

**Donovan/Elm West Community Action Network
Meeting #4
October 25, 2007, 7:00 P.M.
Croatian Centre (Lower Hall)**

Welcome by Co-chairs Irene Larocque and Don Brisebois and recording Secretary Lori Wall.

Introduction of guest speaker Velia Serafini, By-Law Enforcement Officer

She outlined her duties as by-law officer which is addressing concerns regarding property that need to be cleaned up and are unsafe to the community. These complaints can be addressed by calling 311 and asking for By-law department or Velia Serafini.

Process:

- By-law Dept. assess concerns
- Contacts owner / discusses with owner and gives time frame for minor infractions which can be within two weeks; larger infractions can take up to a year.
- Dept. does not condemn buildings yet will issue unsafe orders when necessary
- Complainer will be kept informed by the Dept.

BY-LAWS:

Zoning was discussed and an explanation was given between industrial, commercial and residential zoning by-laws

Commercial properties are not under City By-Laws thus City cannot act on it.

Noise By-Laws are still operating under old ones due to amalgamation

Sign By-Laws in final drafting. Presently, the billboards owners are only responsible to keep the structure clean and safe. There is no By-Law on the upkeep of the advertising on the billboard.

Garbage By-Laws: there is no regular crews for loose garbage. City only provides road crews. Spring and Summer students are hired to help the crews maintain the garbage situation.

Burn By-Laws: chimenea and responsible camp fires are allowed between 1/2 an hour before sunset and 1/2 an hour before sundown. The fire should be 10 feet from any structure and fire pits should have a grit to control sparks.

Concerns were raised regarding pollution of air from garage wood stoves where owner is not necessarily burning clean wood. Fumes from small back yard mechanics and body shops was also a concern. It was stated by Velia that Burn By-Law does not apply to wood burning stoves in garages or homes. It was noted that even if you do everything according to by-law, and smoke is a nuisance for your neighbour, you may be asked to relocate fire pit or put it out.

Councillor Dutrisac has formed a committee on revision and amalgamation of Burn By-Laws. 4 to 6 meetings will be held across the Greater City of Sudbury to see who is for or against open fires and what area they should be allowed. The recommendations will be brought back to Council in January 2008 where the public will be invited to state their concerns. Citizens will be notified of the meeting in their individual wards. Councillor Dutrisac stated that by March 31, 2008, new By-Laws will be in place.

It was noted that working on amalgamating the By-Laws for Greater Sudbury is a long and tough job.

VACANT PROPERTIES:

City is responsible to cut grass on City owned lots only if a building is on it.
City is responsible for maintaining laneways.

CONCERNS:

- Dave Chirko was concerned with illegal dumping and long grass and lack of maintenance in the Nolin Creek area. By-Law officer stated she would look into this matter. Also, Waste Management should be contacted if you have any concerns about garbage and large appliances.
- Diane K. expressed concerns regarding the children playing in Nolin Creek at the intersection of Landsdowne and Frood. Concerns were also mentioned about a missing fence which is a hazard for the children. Safety issues were discussed. By-Law officer's response was that the Nolin Creek is the responsibility of the Nickel District Conservation Society.
- Jim Ilnitski spoke of garnaen baskets be put to eliminate erosion or structural damage. Suggestion from a member to prevent erosion vegetation, grass and shrubs are more economical and will not wash away.
- Don Brisebois was concerned regarding the rusting of the foot bridge on Eva Street and asked if the City could maintain it. Because the foot bridge belongs to C.P. the City has no jurisdiction in this matter. The battle of responsibilities keeps going on between the City and C.P.
- Lucy Q. brought concerns regarding the International Hotel backyard. By-Law officer stated that they were working with the owner. Fencing is going up to contain the area and he does have a building permit.
- Diane K. expressed concerned regarding the old Campbell-Chev. property that pavement and cement is dumped on the sidewalk. By-Law officer stated she would look into it and City would be picking it up.
- Councillor Dutrisac is working with Velia to revise the old Commercial By-Laws to adapt to the present codes.
- Velia left calling cards and will take complaints personally respecting the Privacy Act.

Councillor Dutrisac thanked Velia for the good work she has been doing in the Donovan Elm-West area.

Councillor Dutrisac introduced Constable Darren Heffern from the Problem Solving Unit and Community Response Unit.

Current problems in the area were discussed and updates on safety issues were addressed. Constable Heffern encouraged citizens to call in any threatening safety situations. The police presence has increased in the area. The new deputy chief has initiated a HEAT team squad (24 members) who will be addressing issues with drug and prostitution problems in the area.

Councillor Dutrisac thanked Const. Heffern for his time and his update of the area.

Councillor Dutrisac stated that the COP program is being organized and 15 people are needed before it can be implemented. At present only 3 people have shown interest.

Racing Against Drug Committee was briefly discussed by Councillor Dutrisac which involves working with students of Grades 5 & 6.

Buddy Police Program was asked to be reviewed.

CAN voting list will be revised and distributed at the next meeting. Copies of previous minutes will be available at next meeting to read and update members. Clarification of CAN voting list needs to be addressed at the next meeting.

The minutes of September 27, 2007 were accepted but not received by all present.

Don Brisebois brought concerns regarding snow removal on Jean and Eva. When problems occur call 665-2343 or 311.

The vacant lot corner of Burton and Kathleen has been cleaned by new owners.

Update on billboards on Kathleen. Councillor Dutrisac and Irene Larocque met with Mr. Squarebriggs and no commitment at this time was given by him. Through his company he has offered the billboards for \$300.00 each plus installation fees and core plastic \$150.00 plus one free billboard at a total cost of \$750.00. Other companies will charge from \$1000 to \$1200 per billboard per month. C.I.P. funds are available for the cost of the billboards

A vote was taken regarding issues of the billboards. A Yes vote was carried 4 to 3. No money will be spent until all the information is complete and is satisfactory to the committee.

Slogans for the billboard will be dealt with at next meeting. Members were encouraged to read the slogans and participate in the suggestions.

Directory update: Beginning of November, the directory will be complete and distributed appropriately.

NEW BUSINESS:

Membership: Names and addresses and phone numbers will be available at next meeting. Lori W. will be working with Jeff Pafford to update current list.

EDUCATION:

On October 26, Councillor Dutrisac and CAN members will be giving a presentation at St. David's school. Report to be given at next general meeting. Councillor Dutrisac informed the members that shrubs and a tree were planted in the sandbox at St. David's as animals were using it for a litter box and it was not healthy for the students.

DONATIONS: nothing to report

Lori W. and Jim I. will be drafting a letter to introduce the CAN program to the local businesses, ethnic groups and churches in the Donovan Elm-West area and invite them to participate in our meetings.

ENTERTAINMENT: Happy Hallowe'en

Mark Rastin informed the group that a Haunted House will be happening at Elm-West playground on Friday, 26 October 6 P.M. to 8 P.M. All are welcome. Cost \$1.00 or one non-perishable item. The latter will be given to the Food Bank and the monetary portion will be used for park activities.

FINAL COMMENTS:

Councillor Dutrisac thanked all the community members for their involvement in working with her, sharing their knowledge, and getting involved in different committees. **She emphasized that positive attitudes get the work done more efficiently and harmoniously.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 P.M. Next meeting November 29, Croation Hall 7:00 P.M.

CAN Presentation at St. David's School

October 26, 2007

9:A.M. - 11:30

Attendance: Councillor Evelyn Dutrisac, Don Brisebois, Irene Larocque, Diana Mulcahey, Lucette Langlois, Michael Joblonski, Lori Wall.

Councillor Evelyn Dutrisac introduced the CAN Committee to the students and the staff.

Councillor Evelyn Dutrisac networked with the students with regards to

- what is a community
- who belongs to our community, i.e. fire, police, paramedic departments. Also noted that teachers, army are also part of the community.

Responsibility of a community:

- keep community clean and safe to live in

Skit was well received by the staff and the students. It included the three R's :

Re-use

Reduce

Re-cycle

The skit emphasized to take pride in your neighbourhood one small step at a time. Students were already active in the re-cycle program and recognized the importance of the three R's.

At the end of each presentation, individually packaged dessert (school friendly) along with juice was distributed to each group. These 3-groups consisted of students from Kindergarden to Grade 8

CAN plans to meet in the future regarding the needs and wants of the students of St. David.

In November, CAN Committee will be meeting with the students at Landsdowne school to network and listen to their needs.