**Ward 9 & 10 Town Hall Meeting**

**Meeting Notes**

Ward 9 Councillor Sergio Morales

Ward 10 Councillor Bryn Hamilton

Mayor Alex Nuttall

May 7, 2024 - 6:00pm – 8:00pm

20 Royal Parkside Drive

**Key Issues Summery:**

* **Waste Management:**
	+ Possibility of pet waste compost bins in parks discussed.
	+ Concerns raised about the sizing of waste bins and logistics of exchange programs.
	+ Management of yard waste bags disintegration addressed.
* **Transit:**
	+ Questions about the cost and operational hours of transit on demand.
	+ Discussion on funding sources for transit programs and changes in transit infrastructure.
* **Bylaw:**
	+ Concerns about Airbnb-related noise complaints and fires, and the effectiveness of addressing them.
	+ Need for accountability for Airbnb hosts and suggestions for increased enforcement.
* **Traffic Management:**
	+ Debate over the effectiveness and placement of speed bumps vs bollards.
	+ Concerns about parking availability, especially in areas with narrower streets and in the Wilkins Beach area.
* **Community Planning:**
	+ Discussion on repurposing spaces for community use, such as gardens in parks and open areas.

**Meeting Minutes**

Attendees: +/- # 20

**Meeting began at approximately 6:05pm.**

Welcome and introduction by Councillor Hamilton and Morales.

Intro by Mayor Nuttall.

Presentation by Stephanie Mack.

**Opened floor to Q’s for Waste:**

Resident: Is it possible to put pet waste compost bins in parks?

SM: Public space collection is a challenge due to contamination. Interesting concept for a pilot project. Stay tuned for further information on public space collection.

Resident: Bins – options to just order the smaller bin off the hop? If the idea is to reduce waste, why give the larger bins? Logistics on exchange program.

SM: Bins are sized to fit the 2 bag limit. 120 litres is available. Let us know before we deliver the larger bin that you’d prefer a smaller bin.

Resident: What do we do with old garbage bins?

SM: We will be providing more information on this – re-purpose them for yard waste of pet food bins.

Resident: Yard waste bags disintegrate – who’s going to manage that?

SM: We will be watching the contractor – they have committed to clean up broken bags. We are happy to follow up.

Resident: Did new contractor bring prior staff.

SM: Yes. Via job fairs, and offered current drivers positions.

Resident: Will recycling be switching to carts as well?

SM: Up to the discretion of Circular Materials.

Councillor Morales: Has no expectation of CM switching to rolling bins – they will follow industry model.

Presentation from Barrie Transit

**Opened floor for Q’s for Transit**

Resident: Cost for transit on demand? And Hours?

J: Same as regular transit fare, $3.25, free all month, and seniors ride free Tuesday’s and Thursdays. From 5:30am-midnight Mon-Sat. 9am-10pm on Sun’s.

Resident: Cost of running the transit on demand?

MN: Yes, sub by the taxpayer (since day one). Smaller shuttle buses will be used for TOD. Traded some of our larger buses that were running half empty. Traded buses with Durham region – looking for every opportunity to reduce costs. Georgian College has auto transit fare built into tuition, which helps fund our transit system. $10 mill per year approx. to run our transit program.

J: Cost neutral change. SM: Two short buses we got from Durham were brand new, large buses were nearing end of life.

Resident: New Transit station – will this include old station revitalization?

MN: Won lawsuit that was brought against us. Arch dig is still happening at the site. We’re working with our Indigenous partners to come up with a plan on that site – history related. Buildings restored. Council has taken initiative to get this project done. New transit terminal, will fit into the area perfectly, heritage wise. Province provided funded to make it happen.

Resident: North Van transit system is amazing, 70% full

BH: Intent of the changes is to incentivize individuals to transit system, less cars off the road etc.

SM: The more we invest in a system that works, less congestion on our roads for drivers.

Presentation from BPS Chief Johnson and Sam Scott

**Opened floor for Q’s for BPS**

Resident: Question related to crossing guards

CJ: Not a police initiative, but we do have research of the effectiveness of those programs and there are more effective ways of addressing traffic safety based on research.

MN: Report from City staff is coming back to Council in 4 weeks regarding crossing guard program.

Resident: Seems to be pushed back multiple times, looking for accountability when Council promises a report.

MN: Will follow up with our Public Servants, believes report was delayed due to CAO’s temporary absence.

Officer Kera Brooks presented info on Citizens on Patrol program.

CJ: Evidence based policing can deter crime.

Resident: Complimented Councillor Hamilton on her responsiveness. Right hand turn off Cox Mill onto Hurst – speed issue. Airbnb noise complaints – rental behind them with pool, up to 14 ppl with cars and loud parties till 2am. Twice per week. BPS pretty good at responding. Can responsibility be given to the owners? Been told its not a bylaw issue.

CJ: BPS responds to numeric address in real time. No way of contacting owners directly.

BH: Researched how other municipalities are managing rental. We’ve connected with Airbnb corporate and asked how to hold owners more accountable. Have been successful in getting a few off the platform. Not satisfied with Airbnb policies. Broader issues overall, but awaiting staff report with what the City can do. Keep calling BPS and the City for complaints for data collection purposes.

SM: tested their customer service system through social media, and was given the run around. Had meeting with Airbnb government relations person.

Resident: Airbnb’s – lives next to 2 Capps drive, Wilkins beach. Bylaw won’t respond, and BPS too busy to respond to noise calls. Needs to shut the rental down, how do I get the data points high enough for action?

Resident: Conversation with Fire Chief regarding Airbnb guests starting large bomb fires. Don’t Airbnb hosts/guests have to register for a fire permit with the City or pay fees to the City?

MN: Fees are collected by the MAT tax. Suggestion, maybe we can use fees collected by increased MAT tax to afford a dedicated constable or bylaw officer to work at that time. We can’t fix stupid. Issue should get better with time with the increase of new hotels. Demand for hotel rooms in Barrie has increased – more hotels are being built which should lesson the need for Airbnb’s.

Resident: No parking where we live. We also have no street parking for our guests. Signs were put in place during COVID to distract visitors from Wilkins Beach. Need a parking pass for residents and their guests. GTA residents park in the emergency zones because a ticket is cheaper than paying $75 for parking. Suggested tow zone signs instead.

“went through the McCann era, and we’re tired”

BH: Have asked bylaw for more presence in that area.

MN: Regarding specialized parking passes for Wilkins Residents – we Can’t do something special for one resident and not others throughout the City. If we can fit this into a program that already exists is the waterfront parking pass – that would be ideal.

Presentation by Jeff Sharpe – Traffic

**Opened floor to Q’s for Traffic**

Resident: Why less speed bumps?

SM: Researched traffic calming in USA. Speed bumps - drivers typically slam on breaks and then hit the accelerator the moment they drive over the speed bump.

Resident: Lives on Chalmers – disagrees with SM rationale, speed bumps significantly slowed down traffics on our street. We’ve asked for a 2nd one and haven’t heard back. Doesn’t want bollards. Wants speed bumps on Chalmers and Ward.

KB: Offered Citizens on Patrol to sit in their driveway on Chalmers to collect speed data.

SM: Mistakes were made in Wards 9 and 10 with road design – too wide. Madelaine and Country Ln – MN is planning a complete redesign there.

Resident: When creating 2nd and 3rd units – where are tenants supposed to park if streets are narrower with bollards?

SM: Oversized roads promote speeding.

BH: Had 52 speed bump requests. Only have 9 speed bumps I can allocate in my ward. We can’t add speed bumps on every street, but we are looking for options and alternatives for traffic calming.

JS: Permanent traffic calming measures will be presented to Council shortly.

SM: Have to follow MTO guidelines and data collected.

Presentation from Adam- Planning

**Opened up for Q’s to Planning**

Resident: Farm at northwest corner of Yonge and Lockhart – Carpe Diem. Food insecurity is a big issue – gardening area in our parks? Big Bay/Grand Forest – could the City open it up for community garden?

AD: Farm was rezoned for development.

BH: 7 community gardens throughout the city

SM: If you would like community gardens – champion them for your area. Not everyone wants them in their area. Issues with parking. Grand Forest/Golden Meadow may have expressed not wanting a community garden.

**Meeting ended formally at 8:11p.m.**