

# Feb 27 2008

## COMMUNICATION PILLAR

Developing better communication. E-mail- face book and newsletters. We can do better. We need a newspaper. Melinda Mott asked what happened to the CANs newsletter. Taylor said the city didn't print it. They felt it was too adversarial and controversial and it is likely the reason that they're making changes with the regulations for the Association of Community Action Network.

A resident of Cartier said they have their own Carnival, and newsletter. They have their own library. They do everything on their own. One week it is yellow paper the next weeks orange. They made money on their spaghetti supper. They have their own committee doing it. It's a small community how come this big area cannot do it. Taylor said the differences there are 1600 copies to make and the postage on top. It is too expensive. It would cost \$500 per week.

Councillor Claude Berthiaume said the newsletter was too long. And they want it to report just on projects completed. Some suggested having a webpage. The problem is seniors don't have computers. Maybe both was one suggestion. The city is still willing to do three newsletters per year but four pages only. If the newsletter is being done by the city staff then they're going to edit it. Taylor said they don't want to know that 3rd Ave was a muck up. Councillor Claude said he saw all beforehand and had no objections.

Taylor said they would need permission from the city to put up the blue boxes deliver newsletters free and eliminate the cost of postage. Others suggested putting it in the stores and people pay \$.50 each. Taylor said runs a newspaper or a living over the Internet with his son in his former home in Alberta but there are not enough businesses to advertise locally and pay for a newspaper here.

In Cartier they are available free at the liquor store, churches, teen centers. Sometimes more than one page in size.

Councillor Claude Berthiaume suggested they try one more with the city. Others suggested that if they couldn't have letters to the editor published in it and then would not be worth it.

Many of the meeting reminisced over the old Onaping Falls newspaper and how useful it was.

Taylor said it cost \$500 per week to produce an eight tabloid page newspaper on newsprint. A newsletter is possible but the city has given us nothing, they dropped from \$5,000 to \$1200 a year. Why do anything now for the city.

Others suggested they cut the losses and former ratepayers group. Taylor said no they should stick with the Community Action Network and the city and try to get something done. At some stage we may need to do an independent newspaper. Other suggestions would be simply e-mail it to people. And produce a small number of copies for the stores and the post office. Someone asked whether the city's library photocopier to be used. The city has only offered 50 copies per month to the Community Action Network. Taylor said the city has a \$500 million budget and yet they expect volunteers to work with peanuts. The next meeting March 27 at the Onaping Falls Community Center..