

## **Strathcona Centre Community League Meeting Minutes**

**March 14, 2016**

Chair: Ross Goodine

Attendees: Simon Thomas, Dustin Meunier, Jeanie McDonnell, Barry Hickie, Neil Fritz, John Watson, Brenda Reid, Lois Hameister, Amy Wowk.

Guests: Paul Samboryk (City of Edmonton), Eric Gormley and Kristine Kowalchuk (Save the Footbridge and ERUPT), Rocky Fere. (ERUPT)

Regrets: Jeff Samsonow, Colleen Taralson, Kelly Fox, Grant Moore, Ben Tucker, Kelly Binnington, Conrad Nobert

1.0 Call to Order 7:05

2.0 Adoption of Agenda

3.0 Approval of Minutes

3.1 Minutes of February 8, 2016

Motion to adopt minutes: Barry. Seconded by Dustin. Carried.

4.0 Presentations:

4.1 Light Horse Park Update – Stephen Gallard

4.1.1 Stephen presented a history of the project including the naming of the park, proposed monument and upgrade of the site and is looking for a letter of support from the SCCL for the project.

4.1.2 There is currently a small monument from 1967 in the south end of the park. The new scheme relocates this monument and combines it with hard surface landscaping and a new larger monument that is a memorial for everyone lost in conflict. The new area would provide a year-round site for use for events such as Remembrance Day.

4.1.3 Recycled components of the project are donated bricks and paving stones from local demolished projects for reuse.

4.1.4 Concerns of vandalism were discussed. Plans for anti-vandalism coating on monuments to be applied to the new monument.

4.1.5 Stephen mentioned that there is potential to hire youth from YESS to help clean up the site prior to construction.

4.1.6 Project to be built in phases with a construction schedule of 3-4 months. Hoping to be open Spring of 2018 and have a formal opening in June 2018.

4.1.7 Current budget of \$550 000.00. Currently raising money and looking for grants to apply for.

4.1.8 Board to continue discussions next meeting.

#### 4.2 Cloverdale footbridge petition - Eric Gormley and Kristine Kowalchuk

- 4.2.1 Save the Footbridge and ERUPT (Edmontonians for Responsible Urban Public Transit) presented their concerns regarding the Valley Line LRT and are looking for support in the form of a letter from the SCCL.
- 4.2.2 These two groups are concerned that the City has not had an open conversation regarding alternatives and are requesting the project to be put on pause to give time for reasonable alternatives to be studied. Potential alternatives mentioned were exploring Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), and other locations to cross the river.
- 4.2.3 These groups state that there has been no public consultation regarding the use of the footbridge – which is the only pedestrian only footbridge in the downtown area. While there are plans to rebuild a new footbridge hanging under the LRT crossing (similar to the bridge hanging under the LRT by the High Level bridge) there are concerns that the feel of the crossing will be lost. In comparison, the pedestrian bridge by the High Level is strictly a utilitarian bridge to get you from A to B – whereas the current Footbridge has families take photos on it, wedding proposals occur here, and users enjoy the experience of walking across it.
- 4.2.4 Another concern discussed is the project's disregard for the River Valley Bylaw.
- 4.2.5 Kristine suggests that the only way to put this project on pause to ask for a wider discussion is massive public outcry.
- 4.2.6 Support from 5 other community leagues has been given and they are asking for a letter of support from SCCL.
- 4.2.7 Board to continue discussions next meeting.

#### 4.3 ESSO Lot on 99<sup>th</sup> Street – Brenda Reid.

- 4.3.1 Brenda presented information regarding the potential use of the ESSO lot by SCCL as an additional community garden space with raised garden beds.
- 4.3.2 The temporary Ice cream shop is also intending on using the same lot, but there is more than enough room for both uses.
- 4.3.3 Brenda in discussions with Kelly Binnington regarding how she has previously set up the existing Strathcona Community Garden.
- 4.3.4 Concerns and questions regarding water storage/use, materials (soil/wood) donated, and concerns of growing produce in raised beds located on a contaminated site.
- 4.3.5 ESSO to still need access to certain monitoring spots throughout the site. Will need to plan beds accordingly.

#### 4.4 Green Shack Program – Paul Samboryk

- 4.4.1 Motion to amend the agenda to add the Green Shack Program – Paul Samboryk: Lois Seconded. Carried.
- 4.4.2 The City of Edmonton has restructured how the Green Shack program is run. The old model would ask Community Leagues to pay \$4000-\$5000 for the program. The new model asks for \$1000.00 from Community Leagues that will be added to the funding and certain neighbourhoods receive the program based on a rating system.
- 4.4.3 There are two types of program: Green Shack – which operates 5 days a week for July and August, and Pop-Up Play – which operates 2 days a week for July and August. There is an option to purchase the 3 remaining days a week from the city for \$5000, or apply for additional funding from government (Canada Summer Jobs Program- through Federal Government).
- 4.4.4 Strathcona qualifies for the Pop-Up Play program again this year (based on our rating which considers: attendance, socio economic background, attendance rates).
- 4.4.5 Barry motioned to pay \$1000 for Pop-Up Play and apply for Canada Summer Jobs Program. Dustin Seconded. Carried.

#### 5.0 Decision Items:

- 5.1 Green Shack Funding – see above

#### 6.0 Reports:

##### 6.1 Finances

- 6.1.1 Colleen distributed two statements to the Board via email.

##### 6.2 Civics and Planning

- 6.2.1 Items of interest distributed to the Board. No action needed.

##### 6.3 Building and Grounds

- 6.3.1 Quote distributed for retrofit of the rink player's bench.
- 6.3.2 Infrastructure grant to potentially apply for – Small project grant. Grant covers half of the cost of proposed project. Due March 24<sup>th</sup>. Submit next few days if we want a chance.

##### 6.4 Hall Use – no news

##### 6.5 Membership – no news

##### 6.6 Social – no news

##### 6.7 Programs

- 6.7.1 Dustin attended meeting at the Strathcona Library put on by the City of Edmonton. Ideas for new programs were discussed such as Paint Night (put on by Paint Spot) Bike Safety, Urban Poling/Hiking (Jeanie following up with the Poling/hiking idea).

##### 6.8 Community Garden - no news

##### 6.9 Soccer

- 6.9.1 Registration for outdoor soccer recently took place. New this year was online registration.
- 6.9.2 115 kids signed up which is pretty average for this time of year.
- 6.9.3 Teams are set-up in April and the season is May and June.
- 6.10 Neighbourhood Liaison
  - 6.10.1 John met with Paul Samboryk and his City colleagues last week to discuss effects of hosting large festivals in our neighbourhood. . John is concerned that nothing has been put into place to mitigate negative effects for the residents.
  - 6.10.2 Suggestion was made to write a letter to the City to document our concerns and any objections.
- 6.11 Safety
  - 6.11.1 Barry had previously talked to a steel fabricator regarding making lids for the benches to lock up in evenings and off-season.
  - 6.11.2 Barry to coordinate efforts with Ben who has also looked at quotes for alternative measures for increased safety around rink benches.
- 6.12 Green Initiatives
  - 6.12.1 Brenda Reid - see ESSO lot on 99 St. discussion above.

#### 7.0 Old Business

#### 8.0 New Business: –

- 8.1 Volunteer Appreciation - May 7th - Lois & Jeanie are organizing a wine tasting event for all volunteers involved on the Board, any committees, soccer volunteers, etc. Please forward a list of volunteers to Lois & Jeannie to be included on invite distribution.
- 8.2 Crosswalk on 102 street and Whyte Avenue – Ross is concerned about the safety of new crosswalk. Urges those who are also concerned to make complaints to 311, write a letter to Ben Henderson.
  - 8.2.1 Brenda motioned for Ross to write a letter illustrating the Boards safety concerns. Seconded by Lois. Carried.
- 8.3 99<sup>th</sup> Street/Saskatchewan Drive Intersection – Brief discussion about the City's plans for improving the pedestrian/cyclist/vehicular traffic.

#### 9.0 Adjournment: 9:17pm

NEXT BOARD MEETING – Monday April 11, 2016 @ 7:00pm  
Strathcona Community Hall, 10139 87 Avenue