

Minutes of the Special Committee
Meeting of City Council
Held Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Present:

Mayor McDonald, Councillors T. Vrebosch, B. Vrebosch, Bain, Tignanelli, Anthony, Mayne, Mendicino, Robertson, Brousseau.

General Government Committee:

No Items Dealt With.

Community Services Committee:

CS-2019-12 ***Public Meeting under the Planning Act***

Report from Peter Carello dated October 4, 2019, re: Proposed Zoning By-Law Amendment by Miller & Urso Surveying Inc. on behalf Hope Awaits Ministries – 390 First Avenue East

The City Clerk advised that notice of the meeting was given by prepaid first class mail on the 26th day of September, 2019 to all owners of property within 120 metres of the subject property and by the posting of a placard on the subject property.

Peter Carello explained the purpose of the rezoning application.

Councillor Brousseau asked for public presentations in support of or objecting to the rezoning application.

Presentations:

1. Dr. Joseph Madden
 - Identified empathy for the work that is taking place to help the homeless.
 - Questioned if Council had information surrounding the impacts that this change will have in the neighbourhood's safety.
2. Susan Chorney
 - Expressed that the proposed change is within 200 metres of an existing group home.
 - Identified that traffic has increased on this street.
 - Questioned how the pre-existing shelter has been allowed to happen under the current by-law.
3. Theresa Larochelle, on behalf of Hope Awaits Ministries, the Applicant
 - Identified that the Applicant has helped many homeless men.
 - Expressed that the increase in beds would be good outreach in the community and enhance the help for those men in need.
 - Stated that the change would not only increase beds but bring hope for the future of homeless men by offering social education.
4. Douglas Brisebois
 - Identified that he is not opposed to the application.
 - Stated that men come and go to/from and in front of the home and are in and out to smoke on the street.
 - Questioned whether there was an alternative where the men could hang out (inside/outside in the back) and if there are common rooms for these individuals within the building.
 - Expressed concerns related to his property's value, and the loitering.

5. Nathaniel Gagné
 - Identified that he is not opposed to the proposal and that most shelters are geared towards women and children; this will increase the help for men to get back on their feet.
 - Expressed that he has not noticed any problems stemming from the existing shelter.
 - Identified his participation in a group who help other fathers within the community.

6. Rick Miller, Agent for the Applicant, Hope Awaits Ministries
 - Identified that he did not have answers related to questions surrounding the facilities within the building; can make that information available to Council.
 - Provided the rationale behind the building's capacity and that it and the grounds are extremely well maintained and within the character of the neighbourhood.

7. Nicole Millage, Executive Director of Hope Awaits Ministries, the Applicant
 - Identified and provided information surrounding the existing and proposed room layout within the building.
 - Identified that individuals by law are not permitted to smoke indoors and must go outside.
 - Identified that the loitering could be due to a number of factors, examples given were men waiting for the shelter to open, the shelter being at full capacity and those in need waiting for an opening (first come first serve basis), and the current hours of operations being evening and night only.
 - Identified the shelter hopes to be open for full day programs (24 hrs -7 days), and are hoping to offer lifestyle programs to aid the men to successfully self-reintegrate into society.
 - Identified that the facility is equipped with a full kitchen and common areas available to their clients during hours of operation.

8. Johanna Kristolaitis
 - Identified her involvement in the fundraiser for the Applicant's cause and her support of the application.
 - Expressed the importance of the change and the response to the local growing need for this type of additional support.

9. Susan Hermann
 - Expressed her support of the application.
 - Identified her presence at the grand opening of the shelter.
 - Identified her knowledge of people camping on City and Ministry of Transportation (MTO) property by virtue of her employment with the MTO.
 - Identified that the Applicant has been a boost to the City helping men get back on their feet.
 - Identified her knowledge of land appraisals and that the market value dictates and outweigh social concerns.

Direction: Committee Report be brought forward to Council on November 5, 2019.

CS-2017-08

Report from Beverley Hillier dated February 7, 2017 re Downtown Waterfront Master Plan.

Direction: Committee Report be brought forward to Council on November 5, 2019.

Engineering and Works Committee:

No Items Dealt With.

Committee Meeting of Council adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

Mayor Allan McDonald

City Clerk Karen McIsaac