

Wednesday, October 17th, 2007
7:30 p.m.
Council Chambers, Dundas Town Hall

The Dundas Community Council met.

There were Present: Russ Powers, Councillor
Larry Button
Bill Kennedy, Environment
Stan Nowak, Heritage
Keith Sharp, Sports & Recreation
Maria Antonakos
Robert James
Fiorigo Minelli
Jeff Saunders
Phyllis Kraemer, Business
Patti Cannon, Culture and Recreation

Regrets: None

Also Present: Arlene VanderBeek, Councillor Powers' Office
Craig Campbell, Dundas Star News

1. Remarks from the Mayor, M.P., M.P.P., School Trustees

Ted McMeekin gave his regards and thanked the Community Councillors for their contribution. He offered special thanks to Clr. Powers for pulling together the stakeholders around Cootes Paradise to begin working on the development of a Provincial Park. The Ministry has committed to the "right to know" legislation and Mr. McMeekin and Clr. Powers have been working with the firefighters to develop this. The Ontario Government is committed to bringing in legislation to reduce pesticides and protect the local community. Two new labs are confirmed for Dundas – MDS and CML – (and perhaps a third one). Contrary to reports, whatever was previously covered under OHIP will be covered. St. Joseph's has committed to picking up and working with vulnerable people who will have costs that they may have to pay for (particularly for conditions like schizophrenia, etc.) Ted has spoken to the Premier about a Ministry for Seniors and it is being considered. The population of Dundas is 24.7 percent seniors. Ted spoke with the Mayor regarding School closings – and the establishment of a green fund and about downloading – He reported that about 42% of what was downloaded by the previous government has now been uploaded.

2 Previous Meeting Report

The report from the September 19th, 2007 meeting was received and circulated. Moved by K Sharp, seconded by J Saunders to accept the minutes as reported. Carried.

2. Presentation – Dundas Multi-Residential Taskforce

Andy Cranberry and Sam Shapiro, residents of 101 Governor's Road, are involved in the Multi Residential Task Force, and represent the Governor's Green Tenant's Association. The idea came up when they were looking at coming up with ways to get money back for people who were on social assistance. One way to do that was to get money back for them from residential taxes paid. Multi residential buildings pay 2.74 times the amount of tax ratio paid by a standard single family dwelling within Hamilton. The real issue is fairness for tenants. Together, they provided an informative presentation to explain the ways that taxes are calculated for multi-residential building.

3. **Updates on Business from Previous Report**

Councillor Powers provided an update on the Gypsy Moth situation in the City. In response to Bob James' request, the Councillor reported that Transit will have an answer in a couple of months. They are planning to come to a Dundas Community Council meeting before they hold a public meeting.

5. **Information Items**

(a) **Sir William Osler Elementary School** November 12th occupancy date is still anticipated..

(b) **Dundas Driving Park** A public meeting was held within the past month. The plan is positive and within the next month excavation will start to take place within the driving park.. At last notice, the band shell is expected to remain for the next year, the washrooms will be replaced with port-a-potties. The pavilion will remain and will be rejuvenated. The old wading pool will be abandoned and its future will be determined.

(c) **Memorial Square** The side panels and the display board which have been installed are not in compliance under our contract. This work was to have been completed by August, in time for the Cactus Festival and it is not acceptable. Staff are following up and Clr. Powers will report at the next meeting.

(d) **Dundas Community Gardens**

The gardens were originally located behind WWL, but are now behind Olympic Arena. This year we had a meeting with the users of the 72 plots and put together a plan of action to increase the number of plots on-site, etc. They have asked if the Community Council would like a visit in the spring.

(e) **Porchlight Ontario in Dundas**

If you know of any volunteer groups who would like to help distribute energy efficient bulbs throughout Dundas, during the month of November. Please have them contact Clr. Powers at rpower@hamilton.ca. They are planning to distribute 55,000 bulbs throughout Hamilton.

6. Community Reports from Members

(a) Arts and Culture – Patti Cannon

October 19th – Clearly Classics Concert at the Carnegie Gallery. Tickets are available from the Carnegie Gallery and Bryan Prince Bookseller (\$25/\$22).

November 1st to 4th – Arts Dundas weekend. The Carnegie Gallery and the Dundas Museum are presenting a joint exhibition entitled “Out of the past...into the future”. This exhibition runs from November 2nd to 25th. Artists’ studios will be open from 10 am to 4 pm and arts demonstrations have been scheduled throughout the weekend.

The Tower Poetry Society and the Carnegie Gallery present a stroll down King Street in downtown Dundas between Cross Street and Sydenham Street to view a number of art works and accompanying poems.

November 1 at 8:00 pm – Dundas Little Theatre opening of “Dinner with Friends”.

November 2nd a double-decker bus will take people from the Carnegie to the Museum and to the Potter’s Guild show and sale at the Community Centre. The bus runs from 11 am to 3 pm.

Arts Weekend brochures are available at the Carnegie Gallery or on-line at www.artsdundas.ca.

October 22nd through November 5th – The Estate Sale at Dundas Valley School of Art.

November 1st to 16th - Capture Your Dundas – a teen photography exhibit at the Dundas Public Library, during normal library hours. Entries have been judged by local photographer and Carnegie artist member: Lynn Macintyre.

November – daily from 9 am to 4 pm – St. James Anglican Church presents Metamorphosis – an exhibition of recent, small-scale wood and stone carvings and mixed-media sculptures by Wayne Allan.

November 9th – the Carnegie Gallery building fundraiser in the loft at the Dundas Valley School of Art. Richard B. Wright, winner of the Governor General’s Literary Award and the Giller Prize for his book “Clara Callan” will be reading from his new book “October”. Jeff

Goods, from CBC will be in attendance and conducting an on-stage interview with Richard. Tickets are \$10.00.

November 26th – City of Hamilton Arts Awards will be announced at the Hamilton Convention Centre. Awards for Theatre, Music, Visual Arts, Literature and Lifetime Achievement. Senior Secondary School students, nominated by their teachers will also receive recognition at the event. Reception at 7 pm and awards at 8 pm. Tickets are free in advance – call Elizabeth Wakeford in the Arts and Culture department at the City of Hamilton.

November 13th – Open House to provide an update on the City of Hamilton's Public Art Master Plan at the Marine Discovery Centre from 7 pm to 9 pm. Everyone is welcome and it is important for Dundas residents to keep in touch with this project to insure that locations for public art are considered in our community. Over the past summer, public meetings were held across the City and residents had the opportunity to comment and make recommendations. Due to the number of recommended sites for public art, the update was postponed from September to November, so that a careful review of all recommended sites could be completed.

(b) Business – Phyllis Kraemer

Fall activities are going well – wellness week was considered a success. Scarecrow Saturday is October 27th. Participants can contact Phyllis Kraemer (905-627-5880) or Judy Boswell (905-628-3954). Prizes will be awarded for this family/community event.

(c) Environment – Bill Kennedy

October 14th, a group of volunteers were involved in planting 200 plus trees supplied by the City around the perimeter of Sanctuary Park. Councillor Powers reported that he expects that this tree planting will become an annual event. The trees were native indigenous species grown by the City and provided from the City's own stock.

Two years ago 200 trees were planted along Spencer Creek, very few survived. Many were vandalized or stolen.

(d) Heritage – Stan Nowak

Stan distributed a package to all members.

The Museum's seasonal event "An Evening with Charles Dickens" will take place on December 8th at 8:00 p.m. Ticket sales are going well and tickets are available at the Museum or by calling 905-627-7412.

2nd Wed of month, heritage presentations with take place starting on November 14th: Historical Dundas as Revealed by Today's Home Computer, by Dave MacDougall (Amateur Genealogist).

Giant's Rib presentation on local history and geography by Mr. Williams

Dundas Heritage Calendar is available as a fundraiser for \$17

(e) Sports and Recreation – Keith Sharp

Keith reported that there will be a report coming on a study of the sports infrastructure.

Dundas Blues Bantam Rep team won their game on Thanksgiving weekend. The Real McCoy's and Dundas Blues both won their opening games, this year. The Dundas Blues are at home in Dundas this week.

(f) Others

Dundas District School Playfield – The City's proposal was rejected by the Hamilton District School Board. Both parties have agreed to meet and discuss appraisal values. The School Trustee and Councillor Powers are both encouraged about what may happen with the playing field and Clr. Powers will report as info is available.

As of November 8 we will have City-wide dialing within Hamilton.

Update request on lead pipe issue in Hamilton. No lead watermain within the City of Hamilton. The challenge is that houses constructed prior to 1950 have the potential to have lead pipes between the house and the watermain. Concerned residents can gather water samples to have their water tested. The City has approved a loan of up to \$2,000 to replace your lateral between the house and the watermain and it can be paid back over 10 years. Bill Kennedy reported that the only lead pipes in Dundas will be in the old parts of Downtown Dundas. Most lead services were replaced in the West end because of low water pressure. Bill Kennedy is willing to go to Dundas residents' homes to determine if their pipes are lead. Water bottles are available at the Dundas Town Hall for water testing.

Pesticide by-law approved, and will be in effect on September 1st, 2008. Enforcement will not begin immediately. The first year will be about education. The next year, enforcement will begin.

Parents and Tots Skate will be held beginning last Saturday 1pm to 2 pm at the Olympic Arena.

7. Other Issues/Questions:

Frances Neufeld is Dundas' representative on Hamilton's Municipal Heritage Committee. She attended to report on 2 Hatt Street at the request of Community Council. 2 Hatt had been determined to be an endangered Heritage property and has been reallocated to the Heritage Committee's "watched" list. It is not considered unimportant. It has simply been moved from the endangered to the watched list. 2 Hatt Street is loved by not only this community, but beyond.

Bob James asked what protection is available if a building is designated. Clr Powers will bring a chart to the next meeting.

Stan on recycling – Most plastic pots are not recyclable.

Carl Collins – HSR update? Likelihood that the City will be moving ahead to where bus drivers will announce the upcoming stop.

Asked about the abandonment of white stopping lines throughout the city. Clr. Powers responded with the information that the white stopping lines are only used where there is a stop sign or a traffic signal.

Snow plowing on sidewalks – Clr Powers reported that the City still plows City owned properties (i.e. Olser Drive where there are no residential properties).

Maria Antonakos asked about the possibility of a walkway from Livingstone to Queen Street. Clr. Powers assured her that discussions are already underway with staff about this issue.

Witherspoon resurfacing – will it remove one sidewalk for parking. Clr's office will check and report back.

8. Upcoming Meetings/Events

Next meeting Wed, November 21st.

9. Adjournment

Moved by Jeff Saunders, seconded by Bob James.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Russ Powers
Councillor**