Mount Royal Community Association

Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2017 at 7:00pm

Attendance: Jodi Morel, Jeff Nichol, Michel Bourque, Val McFarland, Steve Kelly, Pamela McHugh (City of Calgary), Andrew Wrenshall, Darlene Bruce, Solange Dunn, Trystan Wall, Deb Law, Alexis Haliburton,

Guest: Constable Gary Borrows

Call to order

Motion to approve the agenda - Val second by Darlene

Motion to approve the minutes: Michel approve second Steve Kelly

Andrew Wrenshall - Financials

Treasurers Report

* Mistitled - will resend with correct date (Jan 2017)
* Increase of $6,000 for January
* GST (correction as deposited in the wrong account)
* End of February - $154,000 in the general account
* Casino account - $39,000 need to be used by November 9, 2017

Audit of 2016 - Nancy Murdoch chartered accountant

Findings:

No significant audit findings in terms of misstatements or preparation of financial statements

No concerns with fraud or illegal acts

Some concerns with our internal concerns:

1. According to bylaws, meant to have four signing authorities we currently have three
2. GST rebate going into the wrong account
3. Donors: good practice to issue a tax receipt for all for our records
4. Not using whole rental contracts - reasons are:
   1. Track the rent
   2. Insure that there is consistent pricing between renters
   3. Matter of liability

Summary of her recommendation we put in place the following (some are listed above)

We do reconcile but not against a general ledger which we will do this year

Happy with the accounting policies and full cooperation with management

Recommendations:

1. Transfer the GST money
2. General ledger
3. Review bylaws annually
4. Develop policy manual
5. Rental contracts
6. Value of the services to the community - poll and document feedback

Deb: this is a significant workload for our small group of unpaid volunteers (policy manual in particular)

Lack of a Vice President is why we only had three signing authority rather than four.

We did minute changes to the bylaws - Jeff Nichol

How would a policy manual add value to our CA? (Deb)

Michel - it may not be clear to everyone what in the community what we do - terms of reference

Val - may be obvious to some but maybe not to all

Michel – recommend a refresh?

* Action: a brief description of each committee will review their mandate and will submit to Michel
* Action: rental contracts - Michel to review
* Action: Survey Monkey - Michel to create

Review of the budget:

* Likely a cost of $8,000 - $10,000 for downstairs, security expenses
* Also the stairs need on the west side of the basketball court need to be repaired
* $15,200 allocated to basement renovations and security also stairs

Review how we might pursue security options (alarm)

Also we should consider how we might make use of the GIC long-term plan

Waiting on the free lifecycle report - Kathy to provide and tour the building

Alex will put together numbers for the next meeting and Jeff will propose in the next meeting

How casino funds to be allocated in more detail for FCC by next meeting (April meeting)

Community Safety

We have a guest, Const. Gary Burrows, Community Resource for MR

Met with STEVE, Jeff and Ruth - septed (check with STEVE on acronym)

Findings recommendations:

1. Exterior doors should have pry plates where prevent people from prying doors
2. Lighting could be upgraded around the building - more critical in the winter
3. Access to the washroom etc. - locked all of the time unless there is a function - liability and law enforcement worse case scenario someone is injured or assaulted, leaves us vulnerable.
4. Engage natural surveillance - neighbours
5. Volunteers on a rotational basis to ensure doors are locked

Majority of what is going on are likely young people, unlawful drinking etc.

6) Possibility of hiring security - access control

Not a right, its a privilege - change access control until behaviour changes

Possibility in upgrading signage - take control of it. Security. Camera systems...if you say if you have video surveillance you better have it. Again liability and expectations.

Incident report system? (Steve)

Calls for service base determines which communities get additional resources. If we have a record of incidents, Gary is able to argue for greater resources to our community.

Housekeeping

* Almost at zero for violent crime
* Three assaults
* Relatively low for property crime (compared to other communities in the core)
* 7 b and e (reported)
* 4 auto theft
* 5 car prowling
* Lower by extension is part of the belt line
* Working with encampments - is a bylaw offence, not a criminal offence

Incidence reports - need to encourage reporting "we didn’t want to bother the police"

Report it. Even if it is "nothing" as it creates a record for CPS

Non-emergency number? Or 911 - crime in progress

Or report online - Calgary police website

Who to call? Gary to provide Stephen to send out. Stephen please share so that we can include on the website

Don't leave bottles out - better off with a community drive. Feeding addiction, but also bringing social disorder

Guy with the backpack on a bike (tweak your interest) you should report

If it doesn't look right, report it.

Traffic concerns and police support

Number one concern in CoC - do not deal with traffic service requests directly

Traffic service request is filled out online and it is sent to Calgary traffic division - problem is to have the time to enforce

Trying to push like to see a traffic service request officer in the core. All TSR in the core would go to that officer to do the enforcement and there would be engagement back.

That said, relying on enforcement alone is not a good idea. We typically see roads that are stretched beyond their capacity. Enforcement is only as good when we are standing there, when we leave, behaviour continues.

Safety issue

DOPE team - they will take someone who is intoxicated to a safe house.

Community Events:

* Vine night - cost plus 15% - 10 to 15% off retail in the shop
* Two reds, a white and rose April 4th
* Market restaurant will provide the food (complementary)
* Ticket price is $20
* Second Friday every month 4 to 7p pizza with the kids etc.

Public Open Spaces (POS):

Arbors care has been cutting bushes – deciduous bushes in front of CA have been cut down. Waiting for warmer weather for root grinding

Infected bushes are sawed down as well

Arbor Lake will bill when the job is done and inspection is complete

Prospect Trail – no update but meeting tomorrow the committee must be comprised of three voting members board members. Evan Woolley is willing to amend the terms of reference.

Jeff Nichol:

Put a motion to the board that James Waugh is one of the three board representatives for the Prospect Trail steering committee

Darlene seconds the motion

Motion carried

Community Traffic:

Jodi will look into the expiry of the grant and see if we can table the 8th street redesign until after City has completed their engagement

Michel will help draft a letter back to City

Darlene:

Get plans larger size for review and budget for larger paper/printing

Traffic and noise issues at Hillcrest area

Developer will do something different in Mardeloop development

John Hripco to do a write up for the newsletter

Front drive garages - arp if there is a back lane, you are to use it for your driveway

Mainstreet - south side of 17th and east side of 17th as mainstreeting \*\* Michel - may need more data

Tristan - membership is now loaded on Google docs (on the cloud for security if computers crash)

Tennis members

Newsletter - next submission is the 13th of March

Raised crosswalk

City of Calgary - Jodi to get a letter from Calgary to put in the newsletter for the 8th street and Royal proposed project

Kathy - training opportunities and report forwarded by Kathy

April 3rd meeting adjourned 9:11 pm