

Hounsfield Heights – Briar Hill Community Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: 14 January 2010
Location: HH-BH Community Hall

Meeting Commenced: 7:05 PM.

1. Opening (Gunter)

- Accept agenda.
- Remove Reforestation from agenda topics.

2. Minutes (Gunter)

- **Motion (14-Jan-10)-1** by Phil to accept the minutes of the December 10, 2009 board meeting. Seconded by Carol. Motion carried.

3. Police Liaison Presentation (Constable Eric Levesque)

- A highlight of the past year is the reduction of incidents at the Banff Trail Motel. The new owners are making an attempt to clean the facility up and are cooperative when issues arise. They are doing their best to discourage transients.
- A criminal element at Motel Village was identified and the number of illegal activities was reduced with improved lighting.
- Constable Levesque did not think the proposed adult playground would increase criminal activity. There is the potential for teenagers to use the playground at night. Not ideal for transients as they'd be looking for a place to sleep.
- Residents are asked to refrain from putting refundable items in their recycling bins. Refundables can be donated to Cubs or VRRRI. Transients use the LRT and will wander around looking for bottles and other refundable items. The majority of individuals that are checked by police do have criminal records (some are in legitimate need of funds but hard to be selective). Individuals have been seen going through the dumpster at Briar Hill Elementary during the daytime; the principal calls the police when she sees this. Gunter will call as well when he sees suspicious activity.
- Some break-ins related to transients staying at Motel Village; the nighttime incidents are more of a concern as residents are more likely to be at home.
- Constable Levesque hasn't heard of any parking concerns. Requests for parking permit areas have to go through the City. All parking at SAIT requires payment and residents are noticing more students parking in the community. Constable Levesque can bring this concern up with the head of security at the mall and can inform students of the parking limit. The area around Green Park on the park side is full of cars as well during the day. **Action item:** Amanda will find out if a parking limit can be established around the park.
- Constable Levesque hasn't heard if there's been a reduction in traffic speed on 19th Street NW with the installation of the bike lane. If there is an issue with speeding in an area short-term enforcement can be implemented to assist with traffic calming. The residential speed limit of 50 km/hr is actually quite fast so the real issue is reducing community speed limits. (Traffic Safety Act states speed limits are 50 km/hour unless posted otherwise).

4. Financial Update

- See attached report.

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- **Motion (14-Jan-10)-02** by Carol to add Linda McKinnon, Secretary, to the list of signatories. Seconded by Gunter. Motion carried.
- **Motion (14-Jan-10)-03** by Gunter to authorize 2 of the 4 signing officers to purchase GIC's. Seconded by Carol. Motion carried.

5. Committee Updates

a) *Land Use*

- No report.

b) *Traffic Calming (Kellie)*

- **Action item:** Denny will place another request for feedback on traffic issues from the community in the February Beacon and have a full report to present at February's meeting.

c) *Programs (Carol)*

- See report.
- Margaret assisted Norma with the grant application for the adult playground. The proposed site is adjacent to the community association facility.
- Some of the feedback on the Green Park site had concerns about the equipment taking up green space. 60% approval was needed for the Green Park site but Norma wanted an approval rate even higher than that. Norma is not comfortable promoting it if there is a possibility of more transients coming into the area. Mara heard from parents at the school who thought having it at Green Park was a great idea but residents living adjacent to the park have parking concerns.
- The community could be asked for their input on potential sites. There won't be an issue of outsiders using the equipment once more adult playgrounds are established in Calgary, and as its primary use is for community residents parking wouldn't be as much of an issue. If it's in Green Park more community residents will probably use it; the CA site is more open and therefore more outsiders will see it and use it. If at Green Park parents could work out while their children play; more seniors might use it as it is more centrally located.
- A first phase could be established at the CA and depending on its success a second phase could be built at Green Park. Final decision won't be reached until the grant is received. The equipment supplier may provide a slight reduction in equipment cost to showcase the first adult playground in Calgary. No notice will be placed in the Beacon until grant approval received.

d) *Facilities (Phil and Gunter)*

- See report.
- **Action item:** Phil will apply for the CCG when David returns so he can sign off on it.

e) *Strategic Planning*

- No report.
- Currently the fire department is using the vacant space. There are infrastructure issues with boilers in the room.

f) *Communications (Linda)*

- See report.

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- Questions about who will monitor the Wiki postings? The goal is to create a place for the community to post comments and items of community interest. The community decides what should be posted and it grows on its own. Only comments can be posted without the administrative password. It would be ideal for a resident to administer. It needs to be populated with information and a request is going into the Beacon for someone to administer it. Items like soccer registration would be separate.
- If we don't populate it and do something with it ourselves it might be a wasted resource. Initially some Beacon articles can be posted with the hope they might generate more interest on the Wiki. It will require populating and a push from the board to get it going. Who will be doing this? **Action item:** Linda will email information on how to log out of the Wiki site. Barb will place a notice in the Beacon notifying the community of the Wiki launch and the need for a moderator.
- Comments can be previewed by the administrator so offensive material is not posted.
- Re online payment options: Playschool registrations, memberships, facility rentals and community program registrations could all be paid with credit cards. In person registration would still be needed for programs such as playschool where demand exceeds space but credit payments could be accepted. **Action item:** Gunter will talk with Terry K. about the service provider he has been communicating with in getting online program registration started.

g) *Memberships (Linda)*

- See report.
- Membership fees would have to increase to reflect bank charges for credit cards fees.
- Can send out a reminder to all member emails that membership renewals are due at the end of March.

h) *Education (Mara)*

- See report.
- The education banner to be posted on Crowchild Trail will have the new community website (www.hh-bh.ca) on it.

i) *Sears Plume (Phil)*

- See report.
- The project will probably go on for a number of years.

j) *History Book (Linda)*

- See report.
- Still looking for an illustrator for the material.

6. City Update (Amanda)

- Amanda noted a CCG workshop will be held but there is no need for anyone from the CA to attend this cycle.
- Park 'N Play costs are going up. This year's event will be held July 5-9, 2010 (different week from West Hillhurst). The fee will be \$850 (vs \$600 last year). Should start advertising it in the Beacon now. **Action item:** Kelly will drop the ad information off at Barb's place.

7. Old Business

Last Month's Action Items:

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Action item: Linda to contact Sharon Trottier to see if she needs assistance with the community sign project. A decision needs to be made if the two sign projects will go ahead; ideally a community welcome sign and a separate community information sign sharing space with the library sign. The rock style was the most popular for the community welcome sign but Sharon will need funds to get the design work and permits done. Mara can ask Trish Lovstrom for a quote to provide the design service. Linda will pass on the facilitator information to Sharon and tell her we will find her a designer. It would be nice to have feedback for February's meeting. Mara will contact the librarian about touring the new space in February. **COMMUNITY SIGN DISCUSSION TO BE INCLUDED IN NEXT MONTH'S AGENDA.**

Action item: Norm to initiate the process to have the community association take over the space previously occupied by the community police office. **CARRY FORWARD.**

Action item: Notice in Beacon for an illustrator and forward details to Terry Woods. **DONE**

Action item: Parks will come and have a look at the field to see about erecting a "No Dogs" sign. **DONE.** **Amanda will initiate installation of "Be A Responsible Dog Owner" signs.**

Action item: Acquire all letters for HHBH files (for grant application for adult playground) **DONE**

Action item: David asked Norma to seek an opinion from Constable Eric Levesque and return with answer at next meeting **DONE**

Action item: David asked Norma to look at all alternative sites. **DONE**

Action item: David asked Norma to confirm that the requirement for the grant funding just requires the base plan without details so we have enough to proceed. **DONE**

Action item: Linda to send out pictures of signs again for review. **DONE**

Action item: Mara asked that a link for the playschool fund raiser and the new playschool website be placed on the HHBH (www.hh-bh.ca)web page. **DONE**

8. New Business

- No new business.

Motion (14-Jan-10)-4 by Gunter to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 9:12 PM.

Upcoming events:

February 11 – Next Board Meeting

February 24 – Playschool Open House (at Playschool)

February 24 – Spring Soccer Registration (at Gym)

February 25 – Playschool Registration – Alumni and HHBH Residents (at Gym)

March 4 – Playschool Registration – General (at Gym)

March 11 – Board Meeting

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When signed these minutes are considered to be an accurate reflection of the meeting they represent.

Date: _____

Signatures: _____
President *Print Name*

_____ *Secretary* *Print Name*