

**SHERIDAN HOMELANDS RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION (SHORA)
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2015**

Date: December 3rd 2015, 7 pm

Location: Sheridan Park Alliance Church

Attendees: Board members Charles Thornton (President), Pieter Kool (Vice-President), Anne Culpeper, Julianna Eddy (Social Media & Website), Denise Gilliland (Editor), , Shawn Lancaster, Leslie Leaver (Website & Social Media), Shirley Secor, Alvin Tedjo, Tim Tibbs (Membership and Canvassing Co-ordinator), Lina Tasca (Secretary), new member Brandon Wiedemann (Miranet Representative), and approximately 45 – 50 residents

Absent: Else Grech (Treasurer)

MINUTES

The 2015 SHORA Annual Meeting opened with the singing of our National Anthem.

Shora President, Charles Thornton, welcomed new residents to the community and attendees to the AGM.

Shora's Year-in-Review:

- Charles Thornton briefly reviewed the agenda.
- The Fall/Winter 2015 issue of the Sheridan Times was our 17th publication. Advertising profits offset the cost of some events.
- If you wish to advertise in the Sheridan Times, please contact Pieter Kool.
- For those wishing to contribute stories to the Sheridan Times, please contact Denise Gilliland.
- Tim Tibbs is responsible for membership and canvassing. Please contact Tim if you would like to volunteer as a canvasser.
- Shawn Lancaster will be responsible for this winter's ice rink. Anyone interested in assisting with this undertaking, please contact Shawn.
- Sheridan Homelands enjoyed our second annual community garage sale on May 30th. Next year's garage sale will be Saturday, May 28th 2016. (Time to declutter.)
- Our first annual pool party at David Ramsay Pool was rained out on the original scheduled date, but enjoyed by many on the rescheduled rain date in July. The 2016 pool party, organized by Alvin Tedjo, is scheduled for Saturday, August 6th 2016, with a rain date of Saturday, August 13th 2016.
- Shakespeare in the Park was the eighth performance at Thorn Lodge Park, with attendance increasing each year. Our next performance will be the third week of July 2016. The production will be A Midsummer Night's Dream.
- Our second annual Pumpkin Parade was an overwhelming success. Almost 500 pumpkins were donated, and over 1,000 people enjoyed the display in Thorn Lodge

Park. Many thanks to Dayanna Hameed and Angelo D'Amico for donating the 30 gallons of hot chocolate that were consumed!

- Christmas Lights Competition will be judged during the week of December 21st, and will again be co-sponsored by Burns and Wheeler, and Shora, with a donation being made to the Deacon's Cupboard.
- New homeowners are now being welcomed to the community by Board members. To introduce them to what is happening in the Sheridan Homelands, they are provided with several back issues of the Sheridan Times, and a one-year free membership.
- Thank you to our many volunteers, without whom we could not function. Charles also thanked Kathleen Jay, our police liaison, Brandon Wiedemann, our new Board member and Miranet Representative, and Shirley Secor who will be leaving the Board at year-end.
- Charles Thornton will be stepping down as President, but will continue as Past-President.

Election of Board of Directors:

Charles Thornton is stepping down as President but will continue as Past-President, Pieter Kool has been nominated as President, Tim Tibbs as Vice-President as well as Membership and Canvassing Co-ordinator, Brandon Wiedemann, new Board member replacing Shirley Secor. All other Board members will be returning. Charles asked for approval. A motion was put forth by Norm Benn and seconded by George Pachiadakis to elect the Board members as outlined. From a show of hands, most everyone in attendance was in favour.

Treasurer's Report:

In Else Grech's absence, Charles Thornton briefly reviewed Shora's financial statements. At present, we currently have a \$2,000 surplus mainly from advertising in the Sheridan Times. Anyone interested in reviewing the financial statements can speak with Charles after the meeting. The financial statements will also be posted on the Shora website (www.shora.ca).

Membership and Canvassing:

Tim Tibbs thanked all the canvassers for their support. We had 40 canvassers this year, compared to 18 in 2014. Streets not canvassed this year included Bosack, Malden, Fifth Line, Cushing, Loanne, Belfast, Haygate, Winthrop. Anyone interested in canvassing, please contact us at info@shora.ca.

This year, we have 750 members, which is a 57% increase over last year. This success is due to the diligent work of our canvassers. Thank you.

E-Blast:

To keep residents informed of what is happening in the community, an e-blast is sent at least once a month. Tim Tibbs advised that there had been an error in format, and people were unable to read it. The problem has been rectified. If anyone is still experiencing problems,

please let us know. One resident stated that red print on blue background cannot be read properly. This will be changed in future.

In order to reach as many residents as possible, we need your email address. If you would like to receive an e-blast please provide us with your email, if you have not already done so.

Ice Rink:

Shawn Lancaster has assumed responsibility for this winter's ice rink. Shawn explained that last year's rink was 60' x 80', but most was not usable as the ground sloped and we lost a lot of water due to run-off. This winter the rink will be moved to an area with a smaller grade, but the rink will also be smaller as a result. The city provides a shed (near Homelands entrance), hose, water, etc. to help maintain the rink. Volunteers are required to make this rink a reality. We do have a good number of volunteers, but more are always welcome.

Website and Social Media:

Leslie Leaver introduced the newly revised website, Facebook and Twitter. She highlighted some new features and demonstrated how to navigate the website.

- Every event will have its own page, and will include a countdown to the event.
- Facebook was set up in September 2014. In January 2015 we had 36 Likes, and as of today, we have 82.
- Facebook is monitored by Julianna Eddy, and includes all Shora events, as well as other events in Mississauga that would be of interest.
- The comments section is open for anyone who wishes to communicate with Shora. Leslie and Julianna will respond to all queries.
- Twitter was started in January 2015, and we currently have 91 followers, including Mayor Bonnie Crombie, Councillor Karen Ras, and South Mississauga MP Sven Spengemann. We have had 500 hits since September.
- Facebook and Twitter are both embedded in the website, so those who are not on these two networks can go to the website to see what is being posted.
- All three mediums will include announcements of interest to residents.
- A blog has been set up for everyone's use.
- A very positive response was received from the audience.

Guest Speaker, Karen Ras, Councillor Ward 2:

- **Stormwater Charge** – effective January 2016, the stormwater charge will be included in the Region of Peel Water Bill. Stormwater infrastructure charge will come off the tax bill. For more information, please visit www.mississauga.ca/portal/stormwater/charge.
- **Disconnection of Downspout** – This is separate from the stormwater charge, and is not yet mandatory. More information will be available in the spring, but in the meantime, please visit www.mississauga.ca/portal/residents/downspoutdisconnection.
- **New garbage bins** -- if the new bins you currently have are too big or too small, you will be able to exchange them at no cost during the month of April 2016. Seniors

unable to wheel the new carts to the curb should contact the City (Tel. 311) for assistance.

- **Sheridan Research Park** – new zoning will allow for higher density.
 - Candu (responsible for Darlington Nuclear) won a bid to enter the Research Park. It will house 1200 engineers and head office people in this location.
 - Xerox will be partnering with National Research Council of Canada and will be building a new centre in the Park to house 100 scientists for advanced manufacturing.
- **Thorn Lodge Park** – There is a tree planting program in effect to replace trees destroyed by emerald ash borer.
 - A conceptual plan for Thorn Lodge Park will be discussed at a community meeting in the spring. A member of the conservation authority will be on hand to discuss low-impact development gardens, a litter pick-up program etc. to enhance our park.
- **Traffic** – Six traffic studies have been conducted in Sheridan Homelands, resulting in the speed limit on Perran Dr. being reduced to 40 km/hr throughout. Recommendations have been submitted to have a stop sign installed on Thorn Lodge Dr. at Perran Dr.
- **Miscellaneous** – A company (name not mentioned) has approached Karen to install an electronic billboard sign at the corner of Erin Mills Parkway and North Sheridan Way. The lights would not affect anyone, and would be turned off at midnight. If anyone has concerns, please contact Karen.
- **Question & Answer Period** –
 - Concerns were raised about the downspout disconnection which could result in major problems, e.g. tripping hazard, flooding, freezing, etc. Karen advised more community meetings are required to come up with viable solutions.
 - Has tree planting been completed along Loyalist Creek? One planting was done in the fall, and another is planned for the spring, mostly on the north side of the creek. A variety of species will be planted.
 - Sidewalk plows are tearing up lawns. Whose responsibility is it to fix this damage? The company clearing the sidewalks and causing damage is responsible to fix it. The work will be done in the spring.
 - Where will the new Xerox/National Research Council building be located? The new building will be built on existing Xerox property.
 - Can lights be installed in the pathway from Sheridan Park Alliance Church to Waycross Cres. as it is very dark and dangerous? Individual to contact Karen's office.
 - What is the criteria for sidewalk replacement versus sidewalk repair? Karen will find out what the schedule is for replacement for Ward 2.
 - Can left-hand arrow be installed in light standard at Fifth Line and Dundas – to turn left from Dundas West to Fifth Line South. Karen will look into this.
 - Karen will remain for the duration of the meeting and will be pleased to answer questions at the end.
 - Karen encouraged residents to contact her office with any questions or concerns, and invited everyone to attend her monthly community meetings at Clarkson Community Centre.

Guest Speaker, Lou Castellani, MPAC Account Manager, Zone 2:

- Is your assessment correct? A slide presentation was shown outlining responsibilities for all levels of government, and how assessments are calculated and tax rates determined. An electronic copy of the presentation will be provided to Shora.
- Provincial Government sets policies and sets taxes.
- MPAC assesses and classifies properties and sends assessment roll to municipalities.
- Disputes are handled by the Assessment Review Board, who reports to the Ministry of the Attorney General.
- Market value increases are phased in over a four-year period. Your 2015 assessment value is based on a January 1, 2012 valuation.
- MPAC uses current value vs. sale price to determine median value.
- Brochures regarding the 2015 Property Assessment Notice are available at the back.
- Deadline for appeals is March 31st.
- For more information, please visit www.mpac.ca.

Police Community Liaison Committee (PCLC):

- Kathleen Jay, PCLC Representative, spoke briefly about the ‘cram the cruiser’ food drives – there are three drives annually – Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.
- The number one group using foodbanks is seniors.
- Police sponsor Toys for Tots. Your support is appreciated.
- To prevent or deter break-ins, etc. lock your windows and doors (cars and homes).
- If you go away, make sure your house looks like someone is home.
- The police crime map is updated monthly. (www.peelpolice.on.ca).
- Peel Regional Police provide many seminars – crime prevention, safety for seniors, internet safety, etc. For more information, visit www.peelpolice.on.ca.
- 11 Division is currently undergoing major renovations over the next two years but is still open for business. The annual open house, however, has been cancelled.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.