

Wednesday, March 16th, 2010
7:00 p.m.
Council Chambers, Dundas Town Hall

The Dundas Community Council met.

There were Present: Russ Powers, Councillor
Larry Button
Bob James
Bill Kennedy, Environment
Phyllis Kraemer, Business
Jeff Gowland
Stan Nowak, Heritage
Keith Sharp, Sports & Recreation
Libby Toewes, Art & Culture
Ted McMeekin, MPP

Regrets: Bonnie Szaz
David Sweet, MP

Absent:

Also Present:

Craig Campbell, Dundas Star News
Arlene VanderBeek, Councillor's Office
Doug Gordon, Dundas Resident
Carl Collins, Dundas Resident
Carolyn Cale and Iza ???
Dave Carson, Dundas

1. Remarks from the MP, MPP, School Trustees

- Ted McMeekin brought greetings and spoke about area rating. Some may have seen the letter he wrote in the Spectator. Getting what you pay for and paying for what you get. From what he gathers, the only real change will be to parks and recreation. In Flamborough, there is no Community swimming pool in the whole municipality, whereas in some areas there are several. Ted had a meeting with Mayor Bratina. If the City were to get together and point out the things that are outside of their prevue, the Province might be approached. The other issue he is hearing about are the changes with Hamilton Health Sciences. Competing issues – the City's goal is to make this the best place to raise a child. Largest urban community in Canada without a focused pediatric facility. The Urgent Care Centre will be located in Westdale. If we needed any more proof that the economy is a whole-owned subsidiary of the environment, we have only to look at Japan. Although their

savings are the highest in the world, their debt is also the highest and economists are predicting that their economy could fail. Ted has already asked for some assurances that the Province will be taking precautions with regard to local reactors. The Province did not cut and run, but invested 60 billion in infrastructure to building roads and hospitals, etc. 87% of the Ontario economy is exported, but the largest producer of automobiles and parts in North America 4000 jobs were sustained. Educational test scores are up over the past few years and students are more prepared to work in a global economy. Minister of Health was in Hamilton today. The Fraser Institute reported in 2003 that Ontario was the worst in terms of wait times. Two months ago, they reported that we have moved to the best in the country. Lots of talk about energy and hydro prices. We had a system that wasn't producing enough power to encourage new industrial business locating in Ontario. In 3 successive governments had neglected the hydro system to the point where infrastructure refurbishment is unavoidable. The decision was made that it had to be fixed, created 10,000 megawatts of additional power and moved from last to first, jurisdictionally, in terms of solar and wind power. It is very busy at Queen's Park and when he has a week in the area, he tries to get to as many events as possible.

Russ raised the issue of the need for continuation of the funding for the nursing staff to relieve the ambulance crews, in Emergency. Ted said that he has spoken to the Minister with regard to the issue.

2. Previous Meeting Report

The report from the February 16th, 2011 meeting was received as distributed and was moved by Keith Sharp seconded by Bill Kennedy to accept the minutes, as presented. Carried.

3 Presentations and Discussions - None

4. Updates on Items from Previous Report

- a) Hockeyville Update: Leslie advised that there was a meeting of individuals who are involved in sports in Dundas and discussed the Dundas Sports Hall of Fame. A committee will be established and suggestions for membership are invited. Larry mentioned running and baseball as sports that might be considered. The idea was well received. They will report back to the Legacy Committee.

Legacy Project: Music system was installed in time for the hockey game. \$85,000 worth of lights have been donated and will be installed when the ice is out of the arena in the spring. A new sign to the right

of the front door will note the arena name, hockeyville 2010 logo and the City of Hamilton's Logo as well as a message board area which will be able to be read from Market Street.

- b) New Superintendent and Crime Manager will be invited to a future Dundas Community Council meeting.
- c) Solid Waste Management staff will be attending Dundas Community Council meeting at a future meeting.
- d) Clr. Powers has arranged for signage directing travelers to Dundas from Highway 6.
- e) Updates on proposed and on-going Dundas projects
 - 23-25 King St. East (former Good Times Fishing Club) – weather has improved, so they are starting work on the commercial frontage and residential in the back
 - 104 King St. West (Post Office). Permits are in-hand and work is underway
 - St. Joseph's Estates OMB hearing has finished, after 8 days.
 - 2555 Creekside has been resubmitted. The electronic version of the drawings will be uploaded to the Clrs. Web site.

5. Correspondence - None

6. Information/Discussion Items:

- a) Area Rating: Three documents will be uploaded to the web site – the original staff report; the Citizen's forum report; and the counter proposal offered by the combined (Hamilton, Flamborough and Stoney Creek) Chambers of Commerce. Covered 4 areas that affected us: Culture, Fire Service, Streetlights, and transit.

Staff have been directed to analyze and cost the options by mid-April. The current budget must be set by the end of May.

Transit – Dundas taxes pay for the number of lane miles that are driven within the limit of the former Town of Dundas. The bus comes from somewhere and there needs to be some equity. Areas with no bus service should not have to pay.

Recreation – All City facilities are available to everyone, no matter where you live in the City.

Fire Services – Looking at Urban, Rural, Suburban split. Rural count on ponds and tankers, etc., rather than fire hydrants: Greensville; Carlisle, etc.

Culture – Agreement that culture should come off of area rating. Every facility is available to everyone.

Sidewalks and Streetlights – New in the mix. Lighting bill should be pay for use.

Needs to be fairness and any impacts need to be manageable.

If anything new is available from staff, we will add to web site. Arlene will advise when the items have been uploaded.

- b) Hamilton Health Sciences: Discussion ensued around the changes to Hamilton Health Sciences.. Larry Button spoke to Murray Martin's claim, at the February meeting, that patients should not drive to the hospital emergency – they should call an ambulance and the will take them to the right place. A few days later, the Spectator reported that there are not enough ambulances. City staff predict that the increased cost of ambulance care will be \$1.5 million, assuming that the current situation continues with regard to the hospital wait-time for ambulance attendants.

7. Community Reports from Members

(a) Arts and Culture – Libby Toewes

- Dundas Valley School of Art web site show the progress and expect to meet their deadline and re-opening.
- Carnegie Gallery renovations are underway. The relocation has worked – people are finding it and sales are still good for the artists.
- Two local potters, Louise McCann and Scott Barnim, have shows at the Burlington Arts Centre.
- Trevor Garwood-Jones, an important architect and board member of the DVSA, passed away on Monday, March 14th. He was very supportive of Dundas and will be missed greatly.

(b) Business – Phyllis Kraemer

- Business Fair on Sunday, March 27th will be held at the Community Centre, presented by the Rotary Club and Dundas Division of the Chamber.
- Fitz and Co. building has been sold.
- Bling on King is setting up.
- Mimi has closed
- Envoke is closing
- Quatrefoil restaurant was the winner of the Rookie of the Year; Hockeyville was the Event of the Year;
- Lillian's building is rumored to have been sold
- Robert Pinder's building has new windows as of today.

- The Market held a cooking class last week, which was well received.
- Quatrefoil was recognized by Toronto Life Magazine as #4 in the top 10 new restaurants in the GTA and were the only one not located in Toronto.

(c) Environment – Bill Kennedy

- Bill noted his involvement with the Dundas Valley Treekeepers, since 2007 and mentioned that they nominated the tulip tree at the corner of Sydenham and Park Street with Trees Ontario as a historical and significant tree which has been recognized and on April 12th at the Baptist Church there will be a speaker on “Preserving our trees”.
- Study by Environment Hamilton, taking a Lichen stick to figure out the life of the tree and the air quality in Hamilton. Dundas Valley Treekeepers are involved in that as well.
- Pedestrian Mobility Action Plan is on the go (Eco-motion Project). There will be public meeting on Tuesday, April 5th – 6 to 8 pm – at the Baptist Church and they are seeking public input. Clr. Powers noted that their consultation has been lacking. From a relationship building point – suggestions re turning King Street into a pedestrian mall are lacking in consultation with the stakeholders in the BIA, etc. The Downtown Dundas Transportation Study invested a lot of time and energy by many people in recent months.
- Larry asked about Creekside crossings – Clr. Powers advised that pedestrian-activated crosswalks will be installed at Ogilvie & Creekside and at Hatt and Creekside in the spring.

(d) Heritage – Stan Nowak - Report attached

(e) Sports and Recreation – Keith Sharp

- Every child deserves the right to be physically active and creative, so Dundas staff are working on various programs to promote this
- Staff are working to break down the barriers for children to participate in local groups (For example, the loan program for skates will be expanded to include other sports equipment and they are soliciting for hockey, baseball and soccer equipment, etc.)
- Likewise they are trying to mobilize the community to participate in neighbourhood recreational needs (outdoor skating rinks) and partnerships with the City to provide the infrastructure, etc.
- Skateboarding requests have been renewed. Portable skateboarding will be in Dundas Park in July and August, this year.
- The City working toward passing a by-law to prohibit smoking in City-owned public parks, after extensive consultation and substantial discussion. Probably,

initially, signage will be posted, appropriate equipment and education will be the focus, followed by enforcement

7. Other Issues/Questions:

- Larry recognized that Craig Campbell has been nominated for an award
- Could we have an update on the Veldhuis project – Clr. Powers will arrange to have HCA come to a future meeting.
- We received notification from Japan that the people of Kaga are safe.
- This Saturday night, there will be a movie night in the Town Hall auditorium – donations will be sent to relief efforts in Japan.

8. Upcoming Meetings/Events

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 20th, 2011.

- 9. Adjournment** at 9:15 p.m. moved by Keith Sharp and seconded by Jeff Gowland.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Russ Powers
Councillor**