



**Minutes of the
Beaconsfield Citizens Association (BCA) Meeting of
Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 7:30 PM
Herb Linder Annex
303 Beaconsfield Blvd.,
Beaconsfield, Quebec**

Present: Maria Gagliardi, Al Gardner, Nora Graham, Larry McKinnon, Roger Nader, Derrick Pounds, Marcel Roux, John Whatmore, Bruce MacDonald, Stuart John Tigchelaar

1. Welcome

The President, Al Gardner, welcomed everyone to the BCA's March meeting.

2. Approval of the Agenda

The following items were added under "New Business": Councils Accountability for travel, Home Break-ins and Mayors report on Agglomeration Council.

Upon a motion duly made by John Whatmore and seconded by Roger Nader, it was moved to approve the agenda of the March 18, 2015 BCA meeting as amended.

The motion passed unanimously.

Note: As certain members were obliged to leave early, some items were taken out of order to accommodate them.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the February 18, 2015 Meeting

Upon a motion duly made by Larry McKinnon and seconded by Marcel Roux, it was moved to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2015 BCA meeting.

The motion passed unanimously.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes of the February 18, 2015 Meeting

Since all items arising from the previous meeting were to be covered below, no discussion took place.

5. Treasurer's Report

Warren Mayhew, was absent, and so no official report was submitted. Al reported there should be no major developments. Greg Steinstra was reimbursed for payment of Website domain registration. BCA is now a legal organization. Registration fee was donated by Charles Bourgeois.

6. Home Break-ins

Roger Nader reported that a break-in occurred on Woodland Avenue at 9:15am, immediately

after the resident was transported by ambulance to the hospital. Thieves broke in through a bathroom window and went through the house until a motion detector set off the alarm. Police responded within 10 minutes, but the suspects were gone. Detailed information is not released by the police to NW or BCA.

7. Canada Post

Following the last meeting, Al Gardner met with George Bourrelle and Patrice Boileau to discuss the possibility of passing by-laws to cover placement of Community Mail Boxes. Canada Post Guidelines indicate that they must respect provincial and municipal regulations. While George and Patrice indicated that Patrice would discuss it at the DG's meeting, this was not done. Al plans to meet with the councillors on the subject as well as Francis Scarpellegia and Geoff Kelley..

Larry McKinnon reported that the Traffic Committee has been told that the boxes will be in respectable locations, but were not told where.

Canada Post municipal relations in contact with Al, to schedule a meeting to attempt to reply to our concerns.

8. Update on Emerald Ash Borer

Discussion took place on requirement to replace trees if ash trees are felled.

Al passed on a report from a local arborist, saying that numerous clients complained that the city was delaying the issuance of felling permits. This has resulted in at least one client missing the deadline to fell their trees in winter. Al sent an email to the Mayor regarding this situation.

9. Follow-up with Geoff Kelley

Al Gardner stated that he had received a \$500 grant to the BCA. Al asked members if the federal ministers has a similar budget. Larry McKinnon mentioned that on the provincial government did this, since they were responsible for municipal affairs.

10. Follow-up regarding the City Budget

In follow up to the letter that we had sent to the major and council regarding the budget consultation, Al reported that the mayor had indicated that they would not consult with the public, or BCA, on the budget.

The city plans to hold a citizens forum in May that could serve as a vehicle to discuss priorities. This is intended to be a "one-off" forum, not every year.

11. Federal Election

Al Gardner asked about a BCA sponsored candidates night during the upcoming federal election. Larry indicated in the past, attempts to do this with other cities did not go well, as each city association had their own agenda.

John W, mentioned there were a lot of costs involved such as rental, insurance etc.

It was agreed that Al would discuss with Francis Scarpellegia to gauge level of interest.

It was decided to revisit the issue at the April meeting.

12. New Business

12.1. Councillors accountability for travel expenses

Derrick Pounds asked whether councillors were required to submit expense reports when travelling on City business. Question will be asked to George.

12.2. Rezoning Proposal

Maria Gagliardi, thanked the BCA for their support in negotiations pertaining to the rezoning of the neighbouring property. A "Neighbours' Agreement" was signed between her and Shep Abbey requiring the latter to place a Cedar Hedge between their properties should the property be leased as commercial or by July 2016. Maria remains doubtful as to the viability of this agreement.

12.3. Agglomeration Report

Derrick Pounds requested whether the mayor could provide more details in his reports. Al said he would see if George would be open to issuing a "one-pager" written report at each meeting

13. Next Meeting

The next BCA meeting will be held at the Herb Linder Annex on Wednesday, April 15, 2015 at 7:30 PM.

11. Adjournment

Upon a motion duly made by Larry McKinnon and seconded by Maria Gagliardi, it was moved to adjourn the meeting.

The motion passed unanimously.

Al Gardner, President

Charles Bourgeois, Secretary

Al Gardner

From: "Al Gardner" <agardner@integrasol.com>

Date: March-17-15 10:46 PM

To: "Georges Bouelle" <georges.bouelle@beaconsfield.ca>

Cc: "David Pelletier" <david.pelletier@beaconsfield.ca>; <peggy.alexopoulos@sympatico.ca>; "Karen Messier" <karmess@videotron.ca>; "Patrice Boileau" <patrice.boileau@beaconsfield.ca>; "Roger Moss" <roger.moss@beaconsfield.ca>; "Wade Staddon" <wade.staddon@beaconsfield.ca>; "Pierre Demers" <PIERRE.DEMERS@crowncork.com>; <agardner@integrasol.com>; "Charles Bourgeois" <csbourgeois@videotron.ca>; "Larry McKinnon" <larry.mckinnon@bca-acb.org>; "Rick Jones" <rick.jones@bca-acb.org>; "Marcel Roux" <samimarcel1@hotmail.com>; "Warren Mayhew" <w.mayhew@sympatico.ca>

Subject: Tree Permits

Hi George and All,

George, just to clarify, the person on whose behalf I called you about last week regarding the permit to fell ash trees, was not Mr. Albenas. I spoke with an arborist, who reported that he has received complaints from 4 or 5 other customers in Beaconsfield who claimed to have received misinformation, when applying for a permit to cut ash trees. Due to requested confidentiality, I do not have specific names or dates to give you.

I believe that you are preparing a flyer on the EAB policy. I would ask that, for the sake of transparency, the correct information regarding the homeowners right to cut 2 ash trees or up to 20% if multiple trees on property (with permit) be spelled out in the flyer. I would also ask that all front line staff involved in the issuance of tree permits be trained, and instructed to provide accurate information to homeowners regarding this right. These people should not attempt to dissuade or stall homeowners who have decided to cut their ash trees within the legal limit.

In the case I mentioned, the misinformation may have resulted in the homeowner missing the deadline to cut the ash trees this spring. Should they become infested, necessitating other surrounding trees to be felled or treated, the city could arguably be responsible for the ensuing costs.

Thanks,

Al Gardner – President – Beaconsfield Citizens Association
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