

esday, October 10, 1995

Caring about the

Sunderland town hall

by Cathy Hamill

Keith Rynard presented an idea to Brock council about preserving the Sunderland town hall at the Oct. 2 Brock council meeting held in Beaverton.

In a community-spirited speech, Sunderland resident Keith Rynard explained to

Brock council a proposal to form a board of directors to manage the town hall.

He said, "I personally am here to propose to form a board of directors to manage the Sunderland town hall. The board will consist of six directors chosen from local concerned groups that

use the town hall."

Mr. Rynard added that there could be more or less directors - the actual number is not the issue, the focus is on establishing a board of directors.

He added, "the board of directors will be responsible for the management of the town hall, overall maintenance and improvements and booking functions."

Councillor for Ward 1 John Grant inquired, "What is the driving force behind what you offer (proposal) us today?"

Mr. Rynard replied, "It's mainly my own concern; I have been instrumental in the (Sunderland) community with projects like the medical centre in Sunderland, the senior citizens' apartments in Sunderland, here I am

again."

Councillor for Ward 4 Dan Collins supported the idea of forming a board of directors for the Sunderland town hall. Councillor Collins said, "I think it's appropriate to have community control. There is a need to co-ordinate fundraising efforts and with restoration and restructuring."

Councillor Collins added as an example of fundraising will the first annual Maple Syrup Festival coming in March 1996. He said, "Every bit of money from the first annual maple syrup festival is going to the (Sunderland) town hall."

The Legion, the Sunderland Business Association, and various other organizations have and continue to work hard for the Sunderland town hall. A fund of \$40,000 has been raised locally.

At last week's planning

Council

meeting Brock council agreed to form a sub-committee of Brock council to look into the possibility of a board of management for the Sunderland town hall. This sub-committee consists of: councillor for Ward 1 John Grant, councillor for Ward 3 Reg Star, and councillor for Ward 4 Dan Collins.

Regional councillor Terry Clayton said emphatically, "There is a commitment of this (Brock) council to maintain this (Sunderland town hall) as a public building the best way we can do it. This (proposal) will have to come back to (Brock) council."

Brock council agreed to have the proposal of Keith Rynard referred to the sub-committee.