

Minutes of a Newcastle Community Association regular meeting

February 1, 2021

The meeting was called to order by association president Karen Kuwica at 7.05 pm. Karen welcomed new members Erin O’Rielly and Allan Dick.

Minutes of January 5, 2021

It was moved by Peter and seconded by Nancy that the minutes of January 5, 2021 be approved. Motion approved.

New Business

Annual General Meeting: Karen officially announced that our Annual General Meeting will take place on March 2, 2021. Nominations are now open for the positions of:

1. President
2. Vice-President
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Three Directors at Large

Newcastle Place CAC update

Karen reported on the recent meeting of the Newcastle Place CAC. There have been two overdoses onsite in the past month. One resident died of an overdose offsite. Two residents have been given a final warning because they have not been following our Good Neighbour Agreement. One individual was evicted and one moved out to market housing. Due to COVID, there has been poor access to detox beds for residents. Neighbourhood security patrols have been decreased and been randomized due to staffing issues at Palladin Security, marked vehicle Patrols are being added.

The new supported housing facility planned for 250 Terminal is continuing to move through its’ planning stages. The RFP for architectural proposals is closing on February 10. Sketches of the proposed facility should be available sometime in March or April.

Development Subcommittee

250 Terminal: see note above. Construction on the new facility should begin in the fall of 2021.

475 Stewart Ave: The development permit for a six-unit townhouse project on this lot was turned down by City Council. Council appears to have listened to our concerns about design, lack of consultation and adherence to the Neighbourhood Plan.

Neighbourhood Updates

Caledonia and Mt. Benson: Terry reported that this area has been seeing a high incidence of drug use, open fires on the railway embankment and prowling on neighbourhood properties.

Husky Station: plans to repair the extensive fire damage to this business appear to have stalled.

Ravine Opposite Whitespot: Fred reported on his ongoing efforts with City Bylaws to have an illegal encampment removed from the ravine.

Rosehill and Holly: This intersection has been identified as a high-risk area for traffic accidents.

New Crosswalks: several new crosswalks are being installed along Stewart Ave. This is a very positive development, but we will need to follow up with the City and Province to ensure that pedestrians will have access to control buttons that will actually stop the traffic at the crosswalks.

Finance Report

The NCA has received an \$2000 grant from the City to assist us with Illuminight. The NCA was the only community association to receive these funds from the City.

Membership Drive

Renee reported on our plans to continue actively recruiting new members. There was a discussion of our membership fees that have been set at \$10 for individuals, \$5 for those on a fixed income and \$40 for businesses.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be our AGM on March 3, 2021

The meeting adjourned at 8.10 pm

Submitted by: Fred MacDonald