

Forest Heights Community Association

Board of Directors Zoom Meeting Minutes

Oct. 26, 2020 – 6:30 p.m.

Call to Order – Quorum of 6

Executive Directors: Jerry Corriveau, Doug McKlusky, Lori Atack-Smith

Directors: Ted Loker, Betty Papazotos, Lori Yu

Absent: Socrates Seretis, Hilary Friesen, Matt Hoffer, Drew Hasenpflug, Deanne MacIntosh

Guest: Tatiana Shcherbina

Guest David Eagleson – traffic concerns around Forest Heights and Forest Hills area

Concerns:

David is a former Toronto police officer and detective who recently moved to Forest Heights.

Westheights Drive especially is heavy with traffic, vehicles driving at high speed, loud mufflers, tinted out windows and licence plates.

Concern about the safety of the community.

Lack of Police enforcement.

Suggestions for David:

Contact councillors, Bill Ioannidis, City of Kitchener and Elizabeth Clark, Region of Waterloo

Contact Police by phone to Community Resources, not by email (he did online and received no reply)

The association could possibly produce traffic appropriate signs for the area.

Traffic calming on Westheights like they did on Highview Drive.

*David inquired about what the association does and that he was interested in having a role with us. Jerry advised him that he would contact him separately to discuss his interest.

Guest Nathan Moore of Recess Guardians, not for profit organization with school initiative.

The office was opened about 2 years ago. Before Covid-19, they worked with grade 4 or 5 students with games they would then share with the younger students in the school. This provides the older students the opportunity to be leaders, and lets ones that normally don't get picked, to shine. It reduces bullying and improves inclusion. "Activate" is a new program launched in January which includes a half day of training. The students love the program but it needs to keep changing and evolving to keep the interest going, which is the challenge over time. They would like to provide a new box four times a year in line with the seasons. The school year has started and he wants to bring back the Recess Guardians again. Due to Covid-19 the students now have to run games in their own classrooms. They would like to continue in Nov, then March and May. The program is free but the boxes are not. They want to sign up Driftwood Park P.S. with 1 set and Forest Hill P.S. with 2 sets. The cost per box is \$200.00 with four throughout the year per classroom totalling \$800.00 each. The total cost between the two schools is approx. \$2400. Recess Guardians is run by former principal Bill Shouldice, and Nathan advised that they are approved by the WDPSB school board. They work with the individual classroom teachers that are interested. You can check out their website at recessguardians.org. Nathan agreed to send us the names of the teachers for each school. Doug will follow-up with these teachers.

1. September Meeting Minutes – **Motion** to adopt the minutes – Moved by Doug; Seconded by Lori A. CARRIED

2. Business Arising

Code of Conduct bylaw 7 – See #7 Fischer Park

3. President Update by Jerry

Pizza with Santa Christmas event – officially not happening this year

Fischer Courts-Forest Heights – proposal with the public school board – Doug reported at the last meeting that the city grant was not approved. We didn't really this grant..\$10.000.00

Fischer Courts-Forest Heights - partnership with the WRDSB Matthew Gerard, Coordinator Superintendent, Business Services and Treasurer – he has asked Ian Gaudet to organize a follow up meeting with similar participants from our last meeting that we hosted at the community centre. (Board, City and FHCA) He advised that he needed to engage our communities and stakeholders, and that we can move this forward with appropriate engagement and a well developed plan.

Pickleball survey (sent out to everyone) – Kaufman and Highland Courts options; owned by the city. Expect to hear results at some point. 300 completed –200 by tennis players and 100 by pickleball players so far.

4. VP Doug – School Telucki Bursaries - Forest Heights Collegiate Institute and Resurrection H.S. - \$500.00 each paid as per our budget. There will be a universal commencement end of Nov. Doug will not likely be presenting online.

Doug went and looked at St. Mary's H.S. outdoor exercise equipment – the cost was approx \$30,000. The City donated the concrete pad. It was located in an area with good access right off the parking lot. An ideal location for our area would be around the skate park, courts, library, pool, playing fields. We would also hope to get the City to donate the concrete pad if we go forward with this project.

Doug suggests one major project a year. The two major projects being the Fischer Courts-Forest Heights, and the outdoor fitness equipment. Jerry mentioned that if we are simply transferring funds for the projects that they would not be complicated.

Jerry doesn't want to sit on the money we have built up over the years and would like to invest it into the community sooner than later. In any likely case the pickleball investment would be on either school or city land. Same for the outdoor fitness equipment.

5. Treasurer Hilary – financial reports - Hilary was not able to attend the meeting.

6. Fitness Programs – Jerry

FHCC – we proposed Monday-Pilates and Friday-Yoga – two classes. Yet to actually receive the registration codes, etc. We had to submit a recovery plan for each. Start date was to be Nov 2nd and 6th but not going to happen and is not advertised yet. The centre is still open 9-1, with not much going on. The gym empty most of the time and we could be using it. We are still being denied access to our building to host our seniors programs in the gym. The City is also being

unreasonable on rules for pickleball insisting only singles could play. We need to play doubles while wearing masks—this should convince the City we would be safe.

The City was offering a Bubble program which was tried out at four other community centres, where families (same household) would sign up online to use the gym at a 40 minute designated time, but with no equipment provided. It was not successful. BUBBLE IS A BUST!

Glencairn Church – Gym Rental – Jerry investigated renting the gym for indoor Pickleball. It was available but decided not something we want to take on. The rental contract was over \$1200 for seven weeks, with protocols, and bring your own nets, etc., plus insurance. These things were too just much.

Jerry says we should take a pause for programs and wait for the new year. Board members agreed.

Lori A. says the problem with programs throughout the day lies in the cleaning between groups. Who will do it?

A program from the YMCA of Three Rivers Immigrant Services called Connect LINK is looking for volunteers to support newcomers to Canada that are living in our neighbourhood. Ted advised that he will advertise it on FHCA website. **DONE. Thanks Ted!** Doug suggested that help from the members to share this site would be appreciated.

7. Code of Conduct By-Law amended – Motion moved by Doug – Seconded by Betty, Lori Y. CARRIED (To clarify this is for our organizational leaders/volunteers/directors...not aimed at program participants)

8. Other Business or items – Open discussion

Recess Guardians:

Doug would like to hear from the teachers/principal's involved regarding the program prior to a Board decision. The dollar amount for donation is larger than expected (Jerry was under the impression that it would be \$400 for two boxes), but if it is a great benefit for the kids, and as they struggle with the restrictions of Covid-19, it may be worth it. Doug will check it out when/if Jerry gets the information from Nathan. Board decision to follow. Jerry will advise Nathan we are considering his request.

Action for traffic issues:

Suggestions for David – see above

Discussed – we would like to see more enforcement in the area, especially on Ira Needles, Fisher -Hallman and Westheights Drive. Lawn signs might be a good idea to research.

9. **Next Zoom Board Meeting** – Nov. 30, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

10. **Adjournment** – **Motion** to Adjourn– moved by Betty, seconded by Lori A. CARRIED