

**Westmount LAP Community Meeting**  
**Community Association Office**  
**904B 22<sup>nd</sup> Street West**  
**July 28, 2009**  
**7:00 to 9:30 pm**

**Attendees:** Shawna Ryan, Eleanor Knight, Nancy Boyd-Zuck, Terry Redford, Glen & Lana Kenney, Justin Lamborn, Elisabeth Miller – Neighbourhood Safety Planner, Brian LePoudre – Community Consultant, Courtney Johnson – Planners, Shirlene Palmer – Recording Secretary

**1. Request to speak to LAP Committee**

Justin Lamborn, a resident of Fairhaven and graduate of E.D. Feehan High School requested to informally speak to the LAP Committee on a draft plan he designed for Pierre Radisson Park before the meeting commenced. He noted Councillor Heidt had told him to attend.

He stated he was generally interested in design of parks and felt Pierre Radisson currently had no design or activity in it and hadn't since he went to school at E.D. Feehan a couple years ago.

Courtney explained the LAP process and the way in which the City currently designs parks. The committee stated they would receive the plan as information and would possibly mention it in the LAP Final Report as showing the interest members of the public have in design the park space of Pierre Radisson Park.

**Questions:**

➤ **What do you see most people using the park for?**

Justin stated he designed it with family adventure in mind. What are we capable of doing in a park...you want to fulfill all the needs along with beauty. He stated the design is original.

Courtney stated the usual procedure is to gather information on what the community wants in a park.

**2. Welcome & Introductions**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.  
Courtney Johnson introduced Elisabeth Miller as the Neighbourhood Safety Planner and welcomed everyone to the eighth Westmount Local Area Plan Committee Meeting.

The purpose of tonight's meeting is to review the results of June's Safety meeting, work through a proposed Safety Action Plan and review work down during the first half of the meeting.

### **3. Agenda & Successful Meeting Foundations**

Agenda remained unchanged.

Foundations for Successful Meetings specify how the meeting will be conducted. They are used to ensure that we feel comfortable sharing our concerns, opinions and ideas with the group here tonight.

- 1. Information Sharing & Gathering**
- 2. Respect & Understanding**
- 3. Integrity**
- 4. Fair and Equal Representation**
- 5. Collaborative Decision-Making**
- 6. Comments Remain Anonymous**

### **4. Review of Safety Results**

**Elisabeth Miller, Neighbourhood Safety Planner**

Elisabeth noted she misunderstood a concern at the previous meeting in regards to doing Safety Audit in dangerous area. If an area is noted to be dangerous without a Safety Audit, such as lots of needles in an area, this information is passed onto Police Services and a Safety Audit would not be necessary.

Elisabeth stated a visual summary was created from all the information gathered from the June Safety Meeting as well as other concerns brought forward. Three maps were posted to show Safe Areas, Unsafe Areas and Pathways and Node usage. It is important to remember these are perceptions of the community members that attended the meeting.

The committee noted there was nothing that stood out as any different than they thought, no surprises.

Elisabeth then posted mappings of Selected Crime Incidents in 2008.

#### **Map 1**

Break & Enter (Residential & Business), Property Crimes (no Break & Enter)

- 70% of the property crime reported in Westmount was theft of or from a vehicle under \$5,000. As well as mischief unrelated to property such as panhandling, nuisance effecting the use of property such as being loud and noisy.

#### **Map 2**

Liquor and drug related areas

#### **Map 3**

Assault & Violence Related

**Level 1:** Common Assault, slapping and pulling hair;

**Level 2:** Assault with Weapon

**Level 3:** Aggravated Assault, a person is injured quite badly.

Important to note 69 out of the 106 incidents of assault reported in Westmount were Level 1.

**Note:**

- Very few incidents in the park areas except at the schools.
- Many of the Selected Crime Incidents support areas that people don't feel safe.

The participants were asked to keep in mind certain crimes are under reported or not reported at all (graffiti) and others are over reported. What may help to get a clearer picture is if Victimization Surveys were done, asking people if they have been a victim of a crime and did they report it.

**Comments:**

- It was noted during the Safety Meeting, a number of people said they did not feel safe in Westmount Park but there are actually very few reports of crime in the park. The reason the statistics don't show any crime is what happens in the park is more intimidation than anything else and this is not reported so will not show up in statistics. Kids go to the park during the day and get chased out by older kids and they won't tell their parents and then it will never be reported.

Elisabeth stated if the intimidation results in the person not returning to the park it can be classified as Common Assault but then must be reported, which it is not.

**Questions:**

- **Is there a map of needling spotting in Westmount?**

Elisabeth stated she will contact Fire & Protective Services as they will be the ones with this information.

**5. Review of Safety Action Plan**  
**Elisabeth Miller, Neighbourhood Safety Planner**

The information from all the maps were then put into a draft Safety Action Plan by Elisabeth and Courtney and are now being brought to the table for your approval. Some of the tools used to help in the drafting of the Safety Action Plan are:

Neighbour-to-Neighbour Survey is when community talks to community. A brief survey is used by community members to go door to door and fill out in certain areas such as around a park or school. People feel more inclined to answer questions posed by their neighbour than some bureaucrat. Usually give a week or two to complete specific area.

Commercial Survey would be completed by the Planners to collect information from businesses in the area.

Safety Audit is when a group consisting of community and city administration get together and walk around or view from vehicles at an unsafe area at specific times. These are always done in groups with safety as a first priority.

Property Damage Inventory is when a subcommittee conducts an inventory of damage to properties in area.

Elisabeth noted attendance to all is not required. Once the Safety Action Plan is finalized the area will be flyer'd with all the dates of what is happening. The reason is two fold – to invited any community members to join in any of the activities as well as to let them know what is happening in Westmount so they are not concerned when they get a knock at the door or see groups of people walking around.

### **Revision to the Safety Action Plan**

- Regular August LAP meeting cancelled.
- Regular September meeting changed to Wednesday, September 23.
- No 1: Scott Park and No 3: Leif Erickson Park will be done together on the same night, Wednesday, August 5 as parks are fairly open and should not take long to complete.
- No 2: good
- No 4: good
- No 5: South end of Neighbourhood – will not complete Property Damage Inventory as can be done when Neighbour to Neighbour Survey is done.
- No 6: 7-11 and No 7: Blue Diamonds will be done on Thursday, September 3.
- No 8: good and possibly add another dated for youth to do a Safety Audit as well to get their perspective.
- Westmount Park Neighbour to Neighbour Survey, contact person Shawna Ryan and 23<sup>rd</sup> Street Neighbour to Neighbour Survey, contact person Lana Kenney. These survey will start August 17 and committee members will be given two or three weeks to complete and hand back to contact person.

If anything other changes are required let Courtney know. A revised Safety Action Plan will be sent out with meeting minutes.

### **6. Group Work: Review of Work to Date**

Purpose of this exercise is to gather feedback on two draft sections of the LAP and to see where we are with the work plan and if additions are needed.

The participants were partnered and asked to:

- Determine if the section of the draft report addresses the goals and strategies created by the Westmount LAPC.
- Determine if anything could be done to strengthen each section of the report.
- Add, delete and/or reword content.

### **Report Back to Group**

#### **Parks, Recreation & Healthy Living**

- Noted parks are important to neighbourhood
- Have more events in parks such as skiing, kite festival, dog events – larger events like Caswell Hill's Art in the Park.
- Refreshment/ice cream shack/tea house would be nice to see in park.
- A natural water feature such as a swamp or creek as always draining the parks.
- Ski trails.
- More rinks – E.D. Feehan
- Neighbourhood green house – great idea

- Dog park – would be nice to have close to playground so can be family event...take the dog to the park and the kids can play.
- Noted in Recommendation 3.1 may be good idea to split up parks as to make the recommendations a more handlable size recommendations. Don't want the recommendation to be pushed aside because it is too large to complete at once. Also noted may be good to have a master plan for all parks but with sub recommendations are what is priority as having all together is good in the larger picture to see what all parks can be used for such as bike path throughout.

Courtney noted the recommendations may sound wordy but they are written to include who will be the champions or in charge of implementing the recommendations.

Courtney stated she is not sure if Legacy of Trees recommendation will be put in Parks, Recreation & Healthy Living or under Youth section as SPLIT (School Plant Legacy In Trees) is a program for the youth.

### **Growing Up in Westmount: The Youth Perspective**

- Difficult to do as is in Youth Perspective
- skate park wanted
- need additional spray park to the present paddling pool as very small
- more sports related stuff wanted such as basketball court, swimming for older youth – they want to be busy
- they walk everywhere in neighbourhood is there anyway there could be elementary school bus passes like they have for high school?
- If they have a nice place they will keep it clean is the impression

### **Work Program**

#### **Overview of Transportation**

- Remove Work Program as doing it today
- Change meeting date
- Add signage

#### **Overview of Municipal Services**

- Change meeting date
- Add construction and repair of sidewalks/roads
- Tree maintenance & replacement – ?Parks
- No more Boulevard Program – ?Parks
- Curbside recycling – City Park first in line for this program – Westmount wants to be second in line.

Rest of topics are fine except to change meeting dates.

## **7. Closing Remarks**

Courtney thanked all the participants for attending tonight and being involved in improving your community.

Throughout August and September - Safety Audits and Neighbour to Neighbour Surveys

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 23, 2009**  
**Location: 904B – 22<sup>nd</sup> Street West**  
**Topic: Transportation**

**Adjourned: 9:30 pm**

**Parking Lot:**  
NIL