

WESTSYDE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY
MEETING MINUTES FROM
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 4TH, 2016

PRESENT:

K. MacKay, Vice President
M. Chan, Membership Coordinator
S. Wilcox, Director
Shalene Logan

REGRETS:

S. Delaney, President
A. Grineau, Secretary
K. Kelly, Treasurer
R. Kelly, Past President
D. Kuchma, Director
T. Erickson, Director
G. Denbigh, Director
M. Youds, Director
C. Douglas

HIGHLIGHTS

Meeting was well attended by local residents who were concerned about plans the City has for Westsyde Pool.

1) Call to order

- Meeting called to order at 7:00pm in the Westsyde Community Centre.

2) Approval / Changes to the Agenda

- The agenda was approved as circulated; no additions.

3) Minutes

- S. Wilcox moved that the January 7th minutes be adopted as circulated. Seconded by M.Chan. CARRIED.

4) Treasurer's Report (Kim MacKay for Karen Kelly)

- New Chequing account balance is \$9,477.40.

- Money needs to be submitted as soon as possible for The Dunes Steak Dinner tickets.
- Steve and Karen need to meet to set up PayPal for the Speed Dating fundraiser in March.
- Approximately \$60.00 has been received from the sale of Gordon Gore's WSS picture books.
- Another \$60.00 was received for The Dunes Steak Dinner fundraiser (Steve has this money).
- Sigrid paid \$75.00 for tickets, the stubs of which are in the envelope that Steve has.

5) Membership Coordinator (Monica Chan)

- One new member.

6) Projects – Current and Upcoming

a) Speed Date Night (at Frick 'n' Frack):

- Website for this event with a registration form will be on the internet by February 10th, as will posters around town.
- Date has been set for this event: Sunday, March 20th, 2016.

b) Rotary Club booklets:

- Fundraiser booklets are still for sale.

c) Gordon Gore's WSS picture books:

- These books sell for \$10.00 each, and are available at Westsyde Home Hardware.

7) Centennial Park

- Grand Opening:
 - This event is scheduled for Saturday, May 28th, 2016.
 - Mayor Peter Milobar, Byron McCorkel, and Sean Cook have all been informed.
 - A formal letter of invitation needs to be sent out.
 - We also want to invite Bill Campbell from Westsyde Cooper's, as well as a representative from the Jim Pattison Group. Shawn will assist the WCDS in getting bleachers to the park.
 - Next step is to organize entertainment (e.g., bouncy castle, Uncle Chris the Clown, food, cake, etc.). In previous minutes, Ben Chobater from the City stated that the City would be organizing this event—this needs to be confirmed.
 - WCDS needs to decide a time to start this event.

- Snowblower:
 - Steve painted the WCDS logo onto the Snowblower, as well as the metal has been stamped.
 - This equipment will be moving to the other shed for security purposes in the next couple of weeks, as winter weather seems to be over.
- Nets for the ice rink:
 - Steve and Robert have been in contact with Ryan Moffat of Kamloops Alarms regarding a security camera. They are looking into purchasing used equipment.

8) WCDS Website and Newsletter (Steve Delaney)

- Newsletter is to come out shortly after more information has been received from the City about Westsyde Pool.
- Steve has set up a form on the WCDS website for people to vote, and submit their concerns regarding the Westsyde Pool.
- There is also a link on our website to read the City's report on local area swimming pools.

9) Westsyde Swimming Pool

- 31 people attended the WCDS meeting to express their concerns about the repair and possible closure of Westsyde Pool. Among them were...
 - Brock residents
 - North Shore residents
 - School PAC (Parent Advisory Committee)
 - Seniors Advocates
 - Children's Advocates
- Steve Puhallo from the North Shore Business Association was present. His contact info is steve@nsbia.com ph: 250-376-2411 Steve informed the group that the NSBIA is supporting council's decision to go ahead with the feasibility study for \$100,000.00.
- It was determined a community meeting will be held within 4-6 weeks to discuss the pool further. Tonight's meeting was to get a general idea of what residents are looking for and their concerns. The date and time of this meeting will be relayed to the public via the WCDS website, a poster at the cooper's shopping centre, social media, and on the radio.
- Tara Greenwich is collecting letters of support throughout Brock, North Shore and Westsyde to keep the pool open. She hopes to have all letters in by March 20th 2016. Her email address is TLDEMPSTER@gmail.com (250-682-4454)

- Steve Delaney has put up a survey and comment area on the WCDS website where residents can voice their concern. We will collaborate with Tara's and the letters she has collected.
- Kim has spoken to Amanda Cosburn (she collected the petitions to present to the Mayor). They will meet up in the next week or so to connect. (250-686-4005)
- Kim has written a report on the meeting that was sent to Kamloops This Week regarding the meeting February 4th 2016. The report included the general energy of the room, some direct quotes along with issues and concerns raised by the public.
- Ali Campmans of the David Thompson PAC is sending home a WCDS membership form and potentially a petition with each student in hopes they will return to the school filled out.
- Quotes from the evening:

"There is a disappointing lack of transparency on the City of Kamloops behalf."

"Where is Dieter Dudy? Many of us voted him into council in hopes of a North Shore representative."

"Why did they wait until it was too late to fix it? Was that the hope and goal of the City of Kamloops as they have wanted to close the pool for years?"

"We have a responsibility to our children and grandchildren within the community to keep the pool open."

"It's a comradery between residents years past to reminisce about Wacky Wednesday's, Jello-and-ice-cream swims, and climbing the giant octopus (that when finally reaching the top you would get pushed off). It's that shared experience that is so important to creating and maintaining a community."

"We just want what we have had, that's all."

"We moved here three years ago, specifically in this area so my wife could use the pool and fitness centre."

- List of questions and concerns that were raised:
 1. Why did the price increase from 1.3 to 5 million?
 2. Out of the 4 options we want the roof repair with an updated HVAC system.
 3. Parking will be an issue.

4. We don't need a Rec Centre. We have that at the Westsyde Neighbourhood Centre.
5. Gym use was limited and people stopped going. The upgrades to the gym have all been bare minimum and the equipment upgrades are hand me downs from TCC. Instructors who were leading fitness classes were often frustrated as they didn't have the proper equipment to do their lessons and often having to improvise.
6. Why is the City comparing Westsyde to TCC? They are operated the same?
7. 43% of the population reside on the North Shore.
8. Residents of the TNRD frequent the pool as well (Black Pines etc.)
9. Request to find the amalgamation agreement for the City regarding Westsyde Pool.
10. Classes were cancelled and credit was given & let to expire.
11. Hidden agenda and information from the City.
12. Tax payers = City mentioned 2 years ago, "We need more stuff for our children."
13. Go online to WCDS website to voice opinions.
14. Contact other clubs who use facility for support. (Swim clubs or triathlon etc.)
15. Bus routes and issue for low income families...to go to TCC you have to change bus's which is hard for parents with young children.
16. Why did the City leave it so long to look into? The buckets have been catching water on the pool deck for 6 plus years.
17. Seniors cannot travel to TCC in the early morning to get to classes. They mentioned that the aqua fit classes that have been operating at Westsyde Pool have been with an ill-equipped instructor...often sending someone without the training to lead an aqua fit class. Due to this people stopped signing up.
18. TCC has too much traffic, not enough parking and expensive to pay, and too much theft.
19. Someone should contact the TNRD for population numbers etc.

20. This meeting was for input, concerns, questions and what we want as a community.

- General concensus was that that the residents want to keep the pool, as it is deemed that its closure would be a huge loss to the community.

Meeting Adjournment: 8:45pm

**Next regular meeting March 3rd, 2016 at 7:00 PM at Westsyde
Neighbourhood Centre.**