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Tasty celebration

Longtime volunteers Al Cote (left) and Ray Shier kept the pancakes stacked for the annual Taste of Spring maple syrup celebration at the Limehouse Hall on Saturday. This was a fundraiser for the Hall.

Photo by Jon Borgstrom

Residents not happy with subdivision plan

By CYNTHIA GAMBLE
Staff Writer

An Acton neighbourhood came out to a recent council meeting to have their say on a proposed 118-townhome subdivision at 125 McDonald Blvd.

The site is currently occupied by an industrial building—with a mix of manufacturing, warehouse and commercial uses—that will be demolished. A berm that had been built to separate the industrial use from homes on Doctor Moore Court and Dairy Dr. will also be removed. A Provincially Significant Wetland and woodlands on the eastern portion of the property (fronting onto Wallace St.) would be maintained.

The proposal by Frank Heller & Co. calls for a zoning bylaw amendment and draft plan of subdivision to rezone the lands from development to medium density residential one to allow the 118 two-storey street townhomes. Finoro

Homes has signed on to build the towns if approved. The application is also requesting a reduction in the rear yard setback from 7.5 metres to 6 metres.

However about two dozen residents turned out to the public meeting held at the April 8 council meeting to object to the plan, and six spoke citing traffic impact, loss of privacy from the removal of the berm and the need for a privacy fence, the change in neighbourhood demographics from seniors/empty nesters to young families, parking on side streets, the townhomes' height, and lack of playground and parkland amenities.

Heller's planning consultant Glenn Wellings said the site could handle up to 184 units but his client is only asking for 118. He emphasized that only two-storey townhomes are planned—not four-storey as rumored. A bungalow townhome is being investigated, he said.

See **PLANNER**, pg. 5

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