

Massey Victory Heights Residents Association



Mt Zion Lutheran Church
Cumberland Street @ Tenth Avenue
General Meeting Minutes
Thursday June 23, 2011 - 7:00 PM

Attendance:

	<i>Resident</i>	<i>Street</i>		<i>Resident</i>	<i>Street</i>
1	Ted Grewcutt	Elmer Street	2	Betty Grewcutt	Elmer Street
3	Terry Keenan	Massey Street	4	Bob Kochendorfer	Jackson Crescent
5	Judy Kochendorfer	Jackson Crescent	6	Paul March	Chestnut Street
7	Earl Marshall	York Street	8	Dennis Paulley	Kent Street
9	Bill Radbourne	Churchill Street	10	Terry Tomcko	York Street
11	Larry Hill	York Street	12	Lil Ronalds	City Rep – Planning

- 1) **Call to Order** at 7:00pm
- 2) **Additions and Approval of Agenda**
 - a) Earl Marshal – Civic Funds
 - b) Dennis – Update on insurance
 - c) Email from Resident – Elmer Street

Agenda approved Ted Grewcutt - Second by Larry Hill

- 3) **Approval of Minutes: April 28th 2011**

Agenda should read April 28th 2011 not 2010
Minutes approved : Terry Keenan – second Larry Hill

- 4) **Business Arising from Minutes**

No new business arising

- 5) **Treasurers Report**

New Members [since last meeting]	1
Total Paid Members (total households 904)	110
Expenses	50
Current Bank Balance	\$1516.40

Approved by Earl Marshall / Second by Terry Keenan

- 6) **City Committee Reports**
 - a) **Community Policing Update** - Bob Jones [absent]
Bob advised Dennis there was a re-election of positions at the last meeting.

1. Letter received from resident on Elmer street:

“On Friday, June 17th at approximately 1:30pm, my husband and i were gardening when an older model, dark blue, Chevy Ventura minivan pulled up....two men came out, one stayed on the road by the vehicle while the other man walked up to the door at our neighbour’s house....he was wearing blue jeans, a t-shirt, sunglasses, ball cap, Caucasian, probably about 5’10” tall, short dark hair under his ball cap, wearing an orange safety vest....he said hello to me as he went to our neighbour’s door....

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i went back to gardening and he then went around back to the neighbour's garage and was walking around the yard when my husband saw him from our backyard....the man put his head down when my husband looked at him....the man pulled out a tape measure and started 'measuring' things in our neighbour's yard....

he then met up with the other man also in a safety vest on the street and continued to 'measure' things on the street....then they drove away....

we called the police and they said there has been an increase in break and enters where men wear safety vests, show up on a construction site and proceed to rob the construction site of equipment....and nobody thinks anything of the men as they have their safety vests on and look like they are also working on the construction site.....

We would like our neighbours and neighborhood to know about this incident and the police have recommended we tell all of our neighbours so that we can all be aware and keep a watch out for other potential situations like this one....”

2. Elmer and Winthrop residents have noticed people going thorough recycling on the porch and took things.
3. A black van has been seen in the area roaming with cameras on it. Signs on the side indicate it makes frequent stops.

Residents are asked to be aware of this type of activities in the area.

b) **Neighborhood Traffic Advisory Committee** - Nelson Geddes

i) **Email Update from Nelson:**

Traffic Report – June 4 2011

The following are the main areas of traffic design affecting our neighborhood.

1. United boulevard connector (UBC)
 2. Bridge replacement
 3. Establishing traffic control policies
1. **UBC**

Translink has withdrawn from this project after not being able to satisfy 'Sapperton' residents. As a result the North Fraser perimeter road (NFPR) project has been shelved. Coquitlam is petitioning the provincial government to force the UBE into New West. (Remember, Coquitlam used the courts to force New West 'r to open our Bailey bridge creating the existing problems.)

2. **BRIDGE REPLACEMENT**

The original plan was for a 6 lane replacement and without the perimeter (Right through the city) road the current plan is for 4 lanes as 2 were to connect to the front street portion of the NFPR. Moving traffic in and out of the city without obstruction must be a prerequisite of the design.

3. **POLICIES**

*30 km/hr speed on residential streets?????
Maximize the ability of traffic leaving the city at the expense of those trying to enter.*

At the last traffic advisory meeting there was nothing else of relevance to our area to report.

- ii) **Questions** [carried over from last meeting]**arising** - To be taken to next meeting
 - (1) RV parking on streets - Boat and towed trailer can stay on the street as long as it's attached to a vehicle. These are only enforced when someone complains.
 - (2) Definition of a corner - how do we know where the corner begins, i.e. parking Nelson will be our conduit to bring forward any clarifications to engineering.
 - (3) How do we address the enforcement of stops signs and cross walks introduced during our traffic calming exercise?
- iii) Terry Keenen brought up the letter to the editor in the recent local newspaper [below] with respect to UBC being shelved but the Pattullo Bridge is still on the books. Suggestion is to move the bridge to King Edward areas in Coquitlam. Can this be brought up at the next meeting?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR Traffic talk is troubling

Dear Editor:

An open letter to New Westminster city council:

I attended my first ever New Westminster city council meeting on May 31.

I was impressed by the sheer number of topics dealt with, as well as the professionalism demonstrated in the debate.

Unfortunately, I was dismayed to learn that the United Boulevard extension project has not been put to rest. Further concerns were raised by the comments by the mayor of Coquitlam.

I can't help but feel that this is all connected to TransLink's Pattullo Bridge announcement.

I believe this announcement is a golden opportunity to solve our traffic congestion problem by diverting truck and commuter traffic around New Westminster rather than through it. By repositioning the new Pattullo Bridge in the vicinity of King Edward in Coquitlam and connecting it to Highway 1, we would minimize commuter and truck traffic not only to New Westminster but also to Coquitlam and Burnaby by diverting it to the South Fraser Perimeter Road.

The strategy would free New Westminster to redevelop its waterfront and the traffic corridors running through the centre of the city. This is a historic opportunity to follow the example of a number of harbour cities, notably Boston and Seattle, to remake our waterfront into a people-friendly place. Burnaby could improve the livability of the Cariboo and Canada Way corridors.

Coquitlam can alleviate its traffic congestion issues without impinging on New Westminster. This is a win-win situation all around.

There perhaps will be arguments that the cost is ...Traffic Page 7

Traffic issues need work

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prohibitive. I would suggest that such an assumption does not take into account the cost of upgrading the transit corridors through New Westminster and Burnaby let alone the overall benefits associated with making New Westminster a model riverfront city if the new bridge simply replaced the old one.

Attempts to resurrect the United Boulevard extension without integration into an overall comprehensive plan that makes sense must be met with a firm no.

Instead, I believe New Westminster council and its residents need to stand together to exert influence on all concerned stakeholders on the placement of the Pattullo Bridge. If we work together, we can have a fair say in the placement of the bridge and the creation of a transportation plan that is worthy of our city and that also works for our neighbours.

Lutz Holfield, New Westminster

7) **Old Business**

a) **Unkempt Properties**

The executive are working on a program that fits into our Motto –“Foster Community and Ensure Liveability within Massey Victory Heights” There have been examples where unkempt properties have been dealt with by the city quite quickly. We encourage residents to continue to use this avenue to report issues to the city.

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Some ideas being looked at:

1. Community cleanup day, [spring cleaning].
2. Volunteers to identify properties and help out those members to clean up their properties

The executive continues to look for ideas from residents on how they wish to proceed with this endeavor.

b) **Garage Sale - May 7, 2011**

This year's event saw 20 registered participants. Even with the miserable weather turnout was great. An email was sent out to all participants of our annual garage sale to solicit them asking the following:

- We would be interested in hearing what the activity was like in your area?
- How do you think the advertising helped? [We were in the Province; Sun; City Page; Queens Park Message Board]
- What did you think of the handout/map?
- What could we do different next year to get more interest or more Traffic if you did not see a lot in your area?
- If you did not participate due to weather or unexpected circumstances, we would like to know if having you address on the flyer caused you any concerns?

The vast majority of respondents indicated they had a successful sale despite the weather.

- The map[handout was well received by attendees
- Advertising was helpful
- Signage needs to be directed down laneways where possible
- Suggestions to have a rainy day contingency. [this would be difficult as many folks continue rain or shine and plan well in advance – advertising may be jeopardised]

c) **Association Liability Insurance**

The church has looked into the Liability Insurance issue and their agent has advised that as long as there is someone from the church at the meetings we are considered guests of the church and are covered in this respect. This issue is not closed

8) **New Business**

a) **Forgotten Neighbour hood**

An article in the local paper asking for input about neighborhood history did not mention our area Massey Victory Heights. Several residents in attendance suggested we should have a History Page on our web site (we did once but was removed due to lack of input)

If anyone does have anything they would like to contribute, please send your stories to Secretary@masseyvictoryheights.com

It was suggested that we could have Archie Miller or Calvin Donnelly attend a meeting to discuss the history of our area.

9) **Community Announcements**

- a) Bill Radbourne is selling raffle tickets for Fraser Fest 3 tickets for \$5.00 Contact Bill at pastpresident@masseyvictoryheights.com if you are interested.
- b) Paul March operates the web site www.communityguide.ca where you can get in touch with people with the same interests such as zero waste, card clubs etc.
- c) Don't forget to check us out Massey Victory Heights Residents Association at the following:
 - i) www.masseyvictoryheights.com
 - ii) On face book at: <http://tinyurl.com/mvhra>
 - iii) Twitter us at www.twitter.com/mvhra

10) Next Meeting: September 29th 2011
Guest Speaker will be Corry McLaren
Topic Emergency Preparedness

11) Executive Meeting: September 11th 2011

12) Adjournment: There being no further business , the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm