

Prince Rupert Community League General Meeting

Date: Monday, June 20th, 2016, 7-9 pm

Location: Central Lion's Recreation Centre, Room 12

Attendance:

Tony Spencer, Victor Dorian, Mary Whale, Myrtle Glover, Pam Chaillard, Chris Goossen, Lindsay Johnson, Sandra Lee, Shannon Biafore, Battista Vecchio, David McDine, Ashley McDine, Daryl Huff, Heather O'Hearn (CRC)

Round Table Discussion: topics included the increased number of transient people in our neighbourhood, proposed signs at alley entrances and mini-network of home owners (Daryl), EPS AP and website for reporting minor crime and Abundant Communities program.

1. Call to order: Meeting called to order at 7:18 pm
2. Attendance: Taken/ Victor taking minutes.
3. Agenda: **MOTION to approve:** Lindsay/Victor/carried
4. Minutes of May 16: **MOTION to approve as amended:** Daryl/Ashley/carried. It was noted that Item #9 in Minutes was a suggestion, not a motion; it was decided a survey about the playground is not required at this time.
- 5., Aurora Place Motion put forward: (moved by Victor, seconded by Mary).

“Prince Rupert Community League remains committed to the Aurora Place Project and to working through the processes and design details as part of the Tower Road Connections Society in order to achieve all of the Partners’ requirements.”

Victor did a brief review of the history of the Aurora Project and the Partnership with Alberta Thai Association and Terra Centre for Teen Parents. Tony noted that passing this motion would not be the last step in bringing the Project to completion; many steps, including signing the legal Partnership Agreement, would remain. Victor remarked we might need to return a significant amount of our funds in our bank account to Alberta Gaming, and possibly the CFEP the grant, if the Project does not go ahead.

Extensive round table discussions followed, with each meeting participant speaking for a few minutes about their view of the Project, and whether they wanted it to move forward. The majority of the comments were in opposition to the Aurora Place Project. Many of the comments below were made by only one or two individuals; however some reflected widely held concerns. They included, but were not limited to:

Space related:

- Most meeting participants believed the Aurora Place building and parking lot are too large relative to the size of the green space available, and the size of the Prince Rupert Community
- The building seems to be mostly for people outside of the community to use, not for serving the needs of the community. The ability to rent the Hall and the accrued revenues was not regarded as a priority
- A Community is more than just a building
- Loss of green space and mature trees is a concern
- Potential playground impacts are a concern
- Could we build our own facility, or partner with the Central Lions?

Prince Rupert Priorities and Communications:

- It was generally believed Prince Rupert is giving up a lot to meet Partner needs, most of which are different from or exceed PR needs
- What will PR be doing in Aurora Place, which spaces will be designated for PR, will PR have priority when needed? What space is for the League, what is shared?
- PR and the original Partnership vision have been ignored; the spirit of the Partnership seems to be no longer reflected
- A needs assessment has not been done for some time
- Feedback the community provided on the design has not been reflected
- PR would be “saddled” to an organization that is too big
- Some people are feeling “bulldozed” by the two Partner organizations
- There was a perception some PR questions and concerns have been inadequately addressed or reflected in documents or designs
- PR could miss a unique opportunity for community building and a great facility
- The programs and services of our Partners, Terra and the ATA, are held in high esteem

Costs

- Facility operating costs are too high, and would impact other priorities
- PR would be paying a lot of money for more building than it needs

Vote on above MOTION: 2 for, 10 against, 0 abstentions; motion failed.

Meeting adjourned at 9 pm.