

Pacific Heights Community Association
EXECUTIVE MEETING, Tuesday December 9 2014 7:30PM – Father Vachon Library

In Attendance: Daryl Campbell, Hillary Chaika, Jennifer Ewart, Laura Neiser, Jan Cunningham

1. Meeting Called to order: @ 7:34 PM
2. Adopt Agenda
 - Motion to adopt agenda: D. Campbell; 2nd: J. Ewart; All in Favour **X** .
3. Adopt Minutes from Tuesday Nov 18 2014 meeting
 - Motion to adopt minutes: L. Neiser; 2nd: D. Campbell; All in Favour **X** .
4. Business arising from Nov 18 2014 minutes
 - None
5. President's Report
 - Nothing to report
6. Correspondence
 - None
7. City Councillors Report— Ann Iwanchuk
 - Report submitted via email (attached)
8. Treasurer's Report
 - Motion to accept Treasurers Report: H. Chaika; 2nd: J. Ewart; All in Favour **X** .
 - Profit & Loss report from Sept 18/14-Nov 18/14
 - Net income \$2,012.42
 - \$23.50 bank charges for NSF cheque
 - \$493.00 executive socials for executive shirts
 - \$199.50 sign rental for AGM and programs
 - Accountant has ISC paperwork
 - City grants have come through
 - Motion put forward by D. Campbell to add Catherine Cameron as signing authority, H. Chaika seconded, all in favour **X**
9. Community Consultant Report—Jan Cunningham
 - Report submitted via email (attached)
10. Task Force Leaders Reports
 - Lester B. Pearson – Vanessa Froese
 - No Dec parent council meeting
 - Father Vachon – L. Neiser/J. Ewart
 - Christmas Concert Dec 12th
 - Early dismissal on Dec 19
 - Newsletter – Hillary
 - Newsletter scheduled to go out week of December 16th
 - Social Events
 - Planning Family Movie Night for February long weekend
 - Rink—Daryl
 - Notify LBP that it needs to be -5C or below to maintain ice
 - Warm weather has delayed flooding
 - Indoor Programs—Hillary

- Fall instructors cheques went out
 - Winter registration set for Jan 7 & 8
- ☐ Soccer—Laura & Jennifer
 - Change to rentals
 - Shirts ordered
- ☐ Fastball—Vacant
- ☐ Volunteer—Vacant
- ☐ Citizens on Patrol— Vacant
- ☐ Webmaster—Vacant

11. New Business

- ☐ Executive Holiday Social
 - Sat Jan 24 at Taverna

12. Adjournment @ 8:50 PM

Important Dates to Remember:

INDOOR PROGRAM REGISTRATION – Wed Jan 7 / Thurs Jan 8 6:30-8:00 pm LBP
NEXT MEETING – Tuesday January 13 2015 – **Father Vachon** Library

Council News for December, 2014 Community Association Meetings

Greetings:

October 27th City Council Meeting:

Downtown Parking Study:

Parking in the downtown area has been a concern for many years. City Council has approved a comprehensive downtown parking strategy study which will be taking place in early 2015.

November 24th City Council Meeting:

Photo Radar:

City Council voted to support the photo radar initiative of SGI and the provincial government. There was much debate about whether or not City Council had the right to weigh in on this initiative. We were asked by both SGI and the Saskatoon Police Service for an indication of our support. After deliberations, it was determined that this pilot project should proceed.

Dogs and Cats in Truck Beds:

City Council passed a bylaw that prohibits dogs and cats from being transported in truck beds.

In Other News...

You can find information on the Growing Forward Shaping Saskatoon strategy at the city of Saskatoon website Saskatoon.ca.

For updates on road conditions, feel free to check out the link "Better Winter Roads" on the city of Saskatoon website.

Budget deliberations are occurring on December 2-3 and I will provide you with a report regarding the 2015 budget at the January meeting.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me at 306-380-6870 or email at ann.iwanchuk@saskatoon.ca.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and all the best in the new year!

Respectfully Submitted,
Ann Iwanchuk, City Councillor, Ward 3

Hello, Area 1 Community Association volunteers!

I hope everyone is surviving the hustle & bustle of the holiday season!

And while we are all enjoying the beautiful weather, my sincere condolences to all of the rink volunteers for four days of above-freezing weather – hope the warm weather doesn't mess up the rinks too much!

Just a quick e-mail to pass along some Public Services Announcements (PSA's) you may find interesting and/or may want to post on your website, Facebook, etc.

But first, a couple other things...

1 - Winter 2015 Leisure Guide

The Winter 2015 Leisure Guides are ready and should be delivered to each household today!

What do you do if you did not receive a Leisure Guide?

First, do you have a "No Flyers" sign on your door, or perhaps you called the Star Phoenix and asked them not to deliver flyers? If so, you will not get the Leisure Guide. However, copies of the Leisure Guide are available at all Civic Centres and there are electronic copies on the City of Saskatoon website.

If you don't have a "no flyer" sign and have not previously asked to not receive flyers, then call the Star Phoenix (306-657-6320) – they are responsible for delivering the Leisure Guide. It may be that your neighbourhood is missing a delivery person for a particular route, or perhaps the last person who lived in your house asked to not receive flyers (and therefore your address was put on the "no flyer" list). The Star Phoenix will arrange for a Leisure Guide to be delivered to you.

Also, if your address was not on the "no flyer" list – and your Leisure Guide simply did not get delivered – please call our Marketing department (Alicia, 306-657-8531) and give them your address. The Marketing department produces the Leisure Guide, and would like to follow up on any issues where residents do not receive a copy.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

2 - Sample letters to Teachers re: Cost-as-a-Barrier program

I have attached a sample letter that could be used by Indoor Coordinators to share information with the Teachers in the schools to educate them about Community Associations (generally) and increase their awareness (specifically) about the Cost-as-a-Barrier program. (It's not snazzy.)

Why a separate letter for teachers? I know that everyone in the City receives the Leisure Guide, and that your Leisure Guide blurbs talk about Cost-as-a-Barrier, but Teachers suffer from information-overload as much as the next person, so a letter that says "Dear Teacher" may be more effective. Good relationships with Teachers can also increase participation in your children & youth programming as they encourage children to participate.

Here are the PSA's...

Cross Country Ski Trail Grooming Begins For Season

Thanks to plentiful snowfall over the past few weeks, cross country ski trail grooming has begun for the season in a variety of parks and open spaces throughout Saskatoon. Skiers of all ages and skill levels are invited to enjoy the trails this season and keep active all winter long. Locations include:

- Holiday Park Golf Course (Access at Avenue U South)
- Wildwood Golf Course (Access at 8th Street East, maintained by the Saskatoon Nordic Ski Club)
- Kinsmen Park (Access at Spadina Crescent West by the Mendel Art Gallery, maintained by the Saskatoon Nordic Ski Club)
- Lower Meewasin Park (Access at Pinehouse and Whiteswan Drives)
- Upper Meewasin Park (Access at Pinehouse and Whiteswan Drives)
- Meewasin Park to Adilman Buffer (Access at east end of Adilman Drive or Meewasin Park)
- Diefenbaker Park (Access at Ruth Street and St. Henry Avenue)
- Forest Park (Access at Lowe Road, Nelson Road, and Forest Drive)
- Al Anderson Park (Access at Hampton Green, Dawson Crescent, and Hampton Circle)

For trail updates, call the Parks Division at 306-975-3300, or visit the regularly updated website at www.saskatoon.ca for information throughout the season and tips for ski trail etiquette.

New "flex parking stations" being installed, not operational until new year...

The City of Saskatoon will begin installing new FlexParking pay stations in the downtown and core business districts on Wednesday, December 10, 2014, however the stations will not be operational until early 2015.

"This flexible, pay-by-plate system will replace the individual coin meters in the city's Downtown, Broadway, Sutherland and Riversdale business districts," says Angela Gardiner, Director of Transportation. "The easy to use system will enable citizens to pay using coins, credit cards, the new City Parking Card and, in the near future, cell phones. It also allows you to park at various locations throughout the city on a single payment."

Drivers may move around the city and occupy several spaces, using their single parking purchase at multiple spots. However, drivers must still obey the posted time limits associated with each new space. Parking commissioners will be able to tell how much time your vehicle has sat in each location through the aid of licence plate identification and recognition software.

The new machines are solar powered and ticketless; you simply enter your licence plate number at the nearest pay station, make your payment and walk away. Since your payment is tied to your licence plate, there is no need to display a ticket on the dash. Receipts are issued as requested. In total, 325 pay stations will replace 2,800 coin meters; parking fees will remain unchanged.

"We had been hearing from residents that the old meters were dated and inflexible, especially as cash is used less and less for transactions and fewer people are carrying change," says Gardiner. "Until the new systems are activated, people should continue to plug the old coin meters. Once the new stations are active, the existing meters will be hooded until they are removed."

A map showing where the new FlexParking pay stations are being installed is available at www.saskatoon.ca/go/flexparking and people are also encouraged to try out the new pay station in the City Hall foyer where a test station has been installed. Note that the test station only accepts credit cards but that no charges will be applied to your card for these tests.

For more information about the new FlexParking pay stations visit saskatoon.ca/go/flexparking or call 306-975-2980.

Sustaining The Saskatoon Advantage: Council Finalizes 2015 Budget At 5.34%

Following three days of budget talks, City Council approved a 5.34% property tax increase which translates to an \$83.31 per year increase for an average house Assessment Value of \$325,000. That works out to \$6.94 per month.

"This investment will ensure that the City's public infrastructure and its delivery of core services meet the needs of Saskatoon's residents in a fiscally responsible way," says Kerry Tarasoff, Chief Financial Officer and General Manager, Asset & Financial Management.

After a tabling a preliminary budget that proposed a 7.32% property tax increase, the Administration advanced other possible adjustments to the 2015 Business Plan and Budget. This led to further discussion and Council made reductions arriving at the current property tax increase of 5.34%.

Saskatoon has been recognised as a national leader with business-friendly tax rates: the CD Howe Institute (News Release AF14-109) and the Canadian Federation of Independent Business (News Release CP14-175) recently recognised the City's tax policies. Additionally, Saskatoon continues to have one of the lowest property tax rates in Canada (News Release CP14-163).

"Like more recent business plan and budgets, our new budget concentrates funding on public safety, roads and civic infrastructure," Tarasoff says. "If these factors were not properly addressed in Budget 2015, Saskatoon's quality of life and economic health would be compromised, and *the Saskatoon Advantage* would be lost."

Highlights of the Finalized 2015 Budget Include:

Transportation

- \$8 million for the rehabilitation of the University Bridge.
- \$70 million for interchanges at Highway #16 and Boychuk Drive and, Highway #5 and McOrmond Drive.
- A continued and increased investment totalling \$53 million in the Building Better Roads program through the dedicated road levy.
- Work will begin on the new North Commuter Parkway and replacement of the Traffic Bridge to help ease congestion and improve productivity.

Utilities

- A number of utility projects totalling almost \$60 million for improvements to City infrastructure.

Policing

- The Saskatoon Police Service received an operating budget of \$80 million: this includes funding for four new constables. The provincial government will fund an additional five for a total of nine new police officers.

Fire

- A \$45 million operating budget for the Fire Department budget was passed in its entirety.

Recreation and Culture

- \$1 million contribution to phase-two of the Saskatoon Minor Football Field upgrade at Gordie Howe Park.
- \$6 million to help the Remai Modern Art Gallery of Saskatchewan ready its building for opening.

Corporate Governance and Finance

- The City will implement Service Saskatoon to provide more coordinated and better customer service to citizens and visitors.

Urban planning & development

- Recommendations from the four key subject areas included in the Growing Forward! Shaping Saskatoon study will be unveiled to improve the way the City plans for growth.
- The City and its regional partners will continue to work on a regional growth plan to ensure that the Saskatoon region can grow in a sustainable way.

Corporate Asset Management

- Construction of a new Civic Operations Centre will begin to help improve the efficiency of City operations.

Environmental Health

- A green loan of \$600 thousand for an energy monitoring program for civic buildings to identify cost efficiencies.

For more City of Saskatoon Public Service Announcements, News Releases, Traffic Detours and Service Alerts, visit www.saskatoon.ca or connect with the City of Saskatoon on Twitter and Facebook.

DECEMBER 4TH notifynow TEST A SUCCESS

Based on feedback from residents and the system data generated, the Saskatoon Emergency Measures Organization is calling last night's notifynow test a success. Residents called with questions about the test but in many instances recognized notifynow as a life safety service that will notify them of important emergencies in their neighbourhood.

"It is important to do these tests twice a year to ensure that in the case of a real emergency, the system works and that people know what the system can do for them," says Director of Emergency Planning, Ray Unrau. "Last night's test went more smoothly and faster than our first test, which was really good to see."

Since our last test, about 6,000 residents of Saskatoon have signed up to specifically choose how they would like to be contacted in an emergency. Thursday's test indicated that our database is over 90% accurate and plans are in place to improve that percentage. Yesterday we were able to contact the 99,159 persons listed in the database within 50 minutes. **This means we would be able to send a critical life safety notification to an entire neighbourhood within approximately two minutes.**

Any well-run test is an opportunity for the organizers to learn and make improvements. Our initial test in May of 2014 was to over 93,000 phone numbers or email addresses and took more than 2.5 hours. This time the test was completed in approximately 50 minutes because we slowed the system down to an acceptable level for the provincial telephone system and did not allow it to leave a voice message. **In a critical life safety emergency the system will leave a message.**

It is important residents recognize notifynow as a life safety notification system and are prepared to take the necessary actions to protect their safety.

From an emergency management perspective it is equally important residents realize they need to take the time to confirm they have heard the message. If someone hung up before confirming that they listened to the message (in this case pressing 1) or did not reply to the text message or email, the system continued to try to reach them. In an emergency every life is important and we need to be able to confirm who has received the information and which homes we still need to reach.

Notifynow is not a news service; it is a life safety service that will rapidly send critical life safety messages to citizens who would potentially be affected so they can take appropriate actions.

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Have a wonderful day!

Jan