



**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.

Works Depot  
Laffan Street, Hamilton  
**Residents Advisory Committee**  
4 May 2017  
4:00pm

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

**In Attendance:** Ed Benevides, Secretary  
Danilee Trott, Event Project Manager  
Lindell Foster, HR Manager

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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 Carlton Johnson assumed the role as the Chairman.
  3. **Open Meeting** - Councillor Carlton Johnson opened the meeting at 4:00pm.
  4. **Apologies** - the Secretary confirmed that he received apologies from Councillor Henry Ming.

5. **Public Participation:**

There is no public participation/presentation.

6. **Correspondence:**

There is no correspondence.

**7. Minutes of Previous Committee Meeting dated 6 April 2017**

Mrs. Smith commented on:

**Page 1 of 8** - last sentence ..." **suring up**" should read "**shoring up**".

**Page 2 of 8** - 5<sup>th</sup> paragraph, 1<sup>st</sup> sentence - ... "**regarding social economic**" should read "**socio-economic**".

**Page 5 of 8** - 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph, 1<sup>st</sup> sentence - "**Triathlon**" should read "**Triathalon**".

**Page 5 of 8** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Paragraph, 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence - "**Ewing Street**" should read "**Angle Street**".

**Page 7 of 8** - 5<sup>th</sup> paragraph, 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence - "**She**" should read "**Mrs. Smith**".

The Secretary commented on:

**Page 5 of 8** - 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, 3<sup>rd</sup> sentence - "**Curt and Dundonald Streets**" should read "**Court and Dundonald Streets**".

**Proposed:** Councillor R. Edwards

**Seconded:** Councillor G. Scott

The Minutes were accepted as read with the amendments.

**8. Matters arising from the Minutes dated 6 April 2017:**

(i) **Share with the Residents Advisory Committee the data received from the survey regarding the socio-economic indicators in North-East Hamilton versus the rest of Bermuda:** The Secretary confirmed that the survey was shared with the Members of the Committee. Mrs. Smith provided the survey.

(ii) **Forward an electronic copy of the next CoH newsletter to the Resident Advisory Committee Members:** The Secretary confirmed that the CoH newsletter was forwarded to the Committee Members.

(iii) **Ask the Communications Manager check into who receives the CoH newsletter:** The Event Project Manager advised that the Communications Manager has double-checked all the email addresses. She further advised that Ms. Thompson's email address was misspelled but that has been rectified.

(iv) **Forward a copy of the road closures for the ITU:** The Event Project Manager confirmed that a copy of the road closures was forwarded to the Committee Members.

(v) **Check further into transportation possibilities for the North-East Hamilton area and report back to the next Residents Advisory Committee meeting:** The Secretary commented that the minibuses did not want to have a discussion and PTB the CoH has already worked with. He cannot get the taxis to have stands in North-East Hamilton, has tried to move them and provide spaces but they have shown no interest.

Councillor Johnson asked about previous transportation that was provided from the back of City Hall to Bull's Head Car Park. The Secretary said that service was about five (5) years ago but since which has stopped.

There was a security issue that had been raised with ladies walking late at night down to Bull's Head Car Park. Ms. Thompson advised that the sign for the service is still up in the Car Park on the second floor. Councillor Johnson asked if it would be viable to have a service from the Church Street west area or even the back of City Hall to North-East Hamilton. The Secretary reiterated that he cannot get the minibuses to even discuss that option.

Mrs. Smith said that in the research and the site survey of North-East Hamilton when BEDC worked with the residents and businesses to create the local plan for the area, it was highlighted that: (i) the area has the highest proportion of residents; (ii) a high proportion of lower income residents; (iii) the area is not accessible by public transportation and (iv) based on research and studies showing multiple examples that economic development flourishes when there are transportation hubs in the area. The desire was to have public transportation change their routes in order to have one (1) or two (2) routes come through the area. After several negotiations, there was a pilot test that was run and it was determined that it could be done. Bus stops or curb-outs would have to be created and the CoH came up with a price of \$30K and presented that to PTB to create the bus stops, etc. PTB indicated that they did not have the budget and the CoH did not have the budget. The reasons for requesting and advocating for this service still exists today. Dialogue continued.

The Secretary said that there are spaces that are not cut into the sidewalk but the spaces are allocated in the parking lane. The initial agreement with PTB would be for the number of spaces that they have and to go beyond that agreement would be a cost as the CoH would be giving up more parking spaces. Some of the \$30K would have been for the construction and for the loss of revenue. He would have to look at the numbers. There was continued discussion.

**ACTION:** The Secretary to forward the cost breakdown for creating bus stops in North-East Hamilton to Mrs. Smith.

The Secretary commented on the challenge of the intersections of Court Street and Cedar Avenue. He was trying to convince them to go down Till's Hill because it would be easier to turn left and go out to Cedar Avenue that way. The actual incline on Till's Hill is less than the incline on Knapton Hill. Then they were looking at Court Street and Dundonald Street but that intersection does not have the ability to upgrade for a wide turn. When the CoH has that ability to upgrade that intersection, that would be easier to do and maybe could re-visit then. Currently, there is no easy right turn off Dundonald Street on to Cedar Avenue. Hopefully, there will be funds in next year's budget to re-design that intersection. There was further discussion about possibly having a couple of bus routes per day, one (1) from the west end and one (1) from the east end. If the minibuses would address this, that could be a solution. The Secretary suggested that Mrs. Smith attempt to set-up a meeting with the minibuses and he could join the meeting. He has emailed and written to them but has had no response. The only time he hears from the minibuses is when they want parking.

(vi) **Placemaking Seminar and Workshops:** Ms. Marshall commented on the next steps regarding the utilisation of the information received. She attended the meeting and her recollection was that there was some discussion about the park area on Court and Dundonald Streets. Mrs. Smith said the placemaking seminar was facilitated by the Department of Planning.

The Corporation of St. George, after the facilitators left the seminar, called stakeholders together for a special session to walk around the Town Square to determine how they wanted to use those principles and carry out the exercises. She wanted to ascertain what the CoH wanted to do with that information. Part of the information was the ten (10) implementable simple steps that could be done to look at different areas.

**ACTION:** Mrs. Smith to email to the Committee Members the ten (10) steps document as it relates to the utilization of the information regarding placemaking.

Mrs. Smith said one of the major sites in Hamilton was the waterfront. The attendees did an assessment of five (5) different sites along Front Street. The Event Project Manager said that she would be interested in seeing that document as she did not attend the seminar.

The Secretary commented on another initiative that was facilitated by the Department of Planning, i.e. "**Parking Day**" that gave the CoH the idea of slowly doing, what he calls the "Barcelona Squeeze". In Barcelona, they took major roads that ran right through to the City and slowly made slight changes to either the parking, e.g. parking on one (1) side, traffic to one (1) lane, pedestrians only after certain hours, etc. They did this over five (5) or six (6) years. The CoH is slowly trying to make changes to Reid Street, i.e. pedestrianisation.

Mrs. Smith commented on the CoH's strategy for pedestrianisation and asked if the plan was for across the City. The Secretary said more benches are being made with the first ones being done for Front and Reid Streets for the events in May and June. The additional ones are being made to be placed around the City.

Dr. Bradshaw joined the meeting at 4:30pm.

The Event Project Manager said the five (5) areas that have been done now are done in a way that they can be moved if need be. They have been created for eating areas, sitting relaxation, busking, vending and shaded spaces. The gazebo is not quite finished, will be done by next week. The plan is for that to stay up indefinitely and hopefully start to get feedback, i.e. how the spaces are being enjoyed or not, etc. This initiative is a phased approach so the next thing is that if the public is happy with the spaces, then those areas will become permanent and then will start to add more. The Parks Superintendent has planting plans where every season he is planting whatever works for that season. She advised that this is a 4-year plan and this phase was done as a pilot. Surveys were done from the "**Parking Day**" plan for the three (3) years that the CoH did it and out of those surveys, there were only two (2) negative complaints. The City Engineer's concept is that the wooden planks that are elevated up to sidewalk level are currently temporary but once positive feedback is received, then they will be concreted and become more permanent. Then will start adding extra spaces, then traffic will go to one (1) lane, etc.

Mrs. Smith said there has been a lot of discussions surrounding the pedestrianisation of Reid Street over the years. She commented on the information that was included in the newsletter and the Press Release but there was no timeframe indicated. She has received some telephone calls from businesses in North-East Hamilton who are frustrated because they need assistance and querying when they will get some beautification in their area.

It would be helpful from a PR prospective to explain that it is a 4-year strategy with potential timeframes, implementation, etc.

The Event Project Manager said the communications plan for this had been strategically designed so not to give out too much information at once. The intention was to do it in small stages to get by-in, then introduce phase two (2) and so on.

The Secretary said it would be great to get feedback from the businesses that have that interest in North-East Hamilton with the understanding that they will lose parking as well.

The Event Project Manager said one of the plans even with the post surveying, once the CoH gets over the May/June activities and the public realise that the spaces have remained, will start doing digital surveying through the CoH's website, the newsletter, social media, etc. to get feedback. One of the questions will be are there any other areas that the public would like to see this happen. This survey will come later in the summer once the initiative has been up for a few months and the public have adapted to it.

## 9. Status Update:

### (i) Events:

- **International Town Crier Competition** - the Event Project Manager thanked all who came out to the competitions and the dinner.
- **Art Project** - moving forward with that initiative. The Event Project Manager believes that an artist has been found who has agreed to do the Till's Hill art installation. Previously, it had been suggested to have the artist paint on cement boards and then have the Engineering Department mount the artwork on the outside of the wall going down the hill. There may be some progress in that regard before the next Residents Advisory Committee meeting.

**ACTION:** The Event Project Manager to advise the Committee Members of the date that the artwork is being mounted so that they can lend their support to the artist and the artwork.

- **America's Cup and Tall Ships** - the Event Project Manager advised that the full schedule of events will be available in next week's newsletter.
- **ITU Triathlon 2017** - went extremely well with very few issues. Also, had a great post-mortem of the event. Now starting to plan for the 2018 event to eliminate the few issues that were encountered this year.
- **Bermuda Day** - there has been some movement forward with the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs (DCCA) and Government and are moving ahead with the communications plan. DCCA have done a commercial on behalf of the City and the Department talking about people spraying up sidewalks, taping, camping out on their sites, etc. It is a humourous take in trying to help that situation. There is also information on what can be done and cannot be done in the City on Bermuda Day.

- **Residents Informational Magnet** - the Event Project Manager said she was just waiting on the final draft and once received will get the printing done for the magnet and the flyer. She advised that the flyers can be printed in-house. Ms. Thompson asked, with the flyer, if something was to come up, e.g. the walkabout, etc., prior to it going out to get that information and have the flyer state to, "**Save the Date**". The Event Project Manager said that the Cityzen newsletter is really picking up traction so any information that one wants to have placed in the newsletter can be forwarded to the CoH as they are trying to get the newsletter out every Friday or every other Friday.

- (ii) **Ewing Street** - the Secretary advised that he has spoken with TCD, the instructors and examiners and have instructed them that they are not to use Ewing Street as part of their testing route.

**10. Recommendations for Review:**

There are no recommendations for review.

**11. Any Other Business:**

There were no further matters to be discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45pm.