

Mount Royal Community Association  
Meeting Minutes  
March 7, 2011

Attendees: Debra Law, Denise Ross, Darlene Bruce, Susan Petersen, Elisa Iozzo, John Merriman (City of Calgary), Candace Selby, Laura Brown, Jane Keyser, Tina Dargan, Bob Weaver, Martha Pinzon, Gwen Yaholnitsky, Mary Lou McCormick, Rosanne Woods.

Meeting called to order: 7:00pm

1. Open discussion led by Debra regarding current state of Community Development and how to better ensure the meeting minutes truly reflect what is decided at meetings. The outstanding concern revolves around what commitment the Board actually made regarding drawings for the Station deck renovation. Peter Haley believes last year's Board approved him as the architect for the project but the minutes reflect the Board requesting Peter get estimates on costs and then present those to the Board (noted in the June 2010 minutes). The current Board is unclear as to whether or not Peter was approved as the architect. The Board wishes to be very clear on perceptions to the community. Our minutes need to reflect very specifically, our intentions and the path taken to reach those decisions. According to the FCC (Federation of Calgary Communities) bylaws, we are in conflict when hiring a Board member for a paid position.

According to the MRCA bylaws there are two items to consider:

A special meeting must be called to present the costs or pricing of such a project  
At the AGM the Board must present the project to the community members in attendance for approval and clearly state the path taken to reach the decision (ie. Submission of several bids in the tender process)

There is general agreement that previous minutes (from 2010) are unclear as to the Board's intentions. There is no mention of fees or approval for payment.

Peter Haley has now resigned (though not formally as no letter has been received by the secretary) as a director in order to be the architect on the project but will remain a committee member on Community Development.

There was continued discussion regarding the use of family members for cleaning or as helpers for the social events. Any director wishing to use friends or family members for these purposes should bring the matter to the Board for approval.

2. Minutes from Feb 7, 2011

**Motion to Approve February minutes as amended by Darlene, second by Denise.**

3. Treasurer's Report

Current balances:

Chequing        \$76,665.45 (outstanding accounts payable/receivable not included)

Casino            \$78,630.68

No update from AGLC regarding application for casino funds extension.

4. Directors Reports

Community Development

There has been a request for rezoning of the east side of 14<sup>th</sup> Street SW, north of prospect.

Owners have purchased two lots and would like to build a multi-family unit. It is currently zoned as R-1 and they have asked for our support on their application.

**Motion for the Board to decline to provide support for the rezoning of the east side 14<sup>th</sup> Street north of Prospect Ave by Darlene, second by Mary Lou.** All in favour, none opposed, motion carried.

Committee met on Feb 16<sup>th</sup> – review of DeSilva's application but there were no issues outside the envelope. Peter provided direction to the committee on what to look for in assessing applications. The application for 12<sup>th</sup> St and Cameron Ave to convert a business to a B&B is being handled by Peter.

Discussion of the use of the intersection of 8<sup>th</sup> Street and Hillcrest as a popular spot for high profile signage. Non-members of Mount Royal must have permission from the Board to post signs. Mary Lou suggested only giving permission to groups that benefit our members. Debra will handle any requests that come in.

Deck Discussion:

Peter did not circulate his costs to Board members as requested so the suggestion was made that we should procure two independent estimates including structural engineering costs for comparison purposes and consideration. Peter has not been officially hired as the architect yet. Jane recalls from last year that Peter had said his costs would be around \$5000 (basically just the structural engineering costs) and any other architect would probably cost close to \$20,000. Darlene will communicate with Peter and will also secure two more quotes on the project.

5. Membership

There are currently 80 members. Fifteen new memberships were received at the skating party and there were a bunch in the mailbox still to be included. In March there will be a one page sheet sent out and Jane suggested including upcoming events. There are currently some issues with the online registration process and the request was made to have Eric check into it. Denise questioned whether there should be new signage for the tennis fence regarding membership and several suggestions were made. John reminded all that signage on the fence is a bylaw infraction and could be subject to removal at the city's discretion.

6. Playground Committee

Candace reported not much progress has been made and they will now be working toward the June deadline for grant applications. If we want to shift the grant to whole area "naturalization" we will need three quotes combining work on the deck, playground and the surrounding landscape (construction can be completed in phases).

7. Events

Skating Party was a great success. The BBQ for June has been set for June 18<sup>th</sup> from 5pm-9pm.

8. Facilities

Tina reported that there were 21 new requests for Station bookings between Feb 1 and Mar 7 with a wide variety of applicants. Tina had 137 correspondences over that time period with renters. Debra suggested we could use an auto-reply to emails with the basic facility information that might answer some of the questions. Tina will let Eric know what she thinks would work best. Finding a same style replacement for the mailbox has proven difficult. None of the currently available models offer a slot on one side of the door and a locked box on the inside. Instead Tina will have a locksmith replace the lock on the current mailbox with a combination lock.

9. Traffic

We have received a letter from the City on maintenance of splitter islands. This plan was developed for Elbow Park, Rosedale and Ramsay. There is an available manual for volunteer residents which sets out all the duties of the volunteer as well as provides guidance. The city also provides safety vests and insurance. Bob recommends the Board accept this plan with some small amendments.

**Motion to approve the City of Calgary Volunteer Program for the maintenance of the splitter islands by Darlene, second by Mary Lou.** All in favour, none opposed, motion carried.

10. New Business

The Inner City Communities Coalition contacted Debra to inform her of the first meeting being held on Wednesday, March 9, 2011. This coalition could help inner city communities with issues such as traffic calming.

Christmas Lights – Debra has been in contact with a gentleman selling LED light strings for \$8 each and wondered if the community would like to put lights in some of the trees. Discussion

around access to electrical outlets and desire for lighted trees. Item tabled to next meeting. Question with regard to whether members who are in the process of building should be on the Development Committee. Board agreed that it is not a conflict if the member excuses themselves during the discussion and approval of their own application. Current member of the committee are Darlene, Gwen, Krista, Eric, Peter, Allan (starting fall 2011) and Martha.

Meeting adjourned by Debra at 8:58 pm.

Next Meeting April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at 7pm.