



Community Meeting  
Tuesday, June 26<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 – 9:00 pm  
Royal on Gordon

Present: Todd Dennis, Lynda Dennis, Fernanda Svaikauskas, Sarah Robson, Scott Dezell, Karl Wettstein – Councilor Ward 6, Pat Lake, Tim Lake, Nancy Kielar – Community Development Worker

Regrets: Christine Billings – Councilor Ward 6, Briget Porter, Tracey Clark

Minutes of May 22<sup>nd</sup> approved

### 1. Picnic

- Fusion Fun Zone – went over very well
- next time for food - hire Mario to sell hot dogs and reimburse him for sales, or sell it ourselves
- 75 people were in attendance
- 5 families picnicked
- games – have them scheduled and announce the times
- signs came off with rain storm, tried to replace as many as possible
- have a community member that can provide bottled water for future events
- we had trouble engaging people to take a leadership role in planning children's events

### 2. Splash pad

- last meeting Nancy was asked to find out the status of the splash pad at Nick's Dragonfly Park
- staff will review for capital budget late 2007 early 2008
- if someone wants to advocate that it be considered the upcoming budget they should put this request forward through Nancy

### 3. Conversation with Karl Wettstein

- Question: why does it seem like the focus of projects is all in the down town the South end seems to be ignored do we need to start coming out to council and advocating?
- Karl recognizes that the south end is under serviced, also need to work with the needs of the whole city as well, a number of current projects and upcoming projects serve the whole city and are also long overdue
- Question: when we are trying to address a change in our community should it be addressed through staff or through Council?
- approach both directions through staff and through council
- South part of the city has the highest taxes (based on Provincial policies) and the lowest services

Parketts – feel that we are very under serviced

- there is less park space in our community as a decision was made to take additional funds for the South End Community Centre instead of multiple parkettes from the developers – as a result we only have one parkette for our local community, we accept this, however this one parkette now needs to serve a greater purpose, the original plan has ice rink service, and level field space – what happened that these were not implemented, the large green space is on such slope that the children can not use it, the park space is so inadequate and does not meet the needs that people are encroaching on green space that is for storm water management as it better meets the need for playing space
- Action: Nancy to follow up with Planning staff - Scott Hannah find out what happened from planning to implementation and find out what is the plan to move forward

#### Water in the green space and trail degradation

- Sarah contacted Rory Tempelton regarding standing water and trail degradation he indicated he forwarded the concern to Murray Cameron June 4<sup>th</sup> Sarah has still have not heard back from them. This is an ongoing problem need to look at a long term solution, the bandages keep falling off, the cost of all these repairs is adding up, the money would have been better spent fixing the underlying problem not just the symptom
- Action: Nancy will contact Murray on behalf of the group to find out where things are at

#### Budget process

- Todd expressed interested in participating in the public input for budget, waiting to hear back
- Action: Nancy to check in regarding the timelines for community input

#### South End Community Centre

- Question: Where is this project on the capital budget time line? We can not get a firm answer.
- There is a wish list of projects, if you want this to be moved up or committed to it needs to get into the capital budget discussions for the upcoming year
- It has been moved forward in council minds, need to look at it as a resource for the whole city,
- Karl believes it was at the end of the 5 year wish list Karl and Christine are working on how to move it forward for other Council members as well
- Action: Nancy to find out where this project is currently on the capital budget time line.
- Question – we understood that development charges have been collected for the Community Centre, the construction is almost complete in our neighbourhood where are these funds?
- These charges are not broken down into specific assignment they are for all services. Funds were not specifically collected for the Community Centre.
- The best thing is to focus on the need for a Community Centre and it is over due. It would not be wise to compare the need to other projects as this need has nothing to do with the library, city hall or any other project

- If this is a priority for you then, you need to set it as a priority project, do not burry it with the small issues although the parkette, and standing water are not less important, your message will get diluted if you come forward with a multiple focus
- We know that the south is under serviced, with the projected growth of the City we will be even further under serviced
- The demographics of the neighbourhood are a number of families with young children - in 7 years (5 to get the money then plan and develop it) a large number of the children not benefit from this service
- This is a resource servicing the city south of College need to engage all parts of the south district
  - o Bring all the South groups to the first public meeting of finances – bring the voice of the south half of the City to raise the concern
  - o Request it be brought forward
  - o Groups need to document their concerned as a group of citizens, not from an individual point of view – especially groups that are not connected with the City
  - o We need to help the Councilors make a quality decision as a group help the Ward 6 councilors get the attention of other Council members
  - o There have been no new services for years – find out date that recreation services were added to south i.e. Centennial Pool
  - o Question: There are businesses in the south end - would they financially support moving it forward?
  - o Don't think the business community sees it as their role to build a facility. Perhaps the stake of businesses is to have them address their concern to make Guelph an attractive place for people to come live and work in Guelph and that a Community Centre would be a valuable asset to drawing people to Guelph to work
  - o include minor sports leagues to address need and the location – close to the people to participate - Nancy to forward list of minor sports groups so they can be contacted
  - o we need to bring Ward 5 councilors into this campaign as this affects their Wards as well
- Question - every single project on the capital wish list has a group of people doing exactly what we are doing – what are our chances of getting this moved forward
- The current council recognizes the importance of these community services, current council does have a big wish list, but there is a willingness to address needs

#### Traffic

- Continue to have problems with people not stopping – Scott will contact Brent Eden to ask for the Police to monitor the area to remind people to follow the rules of the road.

#### 4. Mercury Article

Response to Ben – members were concerned with the point of view presented. He only has one point of view. Todd is drafting a letter to the editor, he will send it out and

anyone interested in signing it is welcome perhaps multiple people signing will have more impact

#### 5. Planting

-Median Gordon and Clairfields is choking with weeds – on behalf of the group Nancy to request something be done

#### 6. Newsletter delivery

- Sarah to ask Ian about emailing for volunteers

#### 7. Meetings

-No meeting July

-Aug meeting will focus – on Fall Fiesta focus – sub group to meet in between

#### 8. Speed River clean up

- Scott participated there are groups that enter perhaps next year could submit a team as this is a great initiative and would give us good coverage

#### 9. Family and Youth Drop In

- Fernanda is doing a great job, she has great things planned, Sarah will do a mailbox flyer, before they put it up she will check with Fernanda about coverage so that we don't encourage people to come out if we do not have a facilitator.

-Nancy has promoted the program again on the City Page of the Tribune

-Fernanda needs more people to call on if she is away; right now Scott is the only back up