

Attendance: 29 residents

Country Hill Estates Community Association Meeting: Sunday January 9th 2011

Item 1: Residents were invited to put their names on a map of the subdivision in order to help neighbours get to know neighbours better. (ed: this was my attendance list but I don't have access to it while I type up the minutes. Next time I will gather the names...)

Item 2: Residents were invited to introduce themselves and their address.

Item 3: December Meeting with Doug Thompson (Presented by Daryl Wilton, with commentary by Deb Workman)

Attending: Deb Workman, Daryl Wilton, Mrs. Webb, Doug Thompson

This first meeting with the councillor had four discussion topics:

1) Progress on Country Hill Estates:

It was presented that:

- It has been a long time since the plans were approved for Country Hill Estates, including the complete subdivision from 8th Line to John Quinn.
- The completion of the subdivision could be lucrative for the city, and therefore could be in its best interest.
- There is substantial park space in the approved plans that appeal to both the residents and can enhance park resources for the wider community.
 - It was noted by Doug Thompson that OSU (Ottawa Soccer Union?) is interested in areas for more city/community park/soccer pitches, in the south of Ottawa.

2) Stoppage of Work on Completion of Country Hill Estates:

It was presented that:

- A deadline for completion of Country Hill Estates was desired, as in other subdivision projects undertaken within the city of Ottawa. Background: It is known that Cornwall Sand and Gravel have no deadline, or published schedule for completion.
 - Doug Thompson commented that offroading and unauthorized traffic in the uncompleted section has pulled up survey stakes, thus delaying work, and that the residents should report this activity to the police.
 - Member rebuttal noted that survey stakes had been in place for a substantial time, much longer than an average project in the city and therefore exposed itself to more disruption.
 - Doug Thompson said that he will see to some answers on the question of a deadline.

3) Maintenance of the Completed Phases:

It was presented that residents at the first Country Hill Estates meeting, had expressed some concerns about the level of maintenance provided to the subdivision compared to the standards observed in subdivisions built by builders. A subset of the concerns listed in the last minutes was tabled:

- Road maintenance is an issue. Degradation of the road along its edges upon entering the subdivision, and in places along the original Iveson and Ira Morgan

areas. Lack of a second layer of asphalt along the rest of Iveson and Whiteside Way, commencing with a substantial lip/bump.

- Ditch completion is an issue. Along the original Iveson and Ira Morgan, it was brought up that drainage is a problem in spots, resulting in large flooded standing pools of water. Along the rest of Iveson and Whiteside Way, the ditches are still blasted rock, with some gravel having been laid, but with no topsoil which causes significant pooling of standing water, to the point of pond bull rushes growing in them almost everywhere. This was noted as a safety issue on both health concerns (mosquitos, etc.) but also a hazard to playing children.
- No stop sign at the intersection of Ira Morgan and Whiteside Way.
- Speed limits are being violated by both private vehicles, and contractor/service vehicles. A posted speed limit of 40 km was discussed (see below for more).

4) Future Planning Issues:

Doug Thompson noted that we as constituents have his ear, but that city management teams need/recommend that we have a formal community association registered with the city. This would be a registered organization with a drafted constitution, organizational structure consisting of a president/treasurer/secretary (which could all be one person), with optional VP's, and/or a set of directors. An Annual General Meeting (AGM) would be required to allow members to propose and change items pertaining to constitutional/bylaw/organizational matters, and a minimum attendance would be required for quorum, to make votes official.

Item 4: New Business

On the issue of a city registered community association:

Two members of the assembled residents had previous experience with organizing this type of association. Daryl Wilton volunteered to do the required work to set up the Country Hill Estates Community Association as required to make it official and thereby register it with the city. After Daryl volunteered, and general discussion, Deb "seconded" (commented on it being a great offer) and asked for a vote of support to allow Daryl to act on our behalf and follow up on his offer to set up the association. By a show of hands all were in favour, none opposed, and no one abstained.

On the issue of a posted 40 km/hr residential speed limit:

Discussion, as mentioned above, centered around both service vehicles/buses/dump trucks and private cars going above 50 km/hr along residential roads that are quite often walked by residents. The discussion could be summarized by one insightful comment: "If the speed limit is 50 people drive 60. If the speed limit is posted at 40 then maybe they'll drive 50." A vote was requested for support to proceed on this issue. By a show of hands all were in favour, none opposed, and no abstention was noted. Deb will proceed with a petition on either her website (details to follow), and/or at the next meeting.

New/Other issues raised but tabled for future discussion:

- Dump trucks could come in via John Quinn once Iveson goes all the way. This would reduce traffic and debris on current residential roads.

- The “group home” on Ira Morgan is (rumoured?) to be closing/is closed? What does that mean? What can we do? What should we do?
- Unfinished roads could be blocked with boulders or other obstructions. This is a best practice at other development sites for reducing unauthorized vehicular traffic and damage.
- It was noted that Country Hill Estates falls into the police patrol zone of the 10th Line at 174 Police Station in Orleans and therefore this area does not see frequent patrols. What can be done about this? Can we be moved to a more local Police Station for more frequent patrols?
- It was noted that many residents are willing to offer their support and services to bring about and maintain the planned community park. Tree plantings, maintenance of park equipment and finding private sponsorships were all suggested as things this community could offer back to the City of Ottawa to show that we want to be partners to better facilitate its completion and operation.
- Please scoop and bag your dog’s poop. It was noted that there are (and will be) many young children walking the side of the roads, and this would be a great help, since the current frequency of poop is ... quite high to say the least. It is a health hazard to our well systems. A high frequency of visitors using our area from both people with pets walking the gas line and from neighbouring subdivisions adds to the problem.
- Deb will post a copy of the covenants of the subdivision. Not all residents have signed the exclusions, or are aware of the covenants, as they were not communicated by all builders. What are our responsibilities (ex. Lamp posts), what are the city’s responsibilities (ex. Access paths, lamp posts at intersections), and what has the city negotiated to be excused from developing (ex. Access paths)?
- There is a concern over the amount and type of garbage being dumped in the uncompleted segment of the subdivision because there is such easy access on the roads.
- Tuesday Jan 11th was to be the second meeting with Doug Thompson.

Meeting adjourned.