



# 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:** Wednesday, November 08, 2023 @ 7:30 pm      **Location:** The Sapperton District Pub

**Attendance:** 4 residents

**Executive:** Jacob (Chair), Sandy, Wilf, Eileen, Sandra, Monica (minutes)

**Regrets:** Anita, Jerry

**City Representatives:** Councillors Jamie McEvoy, Ruby Campbell, and Tasha Henderson

**Presenter:** Carol Swan, RCH Redevelopment

### 1. Welcome and Introduction of Executive

Jacob

- Jacob noted that this is our first in-person meeting since Covid hit in March, 2020. We are hoping to gather in person to provide more personal connections among Sapperton residents.

### 2. Adoption of Agenda

Jacob

### 3. Approval of September 27, 2023 Minutes - moved; seconded; carried

Jacob

### 4. RCH Update

Carol Swan, RCH Redevelopment

- Work continues both inside and out on all floors of the new Acute Care Tower.
- The new modular heliport has been installed on the roof.
- The office trailer at Sherbrooke and E . Columbia Streets has been removed.
- First crane was removed in July, and another is coming down this week. The last crane is scheduled to come down in January.
- The lane between the hospital and the Copperstone buildings is temporarily closed, and the retaining wall completion is delayed until January.
- EllisDon continues to take measures to prevent construction employees from parking.
- There are full-time cleaners cleaning up debris along Sherbrooke Street.
- Questions were asked about landscaping on the site, blocked drainage along Keary Street. Councillor Henderson said the councillors can reach out to City staff to check on the blocked drainage.

### 5. Lower Sapperton Traffic Calming Initiative Update

Monica

- Monica provided an update on this initiative, specifically a meeting held with Erica Tiffany from CNW Engineering and Matt Zilinski from McIlhenny & Associates on October 18. Overall, Monica and Brennan were disappointed by this meeting as Erica

and Matt both indicated that based on the three days of traffic counting data they collected at the end of May/beginning of June, 2023, they “don’t see a problem” with traffic in Lower Sapperton based on the TAC criteria for traffic in neighbourhoods. Monica indicated that Erica and Matt seemed to be focused on these 3 days of traffic counting data (which was taken at a time when access along E. Columbia Street was limited due to Patullo Bridge construction) and forgot about the overall context and rationale behind the proposal for increased traffic calming measures (ie. the RCH redevelopment project and the move of the Emergency Department to Sherbrooke Street). Monica, Brennan, and Elaine have crafted an email to Erica and her superiors indicating their disappointment with the meeting, reminding of the history and context for this proposal, and providing suggestions for the way forward with this project. She will provide further updates as this situation evolves. Counc. McEvoy, Campbell, and Henderson all commented on the situation, with Counc. McEvoy thanking residents for their involvement and saying it is helpful to have the perspective from people living the traffic reality to complement the data collection.

## **6. Residents’ Association Forum**

Jacob

- Jacob attended this forum, which was held October 5, 2023.
- At the forum, RA reps emphasized the need for more meetings with the RAs to increase dialogue.
- At the forum, RA reps were told about the Citizens’ Assembly that has been created with a goal of increasing public engagement. This will be an organization of 36 people who apply for a position and are selected by a consultant hired by the City. They will represent a cross-section of the City population.
- The CA will be given topics by the City and will be asked to provide resident input.
- The intention is not to replace the RAs.
- Members will be trained on how to give input on policy issues.
- Currently, the City is looking for people under age 19 to apply.
- There were 205 applicants for the 36 positions.

## **7. Pumpkin Carving Events (October)**

Jacob/Sandy

- The RA hosted two pumpkin carving events, one at Victoria Hill and the other on E. Columbia Street. Both events happened in front of the fruit and vegetable stores owned by the family who owns the Royal Farm Market. They provided the pumpkins for the events and 50 pumpkins were handed out and carved by individuals, couples, and families.
- Both were great community building events, with lots of new residents – including new immigrants - participating.
- Thank you to the sponsors of the events.

## **8. Trash Mob**

Jacob/Sandy

- The event was held in the pouring rain on November 4.
- There were 36 participants who picked up 44 kg of garbage and recycling and 3000 cigarette butts.
- Thank you to all who participated, despite the inclement weather conditions. Thanks also to EllisDon for providing meals for their support in providing food for the participants.

## 9. Remembrance Day Wreath

Jacob/Sandy

- Eileen has ordered the wreath and will present it on behalf of the RA at the ceremony at City Hall on November 11.

## 10. Elizabeth Fry Gift Bags

- The RA will collect donations for this drive from November 1-December 15.
- We will fill 35 bags and donations of personal hygiene products are especially appreciated.
- Cash donations can be made via e-transfer to the SRA email address.

## 11. Councillor Update

- Each Councillor provided an update:

### Councillor McEvoy

- He spoke about the new Homeless Services Department, a recent initiative that will cost the City \$700,000. There has been a perfect storm of challenges in the City, with the pandemic, aggressive drug dealers, increased mental health issues, and so on. All CNW departments have been affected: firefighters, police, library staff, and so on. The City will be asking the provincial and federal governments for funding for this initiative. There will be two outreach workers who will try to connect unhoused people with needed services.
- A resident asked a question about the modular housing at 6th and Agnes Streets. McEvoy responded that this is still in process.
- He encouraged residents to be a voice for these projects.

### Councillor Campbell

- She spoke about the new pool and community centre, which will have a “soft” opening date of June 1.
- The old community centre is now closed and will be deconstructed.
- Sapperton Pensioners’ Hall is interested in hosting SRA meetings.
- She encourages RA members to continue voicing concerns to the City.

### Councillor Henderson

- She is working on the whistle cessation issue, which she indicated is a “painful bureaucratic process”, but that there is currently “positive momentum” with the situation. There is a dedicated City staff member in charge of this issue, so there can be a much more coordinated approach to the issue.
- She also coordinated with local business, along with other local residents, to organize a very successful Trick or Treat event along E. Columbia Street on Hallowe’en. She hopes this will be an annual event.
- She noted that there is money available from the City (\$350) for a Business Improvement Association.

**Meeting adjourned.**

**Annual General Meeting**

1. The **Financial Report** prepared by Anita was shared (see attached report). Motion to accept the Financial Report: moved; seconded; carried.

**2. Elections – Wilf ran the elections.**

- All executives stepped down.
- The following people were elected to the indicated positions:

Chair – Jacob Huang (nominated; accepted; elected)

Vice-Chair – Sandy Leung (nominated; accepted; elected)

Secretary – Monica Hardjowasito (nominated; accepted; elected)

Treasurer/Membership – Anita Riddell (nominated; accepted; elected)

Directors at Large – Eileen Brown, Jerry Sommers, Sandra Broughton, Wilf Brodrick  
(nominated; accepted; elected)

**3. Meeting Dates for 2024** – the following dates were approved for 2024: February 7, April 10, June 12, September 11, and November 13

**Upcoming Dates: Next Public Meeting** - Wednesday, February 7; location: TBA