

Community Meeting Minutes

Parkdale Pilot Project

Wednesday March 24, 2009

6:00pm Open House, 6:45pm Presentations

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In Attendance: Councillor Gord Perks

Murray Smith, Municipal Licensing and Standards

Christopher Dunn, Community Planning

Approximately 15 members of the public

Location: Masaryk Cowan Community Centre, 220 Cowan Avenue

*Councillor Perks commenced the meeting at approximately 6:45pm.*

70 Melbourne Avenue:

*Christopher Dunn reviewed the history of the property.*

Question: Why is there no parking provided on site?

CD: The existing building occupies the majority of the site and there is not land available for parking.

Question: The Parkdale Pilot Project should not act as rubber stamp for properties that have significant issues that affect the community, especially in cases where the landlord has not adequately maintained the property and do not maintain a positive relationship with the neighbours, and when there are no tangible "gives" on the part of the landlord. It would be more appropriate for the city to simply enforce standards that are in use in other communities.

155 Cowan Avenue:

*Christopher Dunn reviewed the history of the property.*

Question: Why is the City encouraging rooming houses within Parkdale, aren't there too many already?

GP: The City initiated the Parkdale Pilot Project in response to the outcome of community mediation around 1998-99. The project encourages good quality housing and a range of housing options with input from the community.

Question: The property (155 Cowan Avenue) is messy, there is trash and bottles all over the yard. The owner doesn't shovel the sidewalk in the winter and there is noise on the weekends.

GP: Staff will inspect the property as part of the Parkdale Pilot Project. Concerns about snow removal can be referred to the Councillor's office or the City's snow removal phone line.

Question: The mutual driveway between 153 and 155 Cowan Avenue is not a mutual driveway and the owner of 155 Cowan Avenue is trespassing onto 153 Cowan Avenue.

GP: The City does not get involved in issues related to mutual driveways; it is a civil matter between two property owners.

Question: There may be illegal activity at these buildings, what can be done about it?

GP: The illegal activity can be referred to the proper authorities for investigation and action.

Question: There may be non-resident use of the rear yard parking lot.

GP: Staff will investigate to see if anything can be done about non-residents using the parking lot.

*The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:00pm.*

*Notes by: Christopher Dunn, Community Planner*