



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
3 March 2016
4:00pm

Present: Councillor Carlton Johnson (Chair)
Councillor George Scott, JP
Councillor Henry Ming
Councillor RoseAnn Edwards
Sarah Thompson, Associate Member
Dr. Michael Bradshaw, Associate Member
Tracy Marshall, Associate Member

In Attendance: Ed Benevides, Secretary
Tanya Iris, Treasurer
Elbert "Apples" Richardson

Apologies: Rt. Wor. Charles R. Gosling, JP
Danilee Trott, Event Project Manager

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1. **Confirmation of Notice** -the Treasurer confirmed that the notices of the meeting and the agenda were sent out according to the meeting guidelines.
 2. **Role of the Chairman**- Councillor C. Johnson confirmed his role as the Chairman.
 3. **Open Meeting** - Councillor C. Johnson opened the meeting at 4:04pm.
 4. **Apologies** - the Treasurer confirmed apologies from the Event Project Manager.

The Secretary joined the meeting.

5. Public Participation:

There was no recorded public participation or presentation. On the invitation of Councillor Ming, two (2) members of the public Ms. Hill and Mr. Gary Jones (residents of Ewing Street) were in attendance. They have a mutual concern which can be addressed under Any Other Business.

6. Correspondence:

There is no correspondence.

7. Minutes of Previous Committee Meeting dated 7 January 2016

Proposed: Councillor G. Scott

Seconded: Councillor H. Ming

The Minutes were accepted as read.

8. Matters Arising from the Minutes 7 January 2016

There were no matters arising out of the Minutes dated 7 January 2016. Dr. Bradshaw queried whether a Post Mortem for the New Year's Event in North Hamilton was held and requested any feedback.

9. Status Update

(i) **Post Mortem - New Year's Eve Event in North Hamilton** - the Secretary confirmed that a meeting was held with the Minister of Works, the Mayor and other members of the group. Dr. Bradshaw said that it is important to have a report because of all of the "on/off" preparations that were taking place prior to the event. The Secretary said that this was not a CoH event and if there is a final report from the organisers, he will make it available to the members. Dr. Bradshaw expressed his concern that the event and those matters leading up to and from the event should be discussed. The committee was first told that the organising for the event would take 6-8 weeks and could not be held because of the short timeframe but the event was held.

Councillor Johnson asked the same questions regarding the timelines, etc. and it was mentioned by the Event Project Manager that most of what happened on New Year's Eve was organised by an entity outside of the CoH. The event occurred because other people took on that responsibility and brought it forward. Dr. Bradshaw said to the extent that the CoH did not produce the event but to the public, the event was produced in the CoH's name. He further expressed that it would help to know what happened differently for the event to take place.

Councillor Ming reiterated that the event was not a CoH sponsored activity. In a previous meeting where it was proposed to sponsor a particular group and the committee unanimously agreed that it would not happen. The Events Department required a certain period of time to organise the event. Since that time a great deal of effort was made on behalf of the persons behind the scenes particularly by Patrick Cooper (the City Engineer) and Vicki Abraham (the Communications and Rental Coordinator) who worked tirelessly to assist for an event that was not sponsored by the CoH. The CoH has not received any feedback by way of an official meeting. He emphasised that the CoH had nothing to do with the sponsorship of that particular event. He further commented on the negative feedback that came via one or two talk shows. It was discussed in a meeting that perhaps someone from the CoH should go to the talk show and explain the CoH's position but this did not happen.

The Secretary said that every protocol and every process was overruled. The organisers got the Governor, Government Ministers and Cabinet involved in an effort to deal with the request to "make it happen". The Secretary has met with the police since that time and they have already sent the notice out that if this same feat is tried again, the police will not show up. The Secretary said that the deposit for the event was made at the eleventh hour - 30 December 2015. Dr. Bradshaw then reiterated for the record that the process/protocol and the group to which he contributes and is a part of were overridden. Councillor Ming said that several of the Council members who represent and were elected by the residents were ridiculed publicly with the exception of Councillor Edwards. Councillor G. Scott, Councillor Johnson and Councillor Ming were accused of not getting the information out to the residents.

Councillor Johnson said a lot of the banter and negative dialogue can be overcome simply by person (s) coming to the office and asking to speak to or setting up a meeting with the people involved in advance so that the matter can be discussed as opposed to putting oneself in the media realm with the negative comments and documentation. He further commented that this is not a "me" organisation, this is an organisation for the residents of the City of Hamilton and not just for one person. Councillor Edwards clarified that Mr. Elmore Warren is not a resident of the City, he is a property owner.

(ii) Laffan Street Roundabout:

- Define Timeline for Completion
- Traffic Flow
- Landscaping
- Public Awareness Campaign
- Installation of Security Cameras

Councillor Ming said that in the last Property & Safety Committee meeting it was mentioned that the project is proceeding and seems to be successful. The CoH is taking into consideration some of the concerns regarding heavy trucks maneuvering, going up Laffan Street as opposed to going the other direction. He could not give a date of completion but he would suspect that the traffic flow in terms of the roundabout is intact as well as the sidewalk. He would hope to see a great deal more greenery. S. Thompson realises that the CoH is doing their best under very difficult circumstances. Her main thrust is that there be some sort of public relations in regard to the roundabout, etc. There are people inside and outside the City that want to know what is going on in that regard. The Secretary commented that when the roundabout project is complete the CoH would do a comprehensive Public Relations piece and have notices displayed, etc. S. Thompson said there should be a progress report from time to time, i.e. the public navigate through that area on a daily basis and want to know what basically is going on. Councillor Ming said that the understanding is that the CoH should give a statement of the intent of the roundabout. The Secretary said that the CoH has not budgeted for the cost of doing status updates. They do place notices to state what is going on at a particular time. A note can be done to the residents. There was continued dialogue.

ACTION: The Secretary to have the City Engineer draft a brief summary status update to be distributed to the residents of the City of Hamilton either by hand or email with regards to the Laffan Street roundabout.

Dr. Bradshaw stated that even though giving status updates are not a normal practice, it needs to be done, e.g. the Ewing Street project, it is very important that when things are happening to let the people in the neighbourhood know. If it is a new procedure, a notice should be sent out with the information possibly every three (3) months, six (6) months, etc.

The Secretary commented on the property just behind Butterfield & Vallis which has been purchased by them and the CoH has been in negotiations with them for a bit of a land swap so that the CoH can have a pedestrian sidewalk from the pig station, all the way round to the canal. The only cost to the rate payer is the legal costs because the land swap is size-for-size and the CoH will pay $\frac{1}{2}$ the legal cost.

There is no plan at this time to put in security cameras; there is no budget to install the cameras that they currently have. The CoH wants to add cameras to the network at some point going forward.

(iii) **KBB Presentation** - T. Marshall asked for this item to be placed on the agenda because Ms. Hyde from the KBB gave a presentation last September/October and the committee has not firmed up the relationship with KBB as had been discussed. Councillor Edwards was in contact with her at one point. This is to do with signing up for membership and setting a date for a clean-up event; the area for the clean-up to be discussed further. It is \$20 for individual membership and \$40 for a family.

ACTION: Councillor Edwards and T. Marshall to follow-up with KBB and provide any information to the members at the next Residents Advisory Committee meeting.

Councillor Edwards had already signed up as an individual before this discussion. Dr. Bradshaw commented on a possible joint project between KBB and the Residents Advisory Committee.

(iv) **Proposed Neighbourhood Watch and Communicating with Residents re: Neighbourhood Watch** - T. Marshall commented on the presentation by PC Dill and wanted to move forward with a neighbourhood watch.

10. Recommendations for Review:

There were no recommendations.

11. Any Other Business

(i) **Councillor Ming** - was made aware from Ms. Hill and Mr. Jones of a tenant at the top end of Ewing Street who would be considered a "nuisance". She has a habit of just dropping garbage anywhere, irrespective of the new garbage bins. More importantly, the language that this lady will often utter is a total embarrassment to anyone in the area. He is also aware that there is the perception that she needs "help". He has advised Ms. Hill and Mr. Jones that this is something that is out of the hands of the CoH; it is something that needs either some civil action or would require the assistance of medical professionals. He then turned the discussion over to Mr. Jones and Ms. Hill.

Mr. Jones - talked about the relocation of the sign near the Jehovah Witness church regarding residential parking because of the abuse from "church people" parking in the residential bays.

ACTION: Councillor Edwards to provide a photo showing the sign and where it should be relocated and have it available for the next Infrastructure Committee scheduled 9 March 2016.

Discussion continued. Mr. Jones commented on cars parking all over the road on Ewing Street from early in the morning.

ACTION: The Secretary to write a letter to the Jehovah Witness church with regards to the parking violations that are occurring on Ewing Street as well as advising the traffic wardens about the issue.

The Secretary said the traffic wardens do not start before 9am and they only have about four (4) of them to cover the entire City.

Mr. Jones and Ms. Hill left the meeting.

12. Motion to Move to a Restricted Session

Proposed: Councillor C. Johnson

Seconded: Councillor G. Scott

The Public Session of the meeting was adjourned.