

Wednesday, June 18th, 2008
7:00 p.m.
Council Chambers, Dundas Town Hall

The Dundas Community Council met.

There were Present: Russ Powers, Councillor
Maria Antonakos
Larry Button
Bill Kennedy, Environment
Phyllis Kraemer, Business
Fiorigio Minelli
Stan Nowak, Heritage
Keith Sharp, Sports & Recreation

Regrets: Patti Cannon
Bob James
Jeff Saunders
Carolyn Cornale
David Sweet, MP

Also Present: Craig Campbell, Dundas Star News
Arlene VanderBeek, Councillor's Office

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

2. Previous Meeting Report

The report from the May 21st, 2008 meeting was received as distributed and was moved by Stan Nowak, seconded by Larry Button to accept the minutes, as presented. Carried.

3 Presentations and Discussions

Scott Rilett, Facilities, Public Works provided an overview of the renovation project at Dundas Town Hall.

- Starting at the top and working down. Began working on the clock tower. The finial has deteriorated to the point that it is almost not worth fixing. Practically speaking, looking at removing the finial and placing it in the building and replacing it with a replica. Working with Sharon Vattay, Heritage Committee to determine the best solution.

- The paint on the tower is beginning to peel. Removing the loose paint and will paint over some of the remaining, original, colour.
- The face of the clock on South and East sides have deteriorated and they are removing the bottom molding and replacing.
- One face is damaged and they have pricing request out.
- Roof will be resingled.
- Soffits, eaves, etc., will be repaired and refinished. Several large gaps, from animals and settlement of the building will be repaired.
- The south-facing door is not original, but is in very poor shape. Replacing it with a solid oak door. Security is an issue on that door so they are investigating a solution. It will include tempered glass in the door and original hardware will be retained.
- The second floor windows will be repaired and refinished inside and out. 3 will be operable (to a certain point) on each side. Single pane glass will be retained. Storm windows have been removed.
- Main floor windows will be repaired, as necessary, and refinished.
- Pricing requests are out for the basement windows.
- Chimneys are starting to deteriorate, so mortar will be replaced. Stonework is in good shape. Repointing will be done to preserve. East side of the building, where the rails were affixed to the building, stonework has cracked and will be refurbished by a stonemason.
- The rails will be refurbished and the design will change in so far as the way it attaches to the building.
- The weather has not been co-operative and has slowed production. They are not behind schedule,
- Eaves and downspouts will be repaired or replaced, as necessary. A de-icing system will be added and will continue down through the downspouts as well.
- Ian McGillvary, a Toronto-based firm, is the architect.
- Contingency of 15% of total project (\$30,000).
- The work is planned to be finished by the end of July.

Don Hull, Director, and Jim Dawl Manager of Route Planning and Design at Hamilton Transit provided a handout and presented a PowerPoint overview of Hamilton transit with a focus on Dundas area transit services:

A renewed interest in transit and public input is considered in the planning process. Jim provided a PowerPoint presentation explaining transit strategies, the Hamilton Transportation Master Plan, Rapid Transit/Light Rail Transit Feasibility Study, the downtown terminal and explained the ways that gas tax monies have been managed, and provide information on the MoveOntario 2020 project.

Service reliability is key to getting and keeping ridership levels up. Higher ridership allows higher, improved, services.

Transportation plan identified the need for a downtown terminal. After approval of Council, design will be undertaken and construction will begin in the spring of 2009.

Available on-line on the City Of Hamilton website.

An increase in public interest and participation through various committees (3 advocacy groups in Hamilton) has resulted in many improvements and harmonization of services throughout the city.

4. Updates on Business from Previous Report:

5. Information/Discussion Items:

a) HHS Proposal

We have met with Dr. Kevin Smith, President St. Joseph's Hospital, Juanita Gledhill, Chair of LHIN and Pat Mandy, Executive Director of LHIN.

The next meeting will be with the Chair and Vice Chair of HHS' Board of Directors.

Following that, a response will be crafted and public engagement will be sought if necessary.

Larry B thought Dr. Smith was open and honest. He confirmed the general sense that St. Joes has been apart from the HHS process. He commented on the Stoney Creek Urgent Care and how well used it is.

The lack of consultation was noted by the LHIN people. They do not yet have a substantive proposal from HHS. It was clear that, having established a line of communication, the LHIN will provide a mechanism for us to provide input into the decision.

Clr. Powers said that Juanita Gledhill came to the public presentation by HHS and the submission provided to the LHIN was no different.

Phyllis advised that Dr. Smith was very open and pointed out the shortage of \$ in healthcare in Ontario. The money is the obvious impetus for the decisions of HHS.

Before any new facility or location can be approved, the LHIN will look at the feasibility and make decisions about where and what is built, not HHS. So what is proposed by HHS, although presented as a fait accompli (for instance, on the HHS website – as late as last year – it talked about having an expanded emergency dept and children's hospital, but in January everything changed to show a reduced emergency dept, limited only to children.)

It became obvious that the LHIN was listening when we expressed that it is hard to provide alternatives when we are not clear about what HHS is really providing.

LHIN doesn't have authority over HHS, but over additional financing for projects and proposals.

Then will be asking HHS what the problem is that they are trying to solve and where is the evidence that this will solve it.

Clr Powers: No immediacy to the decision, but it is coming. City Council has requested the presence of Murray Martin and K Smith. Mr., Martin will come to Council on Sept 8. We will, over the next month, meet with the HHS Board and put together a strategy. Dialogue with the appropriate agencies and research will be complete, we will be in a position to put pen to paper. We promised that we will provide the LHIN with the challenges or a hybrid of ideas for alternatives.

Maria suggested that the people who may be most receptive will be the people on the Board of the Foundation – the people who will have to go out to the public looking for funding dollars – particularly from the same public who have previously donated dollars to originally build this community-based healthcare facility.

Phyllis mentioned that this whole transit challenge that was presented tonight will be important, although HHS seems to be ignoring it.

Larry Button mentioned that Kevin Smith pointed to US based studies that determined that main-floor available parking and accessibility was a major issue in the use of ER facilities.

b) Dundas Star News

Clr Powers advised that Dundas Star office is rumoured to be moving the office to Stoney Creek.

Stan Nowak reported that he heard that they are moving in October and consolidating operations in Stoney Creek.

Mark Newman was in the room and advised that he was on-hand to observe and gauge the public reaction -- any questions should be addressed to the Management.

Stan expressed his concern and feeling of disapproval that a community newspaper should be located within the community.

It is no longer possible to advertise only in the Dundas paper and the cost of advertising doubles as a result.

It was suggested that advertisers may not advertise, once retailers are aware. No one is talking about it – the sales people are not talking about it, either. It will be advertised in the next BIA newsletter.

It was also suggested that the City may stop advertising the City notices in the Dundas Star because the Spectator is also generally distributed in the community.

Phyllis also expressed concern for the future of the community newspaper. Once they move it out of town, will they simply disband it altogether?

It was the opinion of the Com Council that the move was simply dollars and cents driven.

Phyllis also pointed out that the removal of the Dundas Star leaves it wide open for another paper to come to town and noted that there is a local family who are in the newspaper business elsewhere.

A motion was proposed:

It is moved by Stan Nowak and seconded by Phyllis Kraemer that the Dundas Community Council expresses its disappointment and displeasure at the news that the Hamilton Community News, owned by Metroland, plans to relocate the offices of The Dundas Star to Stoney Creek and that Clr. Powers write a letter expressing this and requests the presence of Ian Oliver at a special meeting in Dundas as soon as possible.

The motion carried.

c) Memorial Square Kiosk

The kiosk is almost complete. The panels are installed.

d) Dundas Post Office

- The Post Office is owned by the Federal Government and managed by Canada Post – the City has no authority over the ownership
- 104 King St. W (Post Office) is listed on the inventory of buildings of Architectural and/or Historical Interest, which provides for no legal restrictions, but flags it for the Planning, Historical and Building staff to take an extra look.
- Canada Post has indicated that they will vacate that building by July 2009, at which point Canada Post will put the building up for sale to the highest offer. They have no precedent policy to offer it to any particular groups. It will be sold as is – where is.
- Cllr Powers reported that he has had several overtures made to him about the possibilities of uses for the building. When it goes up for sale, he will do whatever possible to help to ensure that the building is successfully utilized in a manner in keeping with its age and historic value in Dundas.
- The building has no formal designation. The Federal Government, exclusive of the Parliament Building or Parliamentary precinct, have no designations on any of their buildings.

6. Community Reports from Members

(a) **Arts and Culture – Patti Cannon**

See attached.

(b) **Business – Phyllis Kraemer**

- Buskerfest was a great success
- The kiosk at Memorial Square is nearly finished and the next thing will be a poster sign board so that notices will have to be posted there instead of the light poles, etc. One will be a memorial square and another in the east end. They will probably be installed by next year. All BIAs in Hamilton will be getting these.
- BIA has a new logo and contains the Post Office clock tower.

(b) **Environment – Bill Kennedy**

- Witherspoon St area is getting some major road and service work done this year

- Driving park on schedule.
- Historic homes and tree tour was successful, except for the heat
- There will be another tree count beginning the first week of July. Volunteers are welcome and the area covered will be in the South Street neighbourhood.
- We have an abundant tree canopy in Dundas, but people need to be encouraged to maintain them on a regular basis to preserve the value.
- Perhaps Community council should get together and walk the Spencer Creek. The idea was accepted enthusiastically.
- Cllr Powers mentioned that Council had an update on the Gypsy Moth spraying and it is felt that the spraying has achieved the outcomes hoped for and a third spray will not be necessary. If people have masses, they should call the city to report it so it can be inventoried by the city for consideration next year.

(d) Heritage – Stan Nowak - See attached.

- Dundas Valley Visioning Group is hoping to develop a trail system throughout the Spencer Creek
- Agnes Tassie passed away at the end of May.

(e) Sports and Recreation – Keith Sharp

- Weather has been the cause of several rescheduled games

(f) Others

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7. Other Issues/Questions:

- Carl reported overhanging branches and he will call Arlene to report specifics.
- Russ reported that Marion Farnan will celebrate her 97th birthday with a celebration on Friday, June 20th at 7 at the DVSA
- Russ also reported that the Dundas Town Hall clock will chime for two minutes on Thursday July 3rd at 11:00 a.m. to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Quebec. All municipal buildings across Canada with chiming clocks will co-ordinate chiming – Dundas is the only Hamilton facility with a chiming clock.
- Maria will be performing at the RBG with her band – world pop and rock on August 15th with the Brott Music Festival.

8. Upcoming Meetings/Events

Next meeting Wednesday, September 18^h, 2008 at 7:00 pm.

**9. Adjournment at 9:45 p.m. moved by Keith Sharp and seconded by
Fiorgio Minelli**

Respectfully Submitted,

**Russ Powers
Councillor**

Next meeting: Natasha D'Souza re Transportation Study in Dundas

Dundas Community Council
Wednesday June 18, 2008
Dundas Town Hall
Arts Report

The Carnegie Gallery's fifteenth annual tour of artistic garden retreats in and around the Dundas area will take place on Sunday June 22 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 and are available at the Carnegie Gallery 905-627-4265, [Bryan Prince Bookseller](#) in Westdale 905-528-4508 and Muscari on Locke Street 905-297-2583

A special feature of the Carnegie Gallery tour is the original, frameable artwork poster that is part of the ticket price, as well as the charming tea room and free refreshments at the Gallery, where you can fill out a ballot for door prizes and view the current art exhibition. The tour is the major fundraiser for this non-profit community gallery, and we thank all of our old and new supporters.

Two new exhibits begin on June 20th running through to July 27th. Photographs by Janusz Wrobel entitled "Flow and Iris McDermott's Pottery exhibit entitled "New Maiolica" will be on display with an opening reception on June 20th from 7 to 9:30 p.m.

DVSA's summer programs for kids begin on June 30th.

Dundas Little Theatre is hosting "Bread and Raised", a series of 8 live cooking shows featuring some of the best local chefs, food producers and Niagara wineries beginning on Wednesday July 4 and running every Wednesday until August 22nd. Tickets must be purchased in advance over the phone with a credit card or in cash at Gray's Florist on King St. Each show is \$30. Full series of 8 shows is \$200.

DLT has also announced its 2008-2009 season.

The tender is out for two schools in Dundas. Max, his business manager and myself met with the school board to clarify the process for tender. It was a good meeting. The process is clear and fair. We also met with the Mayor who is supportive of the project. Max would like to meet with Councillor Powers. It looks promising that this group will go ahead with a bid. The deadline for the tender is Friday July 11th at 12 noon. This group is open to partnerships with other arts groups to make this a truly unique Centre for the Arts. I attended the Hamilton City Ballet recital this past weekend. It truly was the best dance recital I have seen. The younger students performed Pinocchio and the senior students performed a version of Don Quixote. I urge everyone to put their support behind this project. It will be great for Dundas.

Dundas Community Council - Heritage Report

Wednesday, June 18th, 2008
hall

Dundas Town

DUNDAS VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2009 Dundas Heritage Calendar

Production of the 2009 Dundas Heritage Calendar is underway and will be available for sale during the Dundas Cactus Festival (August 15 – 17, 2008).

The 2009 edition will feature black-and-white historic photos of a more contemporary and nostalgic nature from the 1950s and '60s to go along with the historic monthly milestones.

Cost will still be \$17.00 each.

DUNDAS MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

History of Photography in Dundas

From now until June 30, 2008, Dundas Museum & Archives

“A Thousand Words: A History of Photography in Dundas” featuring a collection of historic cameras.

627-7412 dundasmuseum.ca

Dundas Museum Book Club

4th Tuesday of the month, Dundas Museum & Archives, 7:30 – 9 pm.

Group members enjoy literary enjoyment and meetings filled with new insights and stimulating conversation.

You are invited to join in! The only qualification is that you enjoy reading. There are no books to purchase. The titles read are chosen from those available through the library.

They have strong historical connections.

Fran Donnelly, 627.7412 at the Dundas Museum & Archives

Agnes Tassie

Long-time member of the Dundas Museum & Archives, the Dundas Historical Society (both of them), and the Carnegie Gallery passed away May 31, 2008 in her 90th year.

A celebration of Agnes' life will be held **Saturday, June 28, 1 p.m. at St. James Anglican Church, Melville Street, Dundas.**

Respectfully Submitted

Stan Nowak

