyone has any questions on what they can and cannot do in the boulevard area in front of their homes, they should contact the RA via email and Monica can pass along Dylan's contact information.

7. New Business - Supporting Local Businesses

Gagan

Gagan invited the owners of several local businesses to come and share information about their services. Because of the pandemic and all the construction, many of the businesses have been hit hard. Gagan encouraged everyone to support all Sapperton (and New Westminster) businesses as much as possible in the coming months.

The businesses represented today were:

- **Kumon Learning Centre** (owner: Irfan Chaudhry) – this business has been part of the Sapperton community for the past two years. Irfan encouraged residents to consider extra learning opportunities for their kids.
- **Sapperton District Taphouse** (owner: Ghalib) – he thanked everyone for their support and encouraged all Sapperton residents and businesses to band together. The Taphouse has opened a patio in back on their parking lot, which can operate 'til 10 pm. He wants to address any concerns expressed by neighbours. They are doing everything they can to stay afloat.
- **Industry Arcade** (owner: Kyle) – Kyle is a long-time New West resident who lives in Sapperton. The arcade can be rented out in 2-hour sessions and he can allow up to 10 people under current restrictions.
- **Bruncheria** (owner was not present) – will be opening soon at the corner of Braid and E. Columbia. There is patio seating outside. Business model is a new concept.
- **Heritage Grill** (downtown New West) - Randy, a close friend of business owner, Paul Manhas, spoke in support of his friend whose business burnt down recently. Randy encouraged Sapperton residents to support Paul via a GoFundMe initiative, and also support his other business, Begbie's. The owner of Greens & Beans currently has a donation jar set up to support Heritage Grill.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:55 pm.

Upcoming Dates:

Next Meeting (will include AGM): Thursday, September 10, 2021, at 7:00 pm – location likely via Zoom but dependent on situation with the pandemic.