



VISION: We will be a vibrant, dependable and clean city where services are delivered innovatively and effectively.

MISSION: To provide effective operations of the city through collaboration of members, management and staff.

City Hall, Hamilton
Residents Advisory Committee
1 September 2016
4:00pm

Present: Councillor Carlton E. Johnson (Chair)
Councillor RoseAnn Edwards
Councillor George Scott, JP
Dr. Michael Bradshaw, Associate Member
Tracy Marshall, Associate Member
Elbert "Apples" Richardson - Sanitation Superintendent
Steven DeSilva - Parks Superintendent

In Attendance: Ed Benevides, Secretary
Danilee Trott, Event Project Manager

Apologies: Councillor Henry Ming
Sarah Thompson, Associate Member

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1. **Confirmation of Notice** - the Secretary confirmed that the notices of the meeting and the agenda were sent out according to the meeting guidelines.
 2. **Role of the Chairman** - Councillor Johnson acknowledged his role as the Chairman.
 3. **Open Meeting** - Councillor Johnson opened the meeting at 4:00pm.
 4. **Apologies** - the Secretary confirmed apologies from Councillor H. Ming and Associate Member, Ms. Sarah Thompson.
 5. **Public Participation:**

There is no public participation/presentation.
 6. **Correspondence:**

There is no correspondence.

7. Minutes of Previous Committee Meeting dated 4 August 2016

Proposed: Councillor G. Scott

Seconded: Tracy Marshall, Associate Member

The Minutes were accepted as read.

8. Matters arising from the Minutes dated 4 August 2016

(i) Forward a copy of the Tree Planting and Strategy Policy to the members of the Residents Advisory Committee - the Secretary apologised that the document was not sent out but it is now complete. He will have Z. Mulholland scan and send it out. The pruning schedule is also available and will have that scanned as well. Dr. Bradshaw commented on the bank at Till's Hill at the back of the D&J property and queried whether any attention will be given to the trees that run east to west. The Parks Superintendent said that the Brazil pepper trees are invasive. At present there is a team devoted to keep the grass cut and they just recently completed a grass circuit there. They have not attempted to move those trees yet but it has been noticed that there is a lot of growth on both sides of the property. Dr. Bradshaw thought that at one point there was a move to take out those pepper trees but it was said that there might be some damage caused to the bank. The CoH was going to do the east side to Ms. Matthie and then to the west side going right across to the Thomas'. It was said there would be some concern and an inspection would have to be had before taking the trees out. The Parks Superintendent was not able to answer Dr. Bradshaw's query but advised that he will have to place the project in the schedule and have the matter addressed.

(ii) Write a response to the suggestions regarding the Laffan Street roundabout and that response be communicated to the appropriate parties - the Secretary confirmed that he wrote a response regarding the concern and suggestions in terms of the Laffan Street roundabout and forwarded that response to Ms. Sarah Thompson. Her suggestion was to limit certain types of traffic and it is not the CoH's intention to limit the traffic at this time but her concerns were noted. There was continued dialogue.

Councillor G. Scott commented on the height of the sidewalk on the boundary of the CoH property. The Secretary advised that the road is going to be cantered and filled. It is designed so it will allow those bigger trucks to bank and go around the roundabout. The new sidewalk on the car park side is being cut out now and will start laying that one. It will not be at the same height, it will graduate down. The tree has been planted, the tree planter foundation has been done and the only thing left on that side to do is the pillars for the exit. Dialogue continued.

(iii) Forward a digital copy of the draft informational flyer to the Residents Advisory Committee and any comments/changes to be forwarded via email - the Secretary confirmed that the draft flyer had been forwarded.

(iv) Selection of two (2) members of the Residents Advisory Committee to sit on the sub-committee to review the Residential Parking Permit Policy - the Infrastructure Chair, Councillor Harvey will chair the sub-committee along with two (2) members from that committee.

Dr. Bradshaw proposed that Councillor Edwards and Ms. Tracy Marshall join the sub-committee as representatives of the Residents Advisory Committee. The committee unanimously supported Dr. Bradshaw's proposal.

ACTION: The Secretary will forward the suggestion of Councillor Edwards and Ms. Marshall to the Chair to join the sub-committee to review the Residential Parking Permit Policy.

(v) **Informational Magnet** - the Event Project Manager did not receive any feedback from the members. She queried: **Under "Important Information for You: Resident Advisory Group: We will respond to your message within 24 hours"** - there is no contact information. Ms. Marshall said that the committee will advise as soon as that contact person has been decided upon. Another query was regarding the photo on the flyer that was not a true representative of the entire Residents Advisory Committee and whether or not a group photo was going to be taken. The Event Project Manager advised that the vendor has all of the information and is ready to move ahead once all of the information has been finalised. Ms. Marshall queried the size of the actual magnet. The Event Project Manager said that with all of the information involved, it will be an 8X10 sized magnet which is a bit large to be placed on a refrigerator. If the information could be scaled down to perhaps fit on a 6X9 magnet, a more realistic size, along with a possible brochure with any additional information.

Councillor Johnson suggested instead of saying **"respond to your message within 24 hours"** for it to say **"respond to your message as soon as possible"** as a better option. Dr. Bradshaw said that there should always be an acknowledgement of any message received.

(vi) **Dundonald Street** - Councillor Johnson thanked the CoH for their due diligence regarding Dundonald Street and the trees.

9. Status Update:

(i) Events:

- **Back 2 School Event** - being held this weekend Saturday 3 September 2016. This is a morphed version of the Family Festival and is going to take place on the grounds of City Hall. It will be a huge tribute to the students and hoping to receive a great response. There has been a lot of community support, i.e. free haircuts for boys and free hair braiding for girls, free Ashley's Lemonade, etc. The foyer in City Hall is going to be set up like a hair salon. There are lots of activities, e.g. playground equipment, activity fun castles and live entertainment throughout the day. This event is from 2:00pm - 7:00pm. The CoH is also promoting and supporting the **"Uptown Bringing Gospel to the Street"** which commences at 7:00pm on Court Street. The CoH and the BEDC are working together in this regard.
- **Labour Day Activities** - held on Union Square. The CoH only approves the street closures and provide barricades. The CoH does not do any actual planning of those events.
- **City Arts Festival** - six (6) new art installations have been approved by the CoH as part of the City's arts initiative. They will start being installed today 1 September 2016. The installations are as follows:

- (i) Mural on the taxi stand wall on Church Street.
- (ii) Mural to be mounted on plywood and then placed on the wall of Till's Hill. The side of the wall that is on the right when going up Till's Hill from TCD. If persons wanted to take photos of the mural they can pull over on the opposite side and not impede traffic.
- (iii) Mural on the wall at the Bus Terminal going up to the bathrooms on Victoria Street.
- (iv) A couple of tributes to Bermuda's Olympians going up in Washington Lane.
- (v) Mural on the Union Street bathrooms.
- (vi) Mural on the pink wall of the Old Works Depot building on Dundonald Street next to Masters.

They will be going in over the next six (6) weeks leading up to the actual Art Festival on 15 October 2016. The artists are: Robyn Hooper, James Cooper, Alshante Foggo, Charmaine Friday, Bermemes headed up by Chewstick and one (1) other artist. Dr. Bradshaw requested that a note be forwarded to the Committee with the entire list of artists. The Event Project Manager advised that a full Press Release will be held early next week. The selection process was just completed last Friday with the whole committee which comprised of BSoA, BNG, Chewstick and others from the art community. They met with all of the artists on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week.

- **Meetings re: Christmas Activities** - are starting in the next couple of weeks.
- **Brainstorming Meetings re: America's Cup 2017** - meetings are ongoing.
- **Series of Uptown Karaoke Nights** - working with BEDC on this event which is going to be held every other week on Court Street commencing 24 September 2016.

Dr. Bradshaw queried any additional information regarding the New Year's Eve event. The Event Project Manager advised that the event is being brought forward at the next Finance Committee meeting Thursday 15 September 2016 to determine whether or not the fees will be waived but the event itself is already in process.

10. Recommendations for Review:

There are no recommendations for review.

11. Any Other Business:

(i) **Walkabout in Northeast Hamilton** - Councillor Johnson mentioned Councillor Edwards' comment on Page 6 of the minutes dated 4 August 2016 regarding the walkabout. He suggested that this matter be discussed in the General Council meeting scheduled for 8 September 2016. He commented that this was the committee could receive feedback from the residents and stakeholders on how they are actually doing. This would be a face-to-face instead of emails and telephone calls. The Secretary advised that the walkabout mentioned in the minutes was an informational walkabout with the Minister and they spent very little time in Northeast Hamilton excepting for the bathrooms on Union Square. A tour was done of the sewage plant so that the Minister could understand what the septic facility entailed and the waterfront.

ACTION: THE Secretary/Recording Secretary to place the walkabout for the Residents Advisory Committee on the agenda of the next full Council meeting scheduled for 8 September 2016 under Any Other Business (AOB) for Councillor Johnson to bring forward.

Ms. Marshall commented that it would be a good idea to organise the walkabout once the flyer was completed and the committee could hand deliver and introduce themselves to the residents.

There was continued discussion on the state of the sidewalks on Union Square, i.e. trees uprooting, etc. and the potential crosswalk to the Peoples' Pharmacy side.

(ii) **Incident re: Ms. Cameron, a Resident in the City** - Councillor Edwards commented on an incident where Ms. Cameron had tripped and fallen on a sidewalk on Union Street and queried if the Secretary had sent out any additional information to her in this regard. The Secretary said that he had not been contacted and if he had, he would have directed her to the insurance company. Further discussion ensued.

ACTION: The Secretary, once he has received the communique from Ms. Cameron, will address the matter accordingly.

ACTION: Councillor Edwards to speak with Ms. Cameron and advise her to contact the Secretary with regards to her trip and fall incident.

(iii) **Union Street Bathrooms** - Councillor G. Scott commented on the trees being cut in front of the bathrooms and not the cane grass right behind the building. The Secretary said there is also a request from the Department of Health to discuss parking and through traffic because they have issues as well.

(iv) **Parking on Angle Street** - Councillor Edwards said that she spoke with the Senior Engineer regarding the parking on Angle Street. Councillor Edwards to discuss this matter further with the Senior Engineer.

(v) **Steps on the Western Side of Till's Hill** - Dr. Bradshaw made mention of the trees being cut on the western side of Till's Hill and wondered if the CoH has assigned anyone to collect the trash. The Sanitation Superintendent responded in the affirmative that someone will be assigned and he will hence advise Dr. Bradshaw.

(vi) **Property on Elliott Street (Princess Street side)** - Councillor Edwards commented on a lot of bulk garbage left on the sidewalk. The Sanitation Superintendent said the resident was supposed to contact him but he has not received any phone call. The collection for bulk trash is on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The emphasis is that the residents have to call the CoH instead of just putting it out for collection.

ACTION: Councillor Edwards to speak to the resident and advise him to contact the Sanitation Superintendent directly for the collection of his bulk garbage.

(vii) **Invite from the Friendly Society** - the Society has extended an invite to the CoH to send representation to attend their Cup Match Sportsmanship Awards event for a number of years. He queried the official position with regards to the attendance to these types of functions. He has never seen any representation from the CoH. The Secretary said if the Mayor is invited by an organization, whether to speak, etc., he forwards a response. He said that invites can be either sent to the Mayor and Council members directly or an open invitation can be sent to the Secretary to pass on to the Council. Discussion continued.

There was no further business to be discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45pm.