

Bishop Hellmuth Neighbourhood Association Inc.

Minutes of the Executive Meeting

Sunday October 1st, 2017

Venue: Scott Bridge’s Place

Meeting commenced at 4:00 p.m.

Attendance: Scott Bridge, Peter Dillon, John Dickinson, Scott MacDougall-Shackleton

1. **Survey**. Scott B. printed out the results of the Survey that was distributed to the community on 28Aug17 and closed on 28Sept17. The main focus of the survey was the Canada Day Party, but the survey included 3 questions related to the BHNA. Key survey observations included:
* There were 27 respondents to the survey. This was considered a relatively high response rate given that there were approx. 120 people at the Canada Day Party and only one person per household was permitted to complete the survey.
* Almost half of respondents were considered Promoters of the Party (i.e rated their experience 9 or 10 out of 10).
* At approx. 50% each, both the Fireworks and opportunity to socialize were voted the biggest draw for the Party.
* Both the organization and advertisement of the party received almost unanimous positive feedback. One key note of feedback was that residents would like to be able to pay in advance of the party (see financial activity section below for information on this opportunity).
* 50% of respondents suggested they “maybe” or are interested in being involved in future events as a volunteer.
* Increased number of social events (23%) and traffic calming measures (19%) received the highest number of votes in terms of what survey respondents said they would like the BHNA to pursue first/further. Beyond the other listed initiatives (Doidge Park Improvements – 15% and Neighbourhood Beautification – 12%), improvements promised by the Heritage District Plan was listed.
1. **Meetings**. Members discussed both recent and upcoming meetings had with community leaders/groups including:
	* **Mark Ridley**. P. Dillon met with Mark who is the Senior Operations Manager for the City of London transportation division. Mark stated that the BH neighborhood doesn't fit within the requirements for "traffic calming," because (at least based on the evidence available) there isn't enough speeding going on. Conversely, Mark agreed to visit our neighborhood and create a design for the two blocks of Hellmuth that include intersection curb extensions and staggered curb extensions along both blocks. The purpose is to create both traffic calming, and promote various urban planning goals including beautification.
	* **Sean Galloway**. P. Dillon met with Sean who is a city of London planner and a senior leader in the urban design aspect of planning. Sean agreed to work with the BHNA to: 1. Create an overall design and development plan for Doidge Park; and 2.do the same for the streetscape. With respect to Doidge Park, Sean can pull together planners, landscape and other people to create a list of possibilities. A hard surface play area and a whole bunch of other possibilities were discussed. The overall project is expected to require 2-5 years (or more) for planning, budgeting, approval and construction.
	* **Walk to Shop**. P. Dillon stated that he has a meeting scheduled with Ryan Craven on 4Oct17 in order to understand the program, how it can benefit the BHNA, and what is needed to support.
	* **LP Community Association**. Scott MacDougall-Shackleton confirmed that he is the rep for the BHNA on the London Police Community Association. As such, he plans to attend an upcoming meeting for all neighbourhood reps.
	* **Neighbourhood Decision Making (NDM) Engagement Committee**. S. Bridge attended a meeting at the Central Public Library as the BHNA rep. See Appendix A for the notes that were reviewed during this meeting. The BHNA executive discussed various ideas that could be submitted for this opportunity. It was agreed that only one ideas would be submitted and subsequently promoted through the BH Neighbourhood. The selected idea is to hang BHNA flags on hydro poles throughout the neighbourhood, while also introducing 2-3 picnic tables to Doidge Park.

**Action**: P. Dillon to develop white paper to be submitted to the city for consideration to the NDM program. Promotion of the idea will occur throughout the neighbourhood once accepted for voting.

1. **Upcoming Social Events**. We discussed the upcoming Potluck Dinner and Social in November. S. Bridge stated that this event is not yet listed on the BHNA website.

**Action**: P. Dillon to send email to Nik Calendar to have this event added and to have an email sent through the neighbourhood email.

1. **Financial Activity.**
	* S. MacDougall-Shackleton confirmed that he has opened a new BHNA bank account through CIBC. This account provides on-line banking and replaces the previous TD account, which has been closed.
	* S. MacDougall-Shackleton confirmed that Pay Pal can be set-up to allow us to collect BHNA membership dues, advance payment for social events, etc.

**Action**: S. MacDougall-Shackleton to establish Pay Pal account

* + S. MacDougall-Shackleton described the benefits of Mail Chimp, which provides the BHNA an easier way for all to manage email accounts, subscriptions, broadcasts, etc.

**Action**: S. MacDougall-Shackleton to establish Mail Chimp for BHNA

1. **General.**
	* As they are currently listed on the BHNA website ([http://www.bishophellmuth.org/site/join](http://www.bishophellmuth.org/site/join/)), we discussed the benefits, expectations, etc relative to BHNA membership. Furthermore, it is understood by all attendees that a non-profit corporation (such as the BHNA) requires members in order to function. While the website does a fine job detailing the advantages of joining, S. Bridge suggested that some additional information (regarding timing, on-line payment opportunities, etc) may further entice new members to join.

**Action**: S. Bridge to complete a draft a document that provides this additional information and will present at next BHNA exec meeting. Once agreed, these will be placed on the BHNAs website and used to further promote BHNA memberships.

* + We discussed the transition of responsibility for the BHNA website, Facebook, etc from Nik Calendar to Joel.

**Action**: P. Dillon to send out invitation to meeting to review this transition and any other business.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.

**Appendix A**

**S. Bridge Notes from NDM Engagement Committee Meeting - 21Sep17**

I had the privilege of representing our neighbourhood at the Engagement Committee kick-off (Central London only) for the Neighborhood Decision Making (NBM) program. This program is new to city this year and replaces the SPARKS Program. The city viewed the SPARKS program as such a success that they have transformed it into the NBM Program, while providing a significantly higher amount of funding. In short, through the program, citizens are encouraged to submit ideas that are expected to “enhance and strengthen their neighbourhood”. Once ideas are submitted and vetted through city staff, they are included within a city-wide vote. This vote is open to all ages and allows for one vote per email address.

Some of the important dates are:

**Idea Submission Period**                                                                                                Sept 15 – Oct 27, 2017

**Idea Café** @ Stevenson and Hunt Rm at Central Library                                        Oct 10, 2017 (6:30 – 8:30)

Note: This is drop-in only session and not formally moderated

**Voting Day** (On-Line & Local Libraries)                                                                      Nov 18, 2017

There is a total of **$250,000** available to the program, which is divided equally amoungst 5 areas of the city. The Bishop Hellmuth Neighbourhood resides in the Central area. This means that we have an opportunity to obtain funds of up to **$50,000 to implement an idea(s) directly in our neighbourhood**. It is important to keep in mind that the Central area stretches from the Richmond Gates to SOHO and Chelsea Park to Wonderland/Springbank while encompassing over 80,000 residents. In other words**, it will take great idea(s) AND a lot of votes from our neighbourhood for our local idea(s) to be funded.**

My role on the Engagement Committee is to assist in coming up with ideas to promote the NBM Program across London. There are approximately 20 members from the Central area with 1-2 citizens of each region being represented. At the end of the first evening, I was provided a number of flyers/posters in which to use to promote the program in our neighbourhood, local businesses, etc. I also received electronic copies of the same so that they may be posted to company intra-net sites, Facebook, distributed through email, etc. Finally, I was given the opportunity to identify locations in which the city will agree to put up lawn signs further promoting the program

I think we already have a great list of ideas to start, but it is important that we refine them and then begin the promotion of them ASAP. I look forward to our executive meeting this Sunday, so that we can begin in earnest our efforts to develop great ideas and engage not only our neighbourhood, but also surrounding neighbourhoods.

You can read much more about the NDM program at: <https://www.london.ca/residents/neighbourhoods/pages/neighbourhood-decision-making.aspx>