

West Wellington Community Association
Open House
November 15, 2006
Fisher Park School-8pm

Board members present: Cathy Bennett, Peter Bleyer, and Rob Bowman

Others: Dave Haskins and John Sutton (WWCA web site and mailing list) and Anne Marie Laurin (Communications)

Welcome and Introductions:

- Rob welcomed everyone to the open house.
- Invited everyone to partake in coffee/tea provided by Bridgehead on Wellington and pastries and cookies provided by Chris Green from Harvest Loaf Bakery on Wellington. (Thank-you notes sent to them).
- Went around the table for introductions-approximately 15 people in attendance.
- Contact sheet was circulated; this information will be added to our mailing list
- No official agenda but rather an opportunity to share concerns, ideas, updates on what is happening in West Wellington

Update - All candidates Meeting held November 9th:

- Rob paid the sound and lighting bill on behalf of WWCA and will be reimbursed by Hampton-Iona. Expected final cost for the all candidates meeting for WWCA will be \$79
- Over 300 in attendance
- Excellent debate and lots of good questions
- Special thanks from WWCA to Judith Shane and Lorne Cutler from the Hampton-Iona Community Association for doing the lion's share of the organization for the event.
- Also noted is that WWCA supplied many of the volunteers for the actual event including John, Chris, Christine, Rob, Janet, Dan, and Bob. It was noted that their efforts contributed to the overall successful of the event. .

Neighbourhood Planning Initiative/Infrastructure on Wellington Street West

- Neighbourhood Planning Initiative - redesign from Island Park to Somerset (will need community input-traffic study, sidewalks etc. City is to set community stakeholder process. There will be an open house to launch this.) Rob has attended a few meetings hosted by the City and noted that public consultations as well as small stakeholder meetings will be held over the next year. Planning is on the fast track given that infrastructure replacement including roads and sewers in our area is expected to being in 2008. Rob noted that in the near future, WWCA will be seeking feedback from the neighbourhood through surveys through their mailing lists and that the information will be shared with the City and the other stakeholders.

January 17, 2007 Meeting of WWCA will feature a presentation by Alain Migueles, City Planner

Given that Alain Migueles is looking for input on the content of his proposed presentation for our meeting in January, Rob solicited ideas which included:

- City's approach to cycling paths on Wellington Street
- cycling parking
- public transit
- traffic flow/peak
- development along Wellington - intensification building - What does traditional main street mean? The need for an improved communication method for consulting with community on development was raised
- green space in West Wellington (how do we protect it? How do we create it?) Status on Green space-need to have an inventory of city vacant lands in our neighbourhood.. Discussed recent example of parkette on the corner of Grange and Scott Street. Attendee of the meeting stated that the land was sold by the City for approximately \$82,000 and then flipped weeks later by a private developer for \$189,000 for the lot or would build to suit for additional price. A house is now being built on it.
- Need much more transparency in the process in terms of determining what properties are owned by the city
- the City's approach to outdoor patios along Wellington: do they add to the vibrancy of the neighbourhood vs. Are they a noisy nuisance for residents on neighbouring streets
- New developments along Wellington/Richmond that download some of the responsibility for parking onto neighbouring streets (e.g., cash in lieu of parking applications), adding to congestion; Do we need a municipal parking lot for our neighbourhood? Will parking at GCTC be adequate?

Other issues discussed that WWCA might want to get involved in:

- Community Policing Centre on Wellington-is it value added to our community? Is it more often closed than open? Would having police walking through the neighbourhood be more effective ?
- Vandalism and security at the Tunney's Pasture transitway: do we need to meet with OC Transpo to work with them to address these issues
- Expanding westward-continuity of Wellington and Richmond is important. We should work with other adjoining associations to find common ground
- The recognition of school yards as green space or community space needs to be urgently addressed. Further, the continued existence of schools in the urban core is needed in order to attract families to the downtown and neighbourhoods close to the core of the City. Without these schools, potential new residents may be forced to locate to the suburbs where new and well maintained schools flourish. This issue needs to be addressed with other centrally located community associations, and local school Board trustees.

Agenda item to move forward to next meeting:

Greening Project for Scott Street

Next Two Meetings: Wednesday, December 13, 2006 - 8pm - Fisher Park School and Wednesday, January 17, 2007 - 8pm - Fisher Park School. Everyone welcome.