

Minutes of the ACB-BCA General Meeting of
Wednesday March 01, 2017 at 7:30 PM
Herb Linder Annex, 303 Beaconsfield Blvd
Beaconsfield, QC.

Present: Al Gardner, Marcel Roux, Lucien Descheneaux, Rick Jones, Derrick Pounds, John Whatmore,
Warren Mayhew, John Parsons

1 Welcome and President Report

The President, Al Gardner, welcomed the members to the March ACB-BCA meeting and explained that Charles Bourgeois was unable to attend and delegated the recording of the minutes of the meeting to Lucien Descheneaux.

2- Approval of the Agenda

Upon a motion duly made by John Whatmore and seconded by Lucien Descheneaux, it was moved that the Agenda for the March 01, 2017 ACB-BCA meeting be approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

3- Approval of the Minutes of the February 1, 2017

Upon a motion duly made by Rick Jones and seconded by Lucien Descheneaux, it was moved that the Agenda for the March 01, 2017 ACB-BCA meeting be approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

4- Business Arising from the Minutes of the February 1, 2017 Meeting.

Derrick Pounds raised the possibility of a \$397 K differential discrepancy in the cap for demerged cities of \$8 MM. No one was able to explain this point at our meeting and Rick Jones put the fire out.

5- Treasurer's Report

Warren Mayhew reported a balance of \$1,391.99. Entries this year are of \$500 from our MNA and \$50 from Maria Pasquale.

6- Governance of the Montreal Urban Agglomeration Council.

The issue of the mayors of the demerged cities joining forces to interact directly with the Provincial Government instead of going through Mayor Coderre took a fair amount of time and the Executive Committee will address this situation at its March 03, 2017 Meeting. John Whatmore suggested that Georges Bourelle gets aggressive on this issue. Al Gardner commented that the City is working on something else.

Demerged cities are not treated democratically since many other cities such as Longueuil, Laval and many off-island cities benefit from their access to Montreal but are not financially penalized. In fact, West Island cities have become a giant parking lot for other remote municipalities.

The Pharmaprix parking lot and the Woodland restricted parking lot is a mess with double-parked vehicles and vehicles parking in the 2-hr dog parking section.

The no longer utilized signs (Elm and Montrose intersection) advising of renovations at the Woodland crossing was also deplored. In fact, CN had blocked the crossing when our meeting closed and there were no forewarning signs.

7- Candidates Night.

This subject matter was skipped.

8- Candidates for Upcoming Elections.

Thus far, Georges Bourelle is the only official candidate. Councilors Karen Messier, Roger Moss, Pierre Demers and Peggy Alexopoulos have indicated their intent to run for another term.

9- Letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Land Occupancy regarding the Bidding Procedure.

The bidding procedure will be addressed at the next Executive Meeting. The current Law forces the municipalities to use the lowest bidder. Montreal just black-listed a snow removal contractor.

Al Gardner stated that there is a province wide system to exclude bad contractors and their affiliates, i.e. Acme and Road Runner being the same company.

The Beaconsfield swimming pool saga is another highlight of the work awarded to the lowest bidder. No doubt, our elected members need to tighten up the specs.

Derrick Pounds suggested that they also tighten up the specs.

Al Gardner added that the extras also need to be looked into and that black listed companies in Montreal can operate in Beaconsfield.

John Whatmore suggested that they should include contractors from other regions to break the cycle. John Parsons also suggested that there is a need to tighten up the legal definition of minor derogations. Al Gardner noted that Roger Moss is having discussions with the Urban Planner Desk personnel on Ash Trees.

10 ACB-BCA's Position Regarding the Elimination of Municipal Referenda.

All attendees agreed that this is an outrageous and anti-democratic initiative.

Lucien Descheneaux explained that the drivers of this issue are Mayor Coderre and Labaume who promise to replace the referendums with a revised and meaningful pre-consultation with the population and strong suggested that we strongly take exception to this proposal.

Other members suggested that an explicit letter be sent to the Quebec Government and another member added that we should also copy other Citizen's Associations to invite them to join in.

The motion was supported unanimously.

11 Updates

BATSHAW: Al Gardner explained some of the details that involved BCA-ACB's actions from the onset to its dissolution... to its recent revival. At Monday's meeting at City Hall, Pierre Demers was on side with the project which is currently in limbo, awaiting approval from the Minister of Health.

Not to be ignored in the process, Mayor **Benedetti** introduced the swimming pool project while Minister Barrette killed the Batshaw project then.

However, Batshaw is in the top 4 projects on the board.

Forecast:

No construction this year.

There is an impact on properties values involved and the salability of surrounding homes.

There is a meeting scheduled for March 21 to discuss maintenance plans to ensure that bylaws are maintained and existing facilities are maintained in good condition.

A committee is to be formed to inform on status and development of the project stages.

Realtors should be advised ahead of time.

CLUB 55: Next Meeting is on March 08, 2017 from 14:00 to 15:30 hrs.

They have a nearby Sugar Shack project in mind as well as a trip to Ottawa to attend the Tulip Festival. Members are invited to indicate their level of interest.

It is to be noted that all members of the Club 55 do become automatic members of the ACB-BCA.

12 LGH request for donation.

LGH request a donation of 150K\$ from the city of Beaconsfield and Mayor Bourelle would appreciate feedback from the population.

All members took exception to the project/request because it is not the in mandate of the City to participate on this type of expenditure that is overly significant for our community. In addition, LGH services communities as far as the border of Ontario. **These communities are not being asked to participate.** John Whatmore suggested that it could be a good idea to consider a positive reaction from our part should there be a radiation unit put in place at LGH but the consensus was that this is not for us to get involved into.

Motion: Not one penny from the City of Beaconsfield should be allotted to LGH on this subject matter. It is not their mandate to do so.

The motion was supported unanimously.

Commenté [CB1]: Who moved and seconded it?

13 New Business.

The Woodland crossing issue resurfaced again because there is no sign to forewarn citizens of maintenance related to the closing of the crossing.

Al Gardner reported that the project is in motion at the Traffic Committee. Al will also investigate why the old sign at corner of Elm and Montrose was put out of use.

John Whatmore suggested that an electronic sign should be erected when the gates are locked.

14 Next Meeting.

Wednesday, April 5, 2017 at Herb Linder Annex.

May most likely at Centennial Hall but upstairs on Thursday May 04, 2017.

June also on the first Thursday, June 01, 2017 most likely to be at the Beacon Hill Chalet. To be confirmed. Rick Jones indicated that he would not be able to attend.

UPDATE:

Meetings on May 4, 2017 and June 8, 2017 will be at the Rec Center.