

## **Vars Community Association meeting October 28, 2008**

Present: Denis Mailloux, Jean Séguin, Joanne Gravelle, Nicolina Kingston, Christine Flood, Manon Taylor, David Jones, Barbara Jones, Barbara Lavictoire, Darlene Brown, Joe Welten, Hélène Manning-Lemieux, Scott Lemieux.

Excused: Suzanne, Francine, Marlene

Agenda: discussion of AGM and chair

- Scott apologized for past years, difficult times and time to move on. States the constitution was written by a lawyer, but not sure if it is right for this association. Problems in the past with the Community Association (CA), needs 10 people for quorum to vote and always same 2-3 people involved. Problem to find leadership to avoid this cycle. In past, community more involved with hot topics (skateboard park, septic tanks in Trudeau park, drug program), but less for every day development (park infrastructure). He has ways to improve the committee participation by the residents but does not have time and not ready to implement the solutions. City wants CA because a way to communicate with the residents of Vars. States about \$3500-4500 in bank account with fundraisers, will contact Lise to have the books and financial statements. The 2 most successful communication tool for Vars: Website (will be back in 2-3 days) and direct e-mail (list of over 1200 people).
- David: asking Scott why he seems sceptical about CA?
  - Scott: says will be difficult to have 10 people at every meeting because of Vars demographics, sustained enthusiasm is hard and presence of residents only when hot topics on the agenda.
- Jean: supported the role of Vars CA to voice problems with solutions. The constitution is written to support decision. CA can be the voice to promote programs, but not necessarily to vote. Community needs to have confidence in CA. Way to develop the village (revitalize) with purpose of economics and political.
- Nicolina: problem with village, war is different clubs in the past (Optimist, Lion, CA). Optimist is just promoting activities and not supporting CA nor involved in the decision process. Still did not received the account of the Optimist club for the park funding
- Jean: should have every group involved with the CA (clubs, churches of any denomination, schools, developers, commercials...). Optimist Club should work in partnership with the CA. Have to sell to village that CA is the tool for development and to promote the vision of the community.
- Scott: the CA has right to school, key free of charge because of participation and involvements with the community. And to remember Rollin developers (André Rollin) is a key player for the Vars CA and community.
- AGM booked for November 26<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm at St-Guillaume school instead of Bearbrook Centre.

- Scott will post the last meeting minutes held August 2006 that did not have quorum, but need for the AGM to be public (will be on Website in 2-3 days)
- Scott will get the financial statement from Lise to present
- Need to mail out of the notice to all residents in RR3 and Village (Suzanne will help)
- Nicolina will have the Park and Bearbrook Centre signs changed for announcement, and maybe the fire station.
- Any member can be nominated to be on the board of directors, but need President, Vice-President and Secretary. Treasurer can be appointed by Board later.
- Scott will send electronic copy of the AGM to Jean and Jean will draft the notice adding the CCC final Vision document to attract participation and sent to group by this Sunday to review prior to mail out at the Navan post-office in attractive color for November 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Jean will chair the AGM (supported by David 1<sup>st</sup> and Joanne 2<sup>nd</sup>)
- Jean: discussion and explanation to other group member about the CCC Vision document approval, now about to write the recommendations, then need public consultation. Needing to partnership with other rural areas to push to get what we want.
- The CA supports Scott because the source for the CA success. The CA needs to know how to help him to help us.
- Unsure if Scott ready to give anybody to approve the changes of the community commercial info (by WIKI ?) due to content consistency, not for technical aspect.
- As mandate for the first board:
  - Find ideas to prevent what happened in the past, the Vars CA has to be there and needs to be pro-active.
  - To revitalize the CA and promote participation
  - To get from the Optimist club the account for the park funding
- Next meeting Thursday November 20 at 7pm at the School (Nicolina or Manon will reserve).

Written by H  l  ne Manning-Lemieux