

City of Kenora Community Policing Committee Minutes

Tuesday, September 18, 2012 4:30 p.m. City Council Chambers

ACTION

Present:

Councillor C. Drinkwalter, A/Chair, Cst. D. Cain, Ralph Mosher, Wayne Ficek, Kendall Trembath, Trudy Cederwall, and Joanne McMillin, City Clerk.

Regrets:

Bill Richards, Chair, Diane Pelletier, Wendy Darling

A. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest & the General Nature Thereof

i) On today's Agenda;

ii) From a Meeting at which a Member was not in attendance.

There were none Declared.

B. Confirmation of Minutes

Moved by D. Cain, Seconded by T. Cederwall & Carried:-

That the Minutes of the last regular meeting of the Kenora Community Policing Committee held Tuesday, May 23, 2012 be confirmed as written and circulated.

C. Deputations

Richard Perchuk, Manager of Operations - Signage

Rick attended to address the matter of signage for the Neighbourhood Water Program. He indicated he had been waiting to hear back from Committee on the number of signs required but advised that thirty (30) signs have been ordered and now the City requires the location for the zones. Rick explained that Operations Staff will install the signs and for this purpose Rick advised he will set up a meeting with Bill Richards and Dave Cain with Roads Supervisor Rob Halverson to mark up the streets up on a map as to where they'll be required. It was noted for the most part they will be in the main corridors and not on side streets.

RPerchuk

1. Receipt of Correspondence

N/A

2. OPP Community Services Officer Reports

N/A

3. Halloween BBQ

It was discussed that last year the BBQ was not a huge success but it wasn't that bad for the first time and we were able to cover the costs. The Committee agreed to do the BBQ again as it gives the Policing Committee exposure in the community and provides supper for the kids. It was agreed to use Evergreen Community Club again as it worked well last year. Notices will go out again to the schools and Dave will get some spots on the radio to promote the BBQ. Dave will also make contact with the schools.

Councillor Drinkwalter agreed to look after ordering the food; we'll go with 200 this year as we only used 100 last year and the cost will remain the same at \$5.00 (includes hot dog, chips and a drink). The BBQ will run October 31 between 4:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Councillor Drinkwalter will look after getting the food permit from the Health Unit. Rick Perchuk advised he will find out who is the contact for Evergreen Club and let Joanne know. Bill and Dave will look after the BBQ, coolers, napkins and condiments; there are leftover wrappers from last year.

Joanne will again place it on the City Portal; it was felt we need to take advantage of the lead time for advertising and to get the word out in the community.

4. School Crossing Safety, Keewatin and Various Locations

Kendall Trembath explained she lives in Keewatin near Keewatin Public School but that her kids go to St. Louis and she walks them to school every morning. She referred to the dangerous intersection near Keewatin Public where kids cross to get to St. Louis, as well as those crossing from Sixth Street. She mentioned there is not a lot of bussing because of location so kids of all ages are required to walk. Kendall stressed that the driving public is not paying attention to school kids in this area when driving and they drive particularly fast. She noted some kids even have to cross the highway in Keewatin when they live on the other side to get to the schools; and while there is the option to go around under the highway it adds to the already lengthy walk so they end up crossing the highway. She was emphatic that something has to be done at the KPS intersection location as well as other areas in Keewatin as there are no Crossing Guards in that part of the city and it's only a matter of time before something's going to happen with the speed vehicles drive and the lack of attention paid to kids walking.

Kendall also mentioned a similar problem in the Round Lake Subdivision where kids are also required to walk some 7 kilometres along Round Lake; she stated it's atrocious the way kids are being treated by having to walk such distances.

Rick spoke to this issue and specifically from last night's meeting of Council whereby a resolution was adopted with respect to requesting the province to have the responsibility of Crossing Guards be transferred under the Education Act. He discussed the locations of where Crossing Guards are currently located, and indicated it is a struggle, and difficult to determine where crossing guards should be located. It was noted in Manitoba the system is through the schools and the students act as crossing guards in a volunteer capacity. Apparently this cannot be done in Ontario at this time which results in the City paying over \$50,000 per year to have six guards in place and under legislation those guards have to be adults.

Trudy explained she would not be comfortable to have her Grade 6 students act as crossing guards if the province changes its mandate to the school system, and she questioned who would be responsible for the liability insurance.

Cst. Cain

Councillor Drinkwalter

RPerchuk

Cst. Cain/ BRichards

JMcMillin

Kendall indicated since there are no guards in Keewatin she would like to see one at Superior @ Sixth by the public school, or at the very least make that intersection a 4-way stop. Dave's not sure a 4-way could be supported in that area as there have not been complaints or accidents/incidents about that intersection. Rick suggested intersection control would possibly help with the speeding concerns and use of an indicator of the speeds being driven along that stretch.

Trudy referenced St. Louis school's previous request to have the school street as a oneway as the school does not have an off-site loading/unloading area for buses, so a oneway would help take some concern off this issue as it is a health and safety matter.

A suggestion was made to see about re-organizing the current crossing guards to another location by taking an existing guard from Kenora and move over to Keewatin.

Rick mentioned the Committee should be identifying the "hot spots" in Keewatin, particularly those mentioned today, i.e. 9th Street @ Main Street for crossing Highway 17 West; areas along Ottawa Street and at the corner of B & B. It was discussed the students should be involved by asking them to track their daily walk to and from school; it could even be done as a class project to determine where these hot spots are that need attention and plot these areas on a map which would also illustrate where the concentration of students are walking to and from school.

It was discussed if there would be any possibility of introducing a Community Safety Zone between Keewatin Public and St. Louis schools. Rick will check on the legislation requirements for Safety Zones, and will also look at possible options including a 4-way stop in front of Keewatin Public School.

Kendall will get maps to the schools so students can get involved with providing data from those who walk to school, and she'll report back to the Committee through Joanne.

5. Update on Signage – Neighbourhood Watch Program

Further to today's deputation, Dave Cain advised he will contact Rob Halverson and arrange getting together to go over the sign locations. It was noted that once the signs are up contact will be made with the media to do an advertising blitz for the information of the public.

6. Other

N/A

7. Next Meeting

- Tuesday, October 23, 2012 4:30 p.m. City Hall Council Chambers
- 6. The meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Committee

RPerchuk

KTrembath

Cst. Cain