

**Strathcona Community Council
Executive Meeting
Victoria Park Fieldhouse
June 19, 2023**

Minutes

Present:

Chris Erl (President and Chair), Michael-Allan Marion (Secretary), Jen Dawson, Barb Williams, Rosemary Baptista, Jason Morse, Brian Hovsepian, Dominic Sorbara.

Regrets:

Ian Borsuk (Vice-President), Denise Minardi (Treasurer).

Others:

Terry MacDougall, SCC Member at Large.

Guests:

Stephanie Hilson (Community Engagement and Strategic Initiatives Co-ordinator), and Hamilton Police Sgt. Asim Butt.

1. Greeting and Land Acknowledgement:

The Chair read the following acknowledgement:

We take this time to recognize that Strathcona is situated upon the traditional territory of the Erie, Neutral, Huron-Wendat, Mississauga, and Haudenosaunee. This land is shared between the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the Anishinaabe nations as acknowledged in the Dish with One Spoon Wampum belt. That wampum uses the symbolism of a dish to represent the territory, and the one spoon to represent that the people are to share the resources of the land and take only what they need.

2. Call to Order: Meeting called to Order at 7:15 pm.

3. Agenda:

Motion: Moved by Barb W., seconded by Jen D., that the agenda of the May 15, 2023 SCC Executive meeting be approved.

Carried.

4. Adopting Minutes:

Motion: Moved by Michael-Allan M., seconded by Jason M., that the Minutes of the May 15, 2023 SCC Executive meeting be approved.

Carried.

5. Updates from Ward 1 Councillor:

Councillor Wilson could not be present for the meeting due to a previous commitment, but Stephanie Hilson, Community Engagement and Strategic Initiatives Co-ordinator, delivered an update in her stead.

She discussed the following:

A) Public Meetings -- She announced two public meetings, one held that day, and another on June 27 at City Hall. The topic is about in-camera protocol.

B) Spray Pad and Shelter – She said construction has been put back because some Indigenous and other artefacts have been discovered on the site of an archeological dig. A Six Nations representative is coming to watch and witness progress on the dig.

C) Signage in Victoria Park – Coun. Maureen Wilson has moved a motion to install signage meant for kids, to create more inclusiveness.

D) Washroom construction at Victoria Park – It is expected to start in the fall.

E) Pollinator Week – Setting up a pollinator park at Ray and Pearl streets.

6. Updates from HPS Crime Manager Sgt. Asim Butt:

Sgt. Butt presented a statistical report on crime statistics in , year to date. They included the following crime groups:

-- Auto Theft – 3

-- Break and Enter – 22

-- Robberies – 0

-- Theft from Auto – 53

-- Theft over \$5,000 – 1

Total occurrences: 79

7. President's Report:

Chris E. reported on the following matters:

A) Mailing List – We are getting more members. The monthly email list is now growing. “We seem to be having a lot of uptake,” he said.

B) The Wall – He said Choice Properties, which manages Dundurn Plaza, no longer seems co-operative in discussions about the problems of homelessness at that intersection wall in the plaza, nor willing to participate in solutions. He has circulated to executive a letter about the problem. “We need to put pressure on the federal and provincial governments to put money on the table for housing,” he said. He wants to send a letter to all area MPs and MPPs about the matter.

C) Vacant houses on Dundurn and Head streets – “We have to acknowledge that Shopper’s has been a bad neighbour,” he said, of the problem of two boarded up and deteriorating houses on Dundurn and six on Head. He referenced a letter from SCC sent two years ago with no real response. He wants the SCC to take up a petition to demonstrate public support for action, and perhaps a public meeting. He said Shopper’s needs to be shown the extent of its neighbours’ anger. “We all know what they are like. It has been 16 years now.”

Jen D. agreed with the need for a petition to gauge the degree of public feeling.

Motion: Moved by Chris E., seconded by Barb W., that the President’s Report be approved.

Carried.

8. Treasurer’s Report:

Chris E. delivered the Treasurer’s Report for Denise M. who could not attend the meeting. He said the new bank account at First Ontario Credit Union, Dundurn Plaza branch is fully operational. It has an opening balance of \$1,285.30.

He also reported that the SCC will soon receive a cheque for the Seed and Green program.

Motion: Moved by Chris E., seconded by Jason M. , that the Treasurer’s Report be approved.

Carried.

9. Committee Reports:

Governance – have not met yet.

Events – Chair Michael-Allan M. said a meeting will be called for July 12 to plan Screen on the Green and other possible events.

Policy and Advocacy – A meeting will be scheduled early in July.

Communications – Barb. W. said the committee is working on a new website. The first step is to subscribe to Square Space.

Motion: Moved by Barb W., seconded by Brian H. that the Committee Reports be approved.

Carried.

10. Business:

Motion: Moved by Barb W., seconded by Michael-Allan M., that the SCC subscribe to Square Space at the rate of \$16.00 plus tax per hour for 12 months, to an upset limit of \$300.00 per year, and that files be moved to the new space.

Carried.

11. Time of next Meeting: The next meeting will be on Sept. 18, 2023 at 7 pm.

12. Adjournment:

Motion: Moved by Rosemary B., seconded by Jen. D., that the meeting be adjourned.

Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.