

**West Lansing Homeowners Association
Minutes
14 June 2011**

Attendance: Wendy Wright, Mike Capotosto, Dimos Zarkadas, Kevin Beattie, James Beeksma, Kathy Leeder
Regrets: Cathy Cronin
Recorder: Kathy Leeder

Bring Forward - Review Items from May 2011 Minutes

Crime Prevention - At this time we have no crime prevention liaison.

Board Member Profiles. Kevin reminded everyone that he would like to have profiles of directors for posting on the website. – All

Ravine Cleanup – The ravine has been cleaned up. A thank you letter was sent by a neighbour in appreciation.

The letter to the Mayor regarding the other West Lansing Association is half drafted and will be completed shortly. – Kevin

Bring Forward – Review Items for September 2011 Meeting

Board Member Profiles - All
Letter to the Mayor – Kevin
Membership Transition - Wendy

ADMINISTRATION

1. Minutes from May 2011 meeting were approved.

2. Membership & Financials

We discussed the need to hand off membership information. The discussion included the transition of the PayPal transactions as well as the update of the membership list.

Kathy is to send membership list she was given in May to Board members. Wendy will follow up with Karen regarding the transition of PayPal information and process. Wendy to provide Kevin with the email addresses of any new members so that a current list will be available for the Canada Day picnic. Wendy and Kathy to staff the membership table for the picnic.

UPDATES

1. Development

1. St. Edwards/1 Botham Crescent

The school will be called St. Edwards Catholic School. The target date for enrolment is now September 2013. Site plan approval is still pending.

2. Sheppard West Strategy

The Sheppard West Secondary Plan is badly out of date and no longer an effective or meaningful guide as to what adjacent neighbourhoods can expect to be built. Previous 2 storey height limits aren't in keeping with the City's current thinking nor with the Provincial Policy Statement's very loose notion that intensification is good, which routinely influences OMB decisions. Each application for site specific amendment to the Official Plan become precedent setting. We recently saw an applicant at 275 Sheppard Ave W receive approval to build 4 storey commercial and we continue to participate in consultation concerning the 258 Sheppard Ave W application for 5 storeys with ground floor retail and residential use on floors 2-5. The proposed land use change would no doubt have a big impact on area traffic.

At the same time, there is interest from land speculators and developers in seeing the Sheppard Ave West Secondary Plan's boundaries extended into our neighbourhood on the south and a similar neighbourhood on the north. Combining lots on the north side of Bogert Ave with the relatively shallow lots on Sheppard would allow them to build much higher buildings, potentially over 20 storeys. Bogert would become a service road. Bogert and Poyntz could be rezoned for greater intensity residential use to transition from Sheppard's high rise to the existing neighbourhood. It's safe to say the character of West Lansing would be significantly changed. One can argue this might be good or bad.

3. Build TO – Yonge & York Mills – Kevin

TTC was planning to build their head office at the north west corner of Yonge and York Mills. The TTC is not going build there. Build Toronto has another client that would like to build. They are looking for 7 stories when 6 are allowed. Commuter parking will be affected.

4. Planning and Growth Management Committee

Councillor John Fillion was not reappointed to the committee. A member of our community was very unhappy and has since written to the mayor and the press expressing concern over not including the city councilor of a designated growth area.

2. Traffic

1. The Police have promised our neighbourhood a no speeding sign that will highlight speeding in our community. The police will be getting the sign from the city. The sign will most likely be put on Florence. The WLHA will be advised as to when and where the sign will be located.
2. Additionally, the police offered more presence in the neighbourhood covering turn restrictions and stop signs. Feedback from their previous surveillance was that very few violations were seen.

3. Beautification

1. Miscellaneous Follow Up Items

Work is still needed on plans for the walkway between Franklin and Walker

Work on the Gwendolen Park ravine entrance will be done after the Canada Day celebrations.

2. Tree Cutting – 50 Gwendolen Crescent

Trees were chain sawed in the back yard of this property. Permits were administered to remove saplings. The city will look into the situation as this is protected conservation land.

4. FoNTRA- City Issues

1. OMB & Planning Act Reform

FoNTRA has decided to express their concerns on the OMB in writing to the 3 Provincial party leaders. Kevin will investigate other groups that may be willing to take greater action.

2. Committee of Adjustment Review

FoNTRA wrote the City regarding the need for C of A changes and provide recommendations. Still waiting for a reply.

3. Zoning Bi-Law (ZBL) Repeal

FoNTRA and Filion lobbied (separately) to have the ZBL stay in place and reworked rather than repealed. Not clear how the city is going to handle their consultation going forward.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

1. Canada Day Picnic – Mike

The Board agreed to the cost of printing black and white flyers. The only changes to the flyer would be to indicate the cost of registering on the website. Board members will be distributing flyers throughout the neighbourhood.

All other details are organized and under control.

2. Police Services

June is the worst time for teenage parties. There have been complaints from neighbours in the Gwendolen Park area. Some neighbours were so concerned that they have discussed hiring private security to provide support in the park. After promising 100 additional police officers during his election campaign, Ford is asking Police Service to prepare for potentially significant budget cuts (ie fewer cops) as part of the City Services review to plug the \$774M operating budget deficit he created but cutting taxes. WLHA may wish to take a formal advocacy position to object to Police Service budget cuts.

Meeting ended at 9:00pm