

Wednesday, February 16th, 2010
7:00 p.m.
Council Chambers, Dundas Town Hall

The Dundas Community Council met.

There were Present: Russ Powers, Councillor
Larry Button
Bob James
Bill Kennedy, Environment
Phyllis Kraemer, Business
Jeff Gowland
Stan Nowak, Heritage
Keith Sharp, Sports & Recreation
Bonnie Szaz
Libby Toewes, Art & Culture

Regrets: Jessica Brennan
David Sweet, MP

Absent:

Also Present: Craig Campbell, Dundas Star News
Arlene VanderBeek, Councillor's Office
Doug Gordon, Dundas Resident
Carl Collins, Dundas Resident
Roger Luton
Bob ?

1. Remarks from the MP, MPP, School Trustees - None

2. Previous Meeting Report

The report from the November 24th, 2010 meeting was received as distributed and was moved by Keith Sharp seconded by Larry Button to accept the minutes, as presented. Carried.

3 Presentations and Discussions

- Hamilton Health Sciences – Urgent Care Facility and Closure of the ER
- Murray Martin, President of Hamilton Health Sciences and Jeff Vallentin, V-P Communications

- Process began in January 2008 when they came to the community to advise of the pending re-alignment of programs at each of the HHSC sites. 6 Hospitals and a Cancer Centre. Healthcare is changing dramatically – the most significant of which is that technology allows better outcomes. In the past trauma patients (car accidents, etc.) likelihood of survival increases dramatically if they can get to a trauma centre within 30 minutes – not necessarily the closest place, but where is the place of best care.
- Trauma, stroke or heart attack patients will go to the General Hospital where they will get definitive care and produce the best results.
- This type of care can really only be available at one place – where very skilled people and higher technology are available and on-hand 24 hours a day.
- Cancer care outcomes are best produced at a specialized Cancer Centre with treatments and specialists and surgeries available in one place.
- Moving toward implementing a process by which each hospital will have a special role: MUMC - Pediatric and high risk obstetrics as well as general service.
- MUMC is a Children's Hospital but there is no dedicated pediatric emergency care in the City.
- Access to Best Care (ABC) changes will take effect on April 4, 2011.
- 40% of patients come from outside of Hamilton
- We were the last remaining cities (other than Quebec City) that did not have a dedicated pediatric emergency care facility.
- Population is aging and seniors today have co-morbidity (more than one disease). Previous generations did not live long enough to get multiple diseases (average male lives to 84 as opposed to 64). So, although the sites are specialized, each site must also have a general medical programming. Common diseases are heart attack, strokes and cancer in seniors.
- Some changes have already happened: Rehabilitation used to be at the Chedoke site. Most patients came from the General site. New building at Hamilton General opened in 2009 and the rehabilitation centre is now located there, where testing facilities and general care facilities are on-site.
- Stroke patients programme at Hamilton General site is the largest in Ontario, which has allowed them to recruit top specialists.
- This summer when they opened the new building at Juravinski hospital, it allowed them to deliver better programs.
- Most significant more will happen on April 3. Children's Hospital and Women's health program (obstetrics) will remain at McMaster and out-patient and ambulatory services will remain, but not in-patient services for adults.
- The McMaster Emergency Dept will then be dedicated to children.
- On the same day the new Urgent Care Centre will open. About 80% of the adults who currently use the McMaster Emergency Dept will be able to get the same care at the Urgent Care Centre.
- An Urgent Care Centre can function in a way that people can get more immediate care. The type of patient care that would have previously bumped patients won't be at the Urgent Care Centre.

- People do not have to self-diagnose. They will get patients to the correct location. People should call 911 to go to the hospital in an emergency. If someone arrives at McMaster, they would be brought in and stabilized and then transferred to the appropriate site.
- Hamilton HSc has received 6 million dollars to replace and update facilities and equipment.
- Prior to the change, they had difficulty in recruiting specialized pediatric physicians – had one – now have eight.. Has allowed them to provide a much higher level of care.
- Urgent Care Centre will be open 7 days a week, from 8 am to 10 pm and will service walk-in patients of all ages and will be staffed by specially trained physicians and nurses. It will be equipped to perform diagnostic tests such as x-rays and ultrasounds.
- The difference between Urgent Care and Walk in Clinics is that the clinics cannot do diagnostic work.
- People on plans with their doctors will be able to go there and the doctor will not be demerited.
- The Hamilton General will have a new emergency department which will open in 2012.
- St. Peter's Hospital has become part of Hamilton Health Sciences

Questions:

- Bill Kennedy: Is McMaster the main maternity hospital.
- Murray: St. Josephs has an obstetrical department, but McMaster handles the high risk cases – intensive care unit is right on the obstetrical department and now have 2 new physicians trained in

- Stan – adult beds for obstetrical patients? Murray – yes
- Stan – burn victims at McMaster University – would they have to go to the General? Murray – yes, because the General has the best care for burns (and has for many years) Husk has very good information on who uses the MUMC facility. Most of those patients would be better served by going to the Urgent Care Centre.

- Larry -- Any mechanism for reporting back to the community so they know that you are on target, you've exceeded expectations so there is some partnership with the community?
- Murray – The whole issue of transparency is important to the current Provincial Government and
- Clr. Powers will invite Jeff and Murray back in June of 2012 to report on the successes or failures of the new system.

- Bob James – not sold on the changes. Feels that we are losing our pediatric patient bases and increasing our seniors patient base. LHINs should be deciding

- this and looking after our health base and would hope that you would not only provide on a web site, but that the LHIN will take the initiative to direct you in future. Worried that seniors are not going to be able to get the quality of care that they used to get.
- Murray – One of the challenges on the operational side, if you look at buildings, Hamilton has enough, but very difficult to deliver care to all at all sites. That requires, when trying to provide 24 hr care, the need for too many people to service all things in all places. Staff are being paid to be on call when they are not always called. Now they will be on call 1 in 8 days or 1 in 10 days, not 1 in 3, as it is now. The world has changed and it is becoming more and more challenging to provide care.
 - Bob – not always true that bigger is better.
 - Bonnie – concerned about seniors and the time to get them to care on time.
 - Murray – Crucial times for treatments: Trauma (one hour), Stroke (4.5 hours) and Cardiac (90 minutes).
 - Larry – what about getting paramedics out of the ER?
 - Murray – money received to pay specialized nurses to take over the care of paramedics in the ER
 - Jeff – Talk about emergency and urgent cares for children. No mention of same-day surgeries and out-patient care? Promotion of these things might alleviate some of the public fears.
 - Jeff V – Research has shown that there is little understanding of how the hospitals are different in the City. Outside of children's and women's programming, we are excited about the continuation at the McMaster site of out-patient care and operating rooms.
 - Libby -- Had no idea that there would still be ambulatory care available at McMaster. It needs to be promoted – that information is very reassuring.
 - Murray – Working on a model for ambulatory care and will continue to be available at the McMaster site. 4 operating rooms will offer same-day surgery (likely general and orthopedic surgeries).
 - Phyllis – Everyone worked hard to build that hospital and many people who live in Dundas moved here to be near McMaster. \$42 one-way to Stoney Creek facility and 1 hour and 40 minutes on a bus. Serious problems – transportation is an issue. How are focus groups selected.
 - Randomly, through the phone book.

- Jeff V – Part of the challenge in getting the message out is that it's a long story to tell and can get confusing. In six weeks time they are going to convert the emergency facilities in the community to something different.

Have been out in the community talking about the developments and celebrating the capital redevelopments, as they have happened.

Between now and April 4th, you will see advertising, television, billboard and bus shelter advertising space to promote the new changes. Brochures will go out through the schools, mailings, etc. and will focus on the changes to emergency care and urgent care.

Councilor Powers suggested that they provide brochures to each of the Municipal Service Centres in time for tax due date on February 28th, 2011.

Jeff Gowland suggested that the brochures should reference the things that are going to continue.

- Carl Collins – If I take an ambulance to Urgent Care and then have to go to the General, will I be billed twice.
- Jeff V – Ambulance won't take you to the Urgent Care Centre, they will take you directly to the appropriate ER site.

4. Updates on Items from Previous Report

- a) Updates on proposed and on-going Dundas projects
- Newcombe Drive/ Davidson Drive development – completed
 - 1000 Creekside is completed and fully occupied
 - Marimat Homes – 19 SFD on University Gardens school site is completed and fully occupied. The parkette is grassed and in two years the playground will be installed.
 - Schuett Homes – former Pleasant Valley School site – 9 SFD and 17 linked homes. A few left to finish and then grading.
 - 17-1/2 Park St. East (Chicken Coops) – 4 of 5 units are occupied
 - 397 King St. W. (District School) – Approvals are in place for 43 Condo Units
 - 23-25 King St. East (former Good Times Fishing Club) – demo complete and waiting for better weather - Commercial on first floor with residential above and 2 storey in back
 - 16 King St. East (Dairy Queen) has submitted initial plans, but nothing formal
 - 133-157 King St. West is the Shopper's Drug Mart – complete and open for business
 - 24 Brock St. West – heard that the proponent is proposing revisions
 - 10 Bond St. North – No formal application yet.
 - 2555 Creekside Drive – Open space – application submitted for a 9 storey, 120-150 units and have asked staff to hold off the process for application changes to reduce the height and number of units – nothing further yet.

- 104 King St. West – former Post Office. Permits are in-hand and work is underway.
- 1 Lyndale Ave – Dundas Living Centre – 32 living units is approved and they are fundraising
- Delsey Street subdivision – 15 units is underway
- St. Joseph's Estates OMB – Larry reported that he has been at most days of hearings. It may be over this week, but may require an additional day in March. Testimonies are almost finished and cross-examinations have taken place. Participants have been heard.

5. Correspondence - None

6. Information/Discussion Items:

- a) Self-Introductions by Members
- b) 2011 Meeting schedule – Motion to approve the scheduled as amended by Jeff Gowland and seconded by Libby Toewes: June 14th and November 15th, 2011.
- c) Bus Pilot Project: Dundas residents living near Route 52A were surveyed (6000 households within 400 m of the route). A response rate of 8.3% of the audience. More than 85% of respondents have indicated why they don't use the bus more often: hard to know schedule; too far to walk to the bus; need to go somewhere outside of Dundas. Top 3 suggestions: If the bus would pick up at door, price of \$1; if the bus ran everyday. Survey data will be completed by early March.

The new buses are in and waiting for the fare boxes to be installed. Within the next week or so, they will be placed into service.

- d) ARC process – staff have recommended that Parkside will be closed. Public meeting on March 1st at Westdale High School.

7. Community Reports from Members

(a) Arts and Culture – Libby Toewes – Report attached

- Busy winter at the Carnegie and the DVSA
- DVSA has relocated some of its classrooms while it is being renovated and studies are continuing at Dundas Valley Wood Products.
- DVSA is collecting art and getting ready for the spring auction.
- There are some photos of the reconstruction work on the DVSA website
- The Carnegie Gallery is now closed and is relocated to 43 King Street West, with the Ontario Conservatory of Music, while renovations are done on the building.
- Margaret Trudeau evening was a great fundraiser and they had a great Christmas at the Carnegie.
- Concerts coming up and Clearly Classics will be held in March
- Katlyn Quartet has done very well and will be going on a world tour.

Russ reported that the Dundas Driving Park Public Art Piece information is available on the City's Web Site and the information is displayed in the Municipal Service Centre. . Voters have until February 27th to proclaim their choice. Information was distributed to Community Council members.

(b) Business – Phyllis Kraemer

- Christmas was great
- Post Office is moving along
- Ambulatory Care equipment business have moved to the West end of town, beside the garage
- Berry Ellen will be closing her retail operation and is going back to doing trade shows.
- A fashion accessory store will open at that location (Bling on King)
- Fitz and Co. are moving away and the building is up for sale.
- Sure Copy space is still vacant as is the old Shoppers Drug Mart space.
- Shopper's Drug Mart's new location is open and on Albert Street they used big photos of "old Dundas". Jenny is the owner and the pharmacist. They should be congratulated for their willingness to change their plans 3 times and use of brick and stone, etc., to try to accommodate the Dundas streetscape of downtown.
- Committee of Adjustment application has been submitted for the property at the corner of Miller's Lane and King St. West. The meeting is on the 24th of February.
- Detour Café is now open
- Tourism awards nominations are 13 between Ancaster and Dundas: Quatrefoil for rookie of the year and Domestique for the New Green Business Award, Waterfall Farms (on Brock Road) for the Agro-tourism Award and Hockeyville 2010 as Event of the Year.
- New garbage cans provided by the City
- The benches are being rejuvenated
- The light standards are to be repainted
- Dundas Market opens June 15th
- Monday is a cooking class at St. Paul's Church, sponsored by the Dundas Farmers' Market with Chef Ken Lefebour.
- The Pinder building is being worked on.
- Monthly parking permits price will be increased for the first time in years, to \$35, and will remain the lowest price in the City.

(c) Environment – Bill Kennedy

- Dundas Treekeepers would be willing to help with clean-ups along the north side of Spencer Creek, between Osler Drive and the West Street bridge, and Bill will arrange for a written request from the Treekeepers Group for the Councillor

(d) Heritage – Stan Nowak - Report attached.

(e) Sports and Recreation – Keith Sharp

- Annual spring summer sports registration for softball, little league, etc. will take place on February 26th.
- March 5th is Super Saturday and wrap-up day. Check with Warren
- Community Centre has set up a loaner program for skates. Donations should be taken to the Community Centre or the Arena. Loans are from the Community Centre.
- Leslie Watson advised that Hockeyville legacy programme is planning new lights, 3rd floor lounge with windows and an electronic sign from the road to advertise events, along with an elevator to allow access to all three levels (\$500 - \$600,000 investment). Outreach and fund raising will begin soon. A Dundas Sports Hall of Fame will be part of the arena. Construction is hoped to begin at the end of the hockey season of 2012. Russ asked if the story of Hockeyville program is available from CBC. Leslie will follow-up to see if it is available.
- Leslie also reported that the Hockeyville trophy will be leaving Dundas soon.

(f) Others

- Larry asked if there have been reports of panhandlers at the University Plaza
- Stan noted that there are panhandlers at the Dundas downtown Tim Horton's
- Russ advised that there is a new Superintendent and Crime manager for our District.
- Bob James advised that this year is the 100th Anniversary of Wentworth Lodge in May.
- Russ noted that Bob James had asked about Waste management and, at a future meeting, we will invite someone in to talk to the issues.
- Phyllis advised that she is receiving complaints that the signage is not adequate to direct drivers to Dundas. Clr. Powers advised that the MTO (Ministry of Transport Ontario) will have to be advised. The City has no ability to put signs there.

7. Other Issues/Questions:**8. Upcoming Meetings/Events**

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 16th, 2011.

- 9. Adjournment** at 9:05 p.m. moved by Phyllis Kraemer and seconded by Bob James.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Russ Powers
Councillor**