

Mount Royal Community Association
Meeting Minutes
February 7, 2011

Attendees: Debra Law, Krista de Silva, Megan McCarthy, Denise Ross, Darlene Bruce, Susan Petersen, Elisa Iozzo, John Merriman (City of Calgary), Peter Haley, Candace Selby, Laura Brown, Jane Keyser, Tina Dargan, Rosanne Woods.

Meeting called to order: 7:05pm

1. Minutes from Jan 10, 2011

Revision: Date for skating party is February 13th not February 15th.

Motion to Approve January minutes as amended by Candace, second by Peter.

2. Introduction

Welcome to John Merriman with City of Calgary – Community and Development Services. John will assist the Board with by-laws, facilities, and grant applications. John will attend all MRCA meetings unless there is a conflict with another community.

Definition of Board roles and refreshing of the by-laws

Our current bylaws are in need of revision (available on MRCA website under minutes). Some of them are out of date. Page 5 Executive definition – all members are an officer including all directors (newsletter and security are not currently listed). John suggests that normally only the President, Past President, Secretary and Treasurer are considered Executive. Agreement among members that bylaws should be updated to reflect this. Previous amendments were not officially recognized by the province. Jane pointed out that all changes to bylaws must occur at the AGM with all information sent out in advance to voting members. Debra suggests all directors review the bylaws before next meeting and offer any suggestions for changes. Jane and John will assist Debra in drafting the formal amendments before next AGM.

3. Treasurer's Report

Peter Hughes invoice has been paid with a hold back of \$900 pending completion of the railing. Current balances:

Chequing \$74,168.84 (outstanding accounts payable/receivable not included)

Casino \$77,505.45

Mailbox needs to be replaced. Tina will look after new mailbox being installed.

There is a considerable amount of copying required for record keeping so Laura has suggested a small copier be purchased (est \$300) for the use of the treasurer.

Motion to approve purchase of a new photocopier by Laura, second Tina.

4. Tennis Keys

Jane Perry has resigned from this position. Duties include making copies of the keys and handing them out to members who pay the tennis fee. Tina has offered to handle the keys and Denise will help when Tina is unavailable.

5. Directors Reports

Community Development – There is one current outstanding permit request but the City has not circulated the information yet. There is also one application for a change of use in Lower MR from a bed & breakfast to an office and residence. Committee meeting not required. Debra suggested that perhaps the committee should meet regardless just to make sure all members are on the same page and up to speed with current issues. Darlene agrees the committee should meet. New member Allen MacKenzie will join in the fall. February 16th is chosen as the next meeting date for this committee. The committee is “governed” by the Calgary Land Use Bylaw and the Upper Mount Royal ARP. Part of the community is under direct control and any changes to those properties fall under 2P80 not the new bylaw. Peter recommends a copy of the bylaws be purchased for the committee.

Station House Deck

A review of last year's minutes showed the Board agreed to one of Peter's plans. The first option

was to extend the existing deck 10 ft to the east at an approximate cost of \$25K. Option 2 was to extend the deck to the ends of the building and 15 ft to the east at an estimated cost of \$40K. Original architectural plans had no structural details. Peter met with contractor who built MR Station who suggested \$33K for option #1 and \$48K for Option #2. Board approved option #2. So what are next steps? Need to partner with playground committee and put job out to bid. Need formal approval of plans. John has forwarded the requirements for a permit application if Board agrees with concept drawings. If the project is <\$20K we need written approval from John. We do not need a development permit if contained within the land use bylaw but need to make an application under “revised” plans DP 1994-1715 (original DP for MR station). Peter will need a cheque for the application. John requested that we make a motion to approve after we have formal estimates from competitive bids. There is a grant available for the conceptual drawings and John will send the info to Debra and Krista. Previous Board already agreed to “contract” with Peter for the conceptual drawings. There was discussion around where volunteer work and paid work overlap and what the Board’s position is on this issue. Susan asked what the timeline would look like and Peter suggested if foundation was dug after spring thaw it could be completed by next fall. Elisa suggested this will impact the family BBQ slated for June. Candace asked Peter to estimate costs and email the directors. Peter agreed to email directors with estimated costs and he will proceed with technical drawings and the permit application.

6. Membership

Denise reported that email had been sent to all previous members and the newsletter also contained the write up and membership form. Denise proposed a single sheet mail out in March and there will also be a table set up at the skating party.

7. Events

Skating party will go ahead on Feb 13th and everyone hoping for good weather.

8. Facilities

Potential renters have been inquiring about internet access. Discussion among Board resolves that there is no reason at this time to install internet at the clubhouse (may be revisited when security cameras are installed). Weeknight rentals are very busy but Saturday days are seldom booked. John has a copy of the grant for facility repairs but needs a motion

Motion to apply for Capital Conservation grant for a new life cycle study by Jane, second Elisa.

9. Newsletter

Candace received a comment from Mary Lou regarding ads always being placed at the back of the newsletter. Jane responded that previous feedback was that members did not like ads at the front. Denise wondered if we could ask members for contributions to the newsletter and Laura suggested “blog” type submissions or photos.

10. Traffic

Letter from the City declining our offer for Planting the splitter islands (as was expected). The City has offered a volunteer solution and will help the Board in training groups of volunteers to provide this service.

11. New Business

Susan questioned why the website highlighted only a few of our advertisers. Eric Keyser (website manager) had thought only those that put in a ½ page ad should also get website space. Denise commented that the website shows two different mailing addresses for MRCA. Jane will ask Eric to correct and will also ask for agendas to be updated. Emailed information to directors – please be sure to pass on any necessary information to others as they may not necessarily have been copied on the email.

12. Old Business

Playground – Committee has an open forum meeting tonight at 9pm. Susan has reviewed the grant application and may need help. Current cost is estimated at \$200K but will probably cost

\$50K in actual dollars (contractors tend to skew bids for the grant process). Old playground equipment will be donated to another school/community. Committee is hoping parents will provide ideas on types of equipment they would like to see. Peter asked what kind of surface was being considered. Candace suggested pour & play is the current thought.

Meeting adjourned by Debra at 9 pm.