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URA Members Meeting Minutes

Tuesday March 13, 2018

Markham Pan Am Centre

URA Directors:

Alick Siu, Peter Miasek, Gene Genin, Reid McAlpine, Adam Poon & Geoff Pyne
Regrets: Karen Lui, Donna Day & Kanthini Rajakanthan

Elected Officials:

Councillor: Don Hamilton
Regional Councillor: Nirmala Armstrong
Deputy Mayor: Jack Heath

Special Guests:

Wayne Emmerson
Chairman, The Region Municipality of York

Attendance:

Approximately 35 members & guests.

1. President's Introduction

Meeting called to order at 8:10 PM, by URA Director, Peter Miasek. Peter welcomed members and officials.

2. Approval of Members Meeting Minutes

Members reviewed and approved the January 15 and February 5th, 2018 meeting minutes.

3. Membership Matters

3.1 Membership Report (Kanthini Rajakanthan)

No update provided

3.2 Treasurer Update (Donna Day)

No update provided.

4. Councillor Updates

Regional Councillor Armstrong advised that several restaurants in York Region, including three in Markham, were closed due to food safety violations.

Deputy Mayor, Jack Heath, commented that he sees the key issues with the York Downs Golf Course redevelopment to be the build out of the “red rectangle” area along 16th Avenue and the impact on traffic volume.

5. Committee Reports & Focus Topics

5.1 York Downs Golf Course Redevelopment (Mike Gannon)

Mike Gannon provided updates on the following items:

- TRCA’s environmental report is due mid-March
- URA meeting with Kylemore scheduled for March 22 or 23, 2018
- The Briarwood Farm redevelopment may provide a path for reconciling the privacy restrictions imposed by the OMB appeal with the need for more public disclosure

5.2 Watford Residence Development for 162 – 194 Main St. (Reid McAlpine)

Reid advised that the Watford Group is planning to build five-story, mixed-use condos on the back half of the properties spanning from the Blacksmith’s Bistro to Gran Sasso/Dairy Queen. An application to the City has not been submitted at this time, however this has not delayed the Watford Group from promoting the condos.

5.3 Stiver House Development – 206 Main St. (Reid McAlpine)

An application to develop the back half of the Stiver House property at 206 Main St. has submitted to the City. Markham’s Heritage Services Committee is reviewing the proposal. Presentation to the Main St. Vision Committee is expected soon.

5.4 South-York Region Congestion Relief Committee (Peter Miasek)

In its efforts to accelerate extension of the Yonge subway to Richmond Hill and the elimination of dual fares between York Region and Toronto, the committee will conduct a survey. The design of the survey is underway.

6. New Business

None.

7. Meeting Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM

8. Special Topics

8.1 The Region Municipality of York - Chairman Update (Wayne Emmerson)

Wayne Emmerson, and his senior staff, provided an overview of the financial and development issues currently facing York Region and the City of Markham. Key messages from Wayne’s presentation are:

- York is one of the fastest growing regions in Canada
- 74% of York Region’s \$2.9B debt is due to the financing of water and sewage infrastructure build out
- 90% of the debt is scheduled to recovered through development charges
- Markham, due to its built-up infrastructure, is designated to absorb 50% more growth than other regions