

AGM 2019 Minutes

April 24, 2019 6:30 pm

Present: Michelle Friesen (Vice President), Duana Joubert (Community Events / Fundraising), Tanya Vincent (Treasurer), Adriana Suver (Secretary), Tom Suver (Communications / Social Media)

Regrets: Steve Joubert (President)

Invited Guests In attendance: Shawn Nason (City Councillor), Dan Vandal (MP)

Welcome and Introductions

Welcome and introductions of the executive committee were made by Michelle

Financial Summary

Michelle went over the financial summary for 2018. Ending balance for the Operating Acct @ Dec 31, 2018 was \$2,630.18 and Investment Acct was \$9,074.75.

Review of the Year

Michelle did a review of the year. The executive had monthly meetings, met with several officials and other residents' associations. There was the annual garage sale and the BBQ. We had meetings with Playgrounds R Us for quotes on playground renewal. We also have quotes on pond naturalization and costs for improved lighting. We reviewed ideas for community improvements, which led to the creation of the community survey.

Survey Results

Tom led a review of community survey. The results show that the two priorities for community members are pond naturalization and pathway improvement. The executive will focus their efforts on these over the next year.

Pond Naturalization

Michelle spoke to the pond naturalization. City representatives do not recommend a full pond naturalization. Michelle went over the reasoning that was provided by the City of Winnipeg. The City suggests a partial naturalization. Michelle showed a map provided by the City and explained what the City suggests.

Paving the Pathway

Michelle spoke about the possibility of a paved pathway. Michelle explained that Matt Allard said the paving of the pathway is up to the community members. Estimates for blacktopping the path are around \$100,000.

Call for New Members

Call for New Committee Members was placed. Three community members would like to join the executive – Richard Moquin, Don Blasko and Eric Peters. All were voted in. Thank you! The present members of the Executive will contact the new members for an invitation to the next Executive meeting.

Thank you's

Michelle thanked Kevin Schmidt for his work on the Executive during the past year, Ben Thompson for his contacts with the City and engineers. Michelle thanked everyone who helped with the community BBQ, filled out the survey and came out for the AGM.

Membership Fees

Michelle spoke about the possibility of a membership fee for residents. This is needed in order to continue putting on community events and to support fundraising efforts.

Community Concerns

At this time, the floor was open for community members in attendance to voice their concerns.

- The entrance way is unkept and the median is sinking and full of weeds. A member of the community, Shelley, is interested in organizing a clean-up effort of the neighbourhood or contributing money to the beautification of the neighbourhood. Shelley mentioned that planters have been stolen in the past. We need to take control of keeping our neighbourhood clean and beautiful. A call for volunteers took place; there is interest.
- A community member raised concerns about pond naturalization. He feels there would be an increase of weeds in his backyard and a great increase in the number of mosquitos. Would the City be able to spray the pond and surrounding area effectively? Would the pond water become more stagnant and start to smell? Another community member mentioned that he's concerned the pond would look unkempt.
- A community member suggested providing stations for baggies for dog poop along the pathway.
- A community member asked about upgrading the playground. Play structure upgrades could cost anywhere from \$200,000 - \$400,000.

- A community member suggested contacting Selkirk Rolling Mills for excrement from the steel mill as an alternative for paving the pathway. The Executive can investigate this. All materials need to be approved by the city.
- Shawn Nason responded to a question about Precinct J. A&S Homes owes the north end of the property. Qualico owns east and south. Nothing is being built at this point and Precinct J has already been zoned. Fermor is being rebuilt from Lagimodiere to Symington. The east-bound side will be completed this year, the west-bound next year. The Dawson and Fermor intersection will be light-controlled.
- Community members voiced concern about traffic within Southland Park increasing. We already have people cutting through the neighbourhood and speeding. Shawn will look at possibilities of doing a traffic study and other options to keep us safe. Speed humps are a possibility but need a large community approval.
- Community members suggested increasing Hwy 59 to 3 lanes north-bound. This would keep more traffic out of our area. Shawn Nason said that traffic management is a City issue and should be brought up with them.
- Community members are concerned that Precinct J is being used as a dumping ground, with mattresses, garbage, rubble being dumped. Some have noticed a company using this area. Residents are being encouraged to call 311 to report this misuse of property.
- A community member reminded all to drive slowly on the road. There are a lot of kids outside in the warm weather.
- Shawn responded to community members speaking about concerns regarding crime. Increase in crime is city wide and is related to the meth crisis. There are reports of people riding bicycles and stealing things. There have been stolen vehicles in our area as well. Community members feel there is a lot of petty crime and Shawn mentioned that our community is quite safe in comparison to city statistics. Community members are reminded to always make reports of crime so that the City knows what's happening and can keep track. The Executive will look into having a community crime meeting for residents with a police officer to look at how to reduce being victimized and rectifying being a victim. Community members showed interest in this meeting.
- A community member questioned opening the road to more traffic at Dawson. This will increase traffic and will open us up to crime. Let's pursue humps, raised cross walk or other options.
- Dan Vandal spoke about there being lots of traffic calming measures, such as speed humps, raised cross walks and others. Community buy-in is important. The Executive will ask traffic engineers to do a study and give different options and get a consensus in the community.
- A community member suggested making the main loop a one-way to restrict traffic flow to only vehicles that need to come into our area.
- A community member suggested to neighbours to turn on lights at night. It's very dark on the streets and that invites crime.
- Dan Vandal talked about the importance of knowing your neighbours and talking to your neighbours. A community member seconded the importance of getting to know one another and using Facebook and other means for sharing ideas for local businesses. Saving money by using local businesses will foster community belonging and also leave us with money to support fundraising.
- A community member suggested not leaving garage door openers in vehicles.
- A community member asked whether a home-owners association is going to become a requirement like it is in some other cities?

- A community member suggested our community having by-laws that would allow us to enforce some requirements.
- Dan Vandal spoke about his experience being part of a community association and he congratulated our community on holding the meeting and working on making positive changes.
- Dan Vandal spoke about the commitment of \$100 million for roads last year and \$40 million more for infrastructure. Infrastructure is a vague term that can include things like play structures and blacktopping pathways. The Executive will meet with Shawn Nason to discuss next steps.
- Dan Vandal mentioned that boundaries for the provincial jurisdictions are changing, and Southland Park will be part of Southdale next year.
- A community member suggested a warning traffic signal for the East Mint Road and Fermor intersection. Lots of cars blow the red lights there.
- A community member suggested setting up a Neighbourhood Watch program in our area. Community members showed interest. The Executive will investigate it.
- A community member wanted to know how the Executive would communicate with community members. At this point, the Executive has a database of e-mails, as well as advertising events on Facebook. A newsletter is a possibility in the future.