

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
7 June 2018
4:00pm

Present: Councillor Carlton Johnson (Chair)

Councillor George Scott, JP Councillor RoseAnn Edwards

Tracy Marshall, Associate Member Erica Smith, Associate Member

Dr. Michael Bradshaw, Associate Member

In Attendance: Tanya Iris, Treasurer (Acting Secretary)

Tamara Bradshaw, Project and Rentals Coordinator

Apologies: Councillor Henry Ming

Sarah Thompson, Associate Member Danilee Trott, Event Project Manager

- 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 4:04pm.
- 4. **Apologies** The Acting Secretary confirmed that she had received apologies from Councillor Henry Ming, the Event Project Manager, Danilee Trott and Associate Member, Sarah Thompson.
- 5. Public Participation/Presentation:

There was no public participation/presentation

6. Correspondence:

There was no correspondence.

### 7. Minutes of Previous Committee Meeting dated 10 May 2018

Mrs. Smith advised that she had sent in her apologies. The Recording Secretary to adjust the minutes accordingly.

Proposed: Councillor R. Edwards Seconded: Councillor G. Scott

The Minutes were accepted as read with the amendment.

# 8. Matters arising from the Minutes dated 10 May 2018:

- (i) Letters to be written to the businesses in the area regarding parking in residential parking bays: Letters were sent out to three (3) businesses, Heritage Worship Centre, the B.E.A.S.T. Gym and Bermuda Import and Export. Action item completed.
- (ii) Send out the information regarding the dates with the locations and artists to the Members: Action item completed.
- (iii) Provide information to the Members via email regarding timelines for the benches and tables for E.F. Gordon Park: Photos were distributed to the Members showing the benches and tables in the E.F. Gordon Park. It was noted that they were put in place by the Parks Department. Action item completed.
- (iv) Check with the City Engineer to ascertain why the bins had been changed and advise the Members at the next Residents Advisory Committee meeting: The City Engineer had forwarded an email explaining the change of bins at the top of Till's Hill. Ms. Marshall queried whether additional bins would be provided because there is only one (1) bin in her immediate area for three (3) different houses. Councillor Johnson said each resident could apply for a bin or two (2) people could apply for a larger bin so that there would not be a lot of bins on the sidewalk at the same time. Each assessment number or household could apply to the Assistant Supervisor in Sanitiation, Mr. Crockwell. There are three (3) sizes available. In the first instance, there is no charge for a bin but there would be a charge for any replacement bins.

Councillor Edwards commented on the ongoing dumping of garbage that takes place on the top of Till's Hill. She further stated that the larger bins would be better than the two (2) small bins that are currently there because there is a larger population, i.e. the residents that stay across up on the extension as well as the residents in that immediate area on the Court Street/Till's Hill side. She also commented on the size of the space where the bins are currently housed. There was continued discussion.

Mrs. Smith queried whether the CoH had received any responses from the letters written to the three (3) businesses. The Acting Secretary reported that she had received a telephone call from Heritage Worship Centre who advised that an announcement had been made on several occasions, but they have little or no control. It is not always the church goers that are parking in those spaces.

Mrs. Smith asked the next steps or suggestions in how to address this issue. Councillor Johnson said there is difficulty in addressing this issue as cones do not even work. He then spoke about the number of residential spaces available in the area.

Councillor G. Scott commented on the letter forwarded to the B.E.A.S.T. gym. Another issue is that it is a fire hazard as bikes are parked outside the door on the sidewalk. Councillor Johnson said that this lends to a health and safety issue. Bermuda Import and Export has two (2) parking spaces for their building and one (1) loading zone on the eastern side of their driveway. On the other side, there is a one (1) parking space as well as a pedestrian crossing in the middle of all that. That area is saturated with the public wanting to get a spot all at the same time.

The Acting Secretary reiterated that the CoH has no enforcement powers. The ability to clamp was taken away from the CoH and with that tried to do a Parking Ordinance that went to the Government where it sat for a while. Since which, that Parking Ordinance got thrown out and the Government is re-writing the parking legislation. The reason for the Barrier System in the car parks is because the CoH had no other way of enforcing payment for parking. This issue also happens with disabled parking spaces, loading zones, etc. One (1) thing that was being done is that photos were taken of these infractions and forwarded to the Traffic Wardens to issue tickets.

Councillor Johnson said that the gym also has temporary wooden steps to access their premises which causes a hazard because they are on the sidewalk and not built into the main structure. People have to go around them as well as the bikes parked on the sidewalk, having to walk out into the street.

Mrs. Smith suggested that photos be taken from off the cameras should be sent to TCD for a "Name and Shame" or "Bad Parking in Bermuda" and somehow be a tie-in in having vehicles relicensed, etc.

Councillor Johnson said there has to be some way for the business side and residential side to have a mutual understanding so that they can all work together.

**ACTION:** Another letter to be sent to the B.E.A.S.T. regarding the issue of the bikes on the sidewalk. Also liaise with the Fire Department and have them also either write or contact the gym regarding this matter. (Acting Secretary/Treasurer)

Councillor G. Scott commented on the overgrowth and garbage on the steps on both sides going up from North Street to the top of Till's Hill.

Councillor Edwards said that all should take a walk around the City and see the work that needs to be done around the North Hamilton area. Councillor Johnson suggested that since there is no Residents Advisory Committee in July, the Committee could meet on the first Thursday in July (5 July) to do a City walkabout. Mrs. Smith said she had taken her Board and staff members on a walkabout around North Hamilton a few weeks ago. She also said that there has been some progress made and the CoH should be acknowledged and praised; but there are still things that need to be done. She further commented on the hanging baskets on Court Street.

**ACTION:** Arrange a meeting for the Residents Advisory Committee to do a walkabout of the North Hamilton area on Thursday 5 July 2018 at 4:00pm. The Committee would meet at the E.F. Gordon Park on the corner of Court and Dundonald Streets. (Recording Secretary)

Councillor Edwards expressed her pleasure in seeing the hanging planters on Court Street. Also, the area at the entrance of Princess Street going towards Elliott Street had been cleaned up and looks very nice. She wanted to pass on thanks to the staff of the CoH who were instrumental in cleaning up that area. She further commented on receiving complaints from the residents that the mosaic planters on Ewing Street outside of the Jehovah Witness Church being moved, whether they belonged to Ewing Street because they want them placed back there. The Acting Secretary advised that the planters are moved around the City on a regular basis, they are not stationed to one (1) particular spot for any specific period of time. Mrs. Smith commented on the map for the planters that was provided to the Committee for feedback, identifying locations for planters, etc. Dialogue continued.

Dr. Bradshaw joined the meeting at 4:38pm.

## 9. Status Update:

#### Events:

- Bonfires and BBQ: Held this evening 7 June 2018 on Front Street. Road closure is at 6:00pm and the event starts at 7:00pm. It is an eighteen-year old and over event and is free to the public.
- Bermuda Fashion Festival (BFF): July 8 14 2018; there are three (3) fashion shows, a golf tournament, a Bermuda vendor market and a raft-up cruise. Information will be disseminated to the Members between tomorrow (8 June) and Monday (11June) in terms of tickets. Tickets are now available for the public to purchase online. This would be the ninth year for the BFF.
- Movie Lounge: Queen Elizabeth Park (QEP) August
- Summer Sundays in the Park: August
- Back to School Festival for the Children: August

Councillor Edwards commented on receiving the monthly schedule of events.

**ACTION:** Provide an updated monthly schedule of events held within the City and email to the Committee Members. (**Project and Rentals Coordinator**)

Dr. Bradshaw asked if the Events Department hosts any events for seniors to which all the events are adult-friendly. The Project and Rentals Coordinator said the Department did do a seniors' tea event 2014/2015 but has not done one since. The events are rotated. Dr. Bradshaw said to what extent does the Department host inter-generational events. The Project and Rentals Coordinator advised that the Summer Sundays in the Park is an inter-generational event. Dr. Bradshaw asked if the CoH is interested in targeting events for the seniors. The Project and Rentals Coordinator said the Committee could provide suggestions regarding events for seniors and they could be put forward for consideration. There was continued dialogue

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The Acting Secretary advised that apologies were received from the Event Project Manager which was not recorded earlier in the meeting.

### 10. Recommendations for Review:

There are no Recommendations for review.

# 11. Any Other Business:

(i) Ms. Marshall: requested an update on the calendar of events that was proposed from the Residents Advisory Committee for the 2018, 2019 and 2020 budget. She had not received any updates and some of the target dates had been missed. The Acting Secretary said that the Residents Advisory Committee was supposed to liaise with the Communications Manager in this regard. A number of the events were placed under the Communications Manager's budget and a few under the City Engineer's budget. There was further discussion.

**ACTION:** Liaise with the Communications Manager regarding the status on the proposed events provided by the Committee. (Residents Advisory Committee)

**ACTION:** Forward to the Committee Members an updated schedule of events with the budgets. (Acting Secretary/Treasurer)

- (ii) Mrs. Smith: asked if there is an opportunity to consider multiple ways to engage the residents regarding feedback on City matters/issues, e.g. surveys. She suggested if surveys had not been done in the past, maybe the CoH might want to consider having ongoing data, statistics and feedback. Councillor Johnson said if the Committee has specific items that the residents may or may not want and would like to have it in a survey-type format, those matters could be sent to the Committee for discussion. The Acting Secretary said this could be mentioned to the Communications Manager for her comments but would probably need some guidance on what the Committee would want in the survey.
- (iii) **Dr**. **Bradshaw**: asked in the last meeting about the garbage at the top of Till's Hill. He commented on the types of garbage dumped in that area, e.g. gym equipment, etc. He contacted the CoH and the garbage had been taken away and he was very pleased. The public perception needs to be changed, but first would have to find what that perception is and not wait to receive the complaints.
- (iv) Councillor Johnson: said the garbage came from someone dumping it there. Any resident in the City who has bulk garbage could call the CoH where the collection is Tuesdays and Thursdays. There has to some kind of structure in order for things to work and if not, would have to find ways to solve the issues of dumping.
- (v) **Councillor Edwards:** said dumping has been going on for a long time. Previously, before the new configuration of Ewing Street, people used to dump garbage on the median. She has seen people come from other areas and dump garbage into the metal bin. She asked how that issue could be addressed.

The Acting Secretary said to remove the bins altogether to which Dr. Bradshaw refuted her remark because that would affect the residents. There has to be another way to resolve the issue.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:04pm.