

Strathcona Centre Community League Meeting Minutes

September 12, 2016

Chair: Jeff Samsonow

Attendees: Jeanie McDonnell, Kelly Fox, Dustin Meunier, Barry Hickie, John Watson, Lois Hameister, Paul Samboryk, Ben Tucker, Colleen Taralson, Ross Goodine, Kelly Binnington, Simon Thomas, Amy Wowk

Guests: Kirsten Goa, Ann Hall, Jane Haslett, Ann Matheson, Pamela Young, Howard Lawrence, Helen Gillespie, Mark Anielski

1.0 Call to Order: 7:05

2.0 Adoption of Agenda

2.1 Add Safety to agenda.

3.0 Approval of Minutes of SCCL board meeting of June 13, 2016.

3.1 Clarification of point 5.1.3 and 5.2 from June minutes: Signage is planned for the outside of building - \$1000 for signage flags

3.2 Motion to approve minutes by Lois, seconded by Ben. Carried.

4.0 Presentations

4.1 Ice Rink Maintenance – Lois Hameister

4.1.1 Discussion regarding Contractor to maintain the rink in winter. Past experience with him has been positive and Helen has been pleased with result.

4.1.2 Motion to approve 'Playquest'.

4.1.3 Motion to approve rink maintenance contractor by Lois. Seconded by Barry. Carried.

4.2 Community Recreation Coordinator – Paul Samboryk

4.2.1 Fall in the City booklet passed around containing programs between now and the end of year.

4.2.2 Pop-up Play went very well this summer. Strathcona had the second highest numbers. 9.1 kids/hour and the city wide average is 6.4 kids/hour. The success potentially effects the full program (Green Shack) next year however, we score pretty low in the other categories (based on many factors including socio-economic).

4.2.3 Winter Fun Fest – Running for it's 4th year. The event occurs on December 17. Currently looking for volunteers from Community Leagues to participate in the steering committee.

4.3 Abundant Communities – Pamela Young, Howard Laurence.

4.3.1 Pamela and Howard presented a community initiative called 'Abundant Communities' which is a framework that joins neighbours together and assists in building a community through local residents sharing their skills, abilities and knowledge. Funding is available for the Connector Coordinator position from a federal grant with a quarterly application for the grant. Volunteers called Block Connectors assist in collecting the information from the neighbours.

4.3.2 Currently this program runs in the Highlands neighbourhood and was successfully implemented 3 years ago.

4.3.3 The neighbourhood of Strathcona isn't involved yet, but there are a few locals who are championing it. The Board is receptive to hearing more about it. To be discussed further at the October Meeting.

4.4 Summer Festivals - Kelly Fox and John Watson

4.4.1 Fringe: Overall mixed reviews on hosting the Fringe in our community. The issues that we brought to the Fringe were met with a willingness to improve and address concerns though issues still persisted. Kelly believes that the issue is with the city and dealing with parking and traffic congestion. John/Kelly identified 3 main issues: Road closures and truck traffic through residential streets, relocating the garbage/recycling bins that take up high demand parking stalls, and Fringe-goers lining up outside of the school that then overlaps onto private residences.

4.4.2 New festival coming: Twin and Triplet festival next year. This year there was a parade.

4.4.3 Please bring all concerns to Kelly/John. Perhaps a meeting with the City Counsellor.

5.0 Decision Items

5.1 New Walking (cycling and driving) Map Booklet put out by the City is being updated after 16 years. City is asking our League to split the cost 3 ways (SCCL, the City and a provincial grant). The booklet gets distributed to business associations, libraries, schools and contains historic landmarks, cycling paths, etc. Board discussions resulted in comments suggesting perhaps this is better suited to be an App for

smartphones versus a paper copy and that this isn't a Community League responsibility.

5.2 Ad-hoc Neighbourhood Renewal committee – Conrad Nobert
Neighbourhood renewal is scheduled in Strathcona for 2019 and the City will be coming to us in 2017 to discuss. Proposal to form a proactive Neighbourhood Renewal Committee to get ahead of the neighbourhood renewal process and have suggestions ready for the City. Potential for a Planning student from the U of A to join the Committee.

5.2.1 Motion to form Ad-hoc Neighbourhood Renewal Committee by Jeff. Seconded by Ross. Carried.

5.2.2 Resources mentioned on this topic include: Complete Streets, Engage 106, The Art of Possibility, Happy City, 8 80 Cities.

5.3 Drainage Petition – Karen Link –

Karen discussed combining efforts of neighbours for floor prevention and drainage issues. Discussion regarding separating the storm water from the sewage. Karen is asking for permission to pass notices around and for neighbours to self-identify any issues they may have had. Goal is to take the concerns as a group to Sustainable Development.

Motion to support notices/petition by Ross, Seconded by Barry. Carried.

6.0 Reports:

6.1 Monthly League Finances – Colleen.

6.1.1 Big tickets items: The board has paid for larger items such as: Lights on site, Architects: \$7000 to pay for the schematic drawings. Soccer fees paid. Fees for water usage at Community Garden paid.

6.1.2 Ledger sheets - Fill out paper work with your committee for budget.

6.2 Civics and Planning

6.2.1 South Park Pontiac – Client team meeting with committee sometime this month.

6.2.2 Application for development on 99th street old DV8 site. Site has different owners and there is discussion regarding

commercial interest – though restricted to specific types of businesses.

6.3 Buildings and Grounds – Ben

- 6.3.1 Lights have been upgraded. Ben to follow up on motion-sensor solar-powered light that isn't working.
- 6.3.2 Plumbing upgrade – Hall didn't pass inspection. Urinals in the bathrooms need to be replaced
- 6.3.3 Building Renewal committee meeting on the 21st. More to come.

6.4 Hall Use

- 6.4.1 Impact to Hall from festivals. Looking into signage for our building.

6.5 Membership

- 6.5.1 Will continue to do membership drive.

6.6 Social

- 6.6.1 Recent BBQ was successful, even with bad weather.
- 6.6.2 Pub Night – this Friday. (Brenda organizing workshop to make environmentally-sensitive cleaning products)
- 6.6.3 Pub Night - Next events are Trivia and then scotch tasting.

6.7 Programs - Dustin

- 6.7.1 Dustin to coordinate with Paul on Winterfest.
- 6.7.2 Discussion regarding access to hockey nets. Looking into how Ritchie makes nets more available.
- 6.7.3 Kids/caregivers playgroup. Jeanie to email Dustin information. Suggestion to advertise and put a poster at the playground.

6.8 Community Garden

- 6.8.1 Gardening is winding down. SCCL didn't end up signing contact for ESSO lands.

6.9 Soccer

- 6.9.1 Indoor soccer has started. Winter season is an easier season to organize as 1/3 of the kids that play indoor versus outdoor.

6.10 Green Initiatives

6.10.1 E-waste event coming in November.

6.11 Safety – Barry.

6.11.1 Local police station has been closed as of Sept. 1, 2016.

7.0 Old Business

8.0 New Business

8.1 AGM is scheduled for November 14, 2016

8.2 Food bank drive - This time of year there is an increased need for donations. Please drop off donations at the Hall.

9.0 Adjournment 9:33pm

Next Board Meeting – Monday, October 17, 2016 at 7:00pm
Strathcona Community Hall, 10139 87 Ave