

Ward 8 CAN
General Membership Meeting Notes
March 18 , 2015
Twin Forks Playground



1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

2. Introductions

Rachelle Niemela, Chair of the CAN, introduced the other Executive members in attendance, and welcomed the new City of Greater Sudbury Liaison, Renée Germain, Constable Cameron Kidder from the Greater Sudbury Police Services, and Liam McGill, Business Development Officer from the Greater Sudbury Development Corporation.

Attending:

Rachelle Niemela, Chair
Stefano Presenza, Vice-Chair
Gates Legault, Treasurer
Jessica Valiquette, Communications
Ron Spina, Member
Steve Mantler, Member
Mike Morelli, Twin Forks Playground Liaison
Al Sizer, Ward 8 Councillor
Renée Germain, City of Greater Sudbury Liaison

Regrets:

Nancy Deni, Chair, Community Gardens Subcommittee
Zac Lefrançois, Member
Jim Niesing, Westmount Playground Liaison

3. Greater Sudbury Development Corporation Presentation

Liam McGill, Business Development Officer from the Greater Sudbury Development Corporation led a discussion about #GS2025 and what Greater Sudbury would look like in the year 2025. The focus of the current discussions are around economic development. A summary of the discussions follows:

- every 10 years, new strategic development plan; last one 2003
- New plan launched Dec 2014; Oscar's Bistro kick-off event in January
- Consultations across the city, with different sectors, with youth (Schools, Colleges, Universities)

- Suggestions from residents:
 - Adequate airport
 - Hwy 69 - four laning to get people from the South to visit
 - Attracting people into the city
 - Convention center
 - Bigger music venue: attract bigger bands; maybe arena
 - OLG - tied into conference centre, event centre
 - Come companies have moved to North Bay - why? Because of red tape?
Attracting more companies to our industrial parks
 - Use existing rail for passenger transportation into town - bud car
 - Quality of life - community-driven interactive map with tourist attractions not necessarily in the visitor guide
 - Maley drive
 - Focus on outdoors - need more promotion
 - Good advertizing campaign
 - Eco-tourism; cycling tourism
 - Better promoting of City
 - Better roads, mixed modes of transportation
 - Bus tours
 - More tourist information centers
 - More senior services; example get to know your neighbours
 - Recognize us as education hub in the North; Learning Initiatives
 - Improve libraries
 - Amenities for shift workers
 - Promote Sudbury and value it
 - Need to create jobs
 - Job diversification
 - Telecommunications jobs

4. Greater Sudbury Police Services Update

Constable Cameron Kidder updated the CAN on the three main criminal activities in Ward 8: car break-ins, graffiti, and traffic-related complaints. He answered more specific concerns, in particular with traffic issues. There are continued issues with aggressive driving on Falconbridge Road and Barrydowne Road. There are a number of concerns that can only be addressed by changing the speed limit on specific roads.

He referred to CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design), which is being done in the city. Other updates:

- Current Knock program: winter driving safety
- March is sign enforcement month
- License plate readers are now installed in 2 police cars; the software is being sorted out

5. CAN Projects Updates

Rachelle Niemela encouraged residents to participate in upcoming projects: our yearly community cleanup day, community gardens, Twin Forks playground renewal, and a New Sudbury community festival.

6. Healthy Community Initiatives Funds

There is a community consultation session at the next Finance and Administration meeting on March 24th. Rachelle Niemela asked for resident feedback on the funds and whether there is support to abolish them, to continue them, and how they should be administered if they were to continue.

Rachelle is presenting at the session on behalf of Ward 8, and will also provide a summary of the results of the discussion in letter format to the City.

One resident stated that he would like to see the funds abolished. The rest of the residents indicated support for continuing the funds, but that they needed to be disbursed in a different manner, and should not be the exclusive decision of the Councillor.

Themes:

- Oversight committee that doesn't take a lot of time to decide
- Money should be put back into the city: not in the hands of the ward councillor
- What is identified is done at the community level, with processes in place to ensure proper city practices when allocating the money; ensure transparency and accountability

7. Councillor Updates/Citizen Concerns

- Councillor Al Sizer noted that the Canadian Tire new building will probably proceed on Lasalle Boulevard.
- There was an identified concern about rail safety, the speed that trains travel through Greater Sudbury, and the lack of maintenance on our current rail beds.
- Rachelle Niemela informed residents that Ward 12 will be holding a meeting to discuss the bear issue in Greater Sudbury. Members of the Greater Sudbury Police Services and the Ministry of the Environment will be in attendance. Our CAN lead for this issue, Maria Bozzo, will be in attendance. Residents are encouraged to attend. The meeting is Wednesday, March 25, 6:30 p.m. at Carl Nesbitt school on Roy Street.
- The following guests are planned for future CAN 2015 meetings:
 - April: Greater Sudbury Utilities
 - May: City of Greater Sudbury's Emergency Management Program
 - June: Mayor Brian Bigger

8. Next Meeting

7 p.m., April 15, 2015 at Twin Forks.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50.