

Choice of architect thorny regional task

The question of which architects should be considered for the job of designing the new Regional Headquarters building was debated long and hard by the Region's administrative committee last Wednesday.

After nearly two hours of discussion, a list of 25 candidates for the job was narrowed down to 10 — six of whom have offices located in Halton Region.

The list is to be further reduced during an in camera meeting of the administration committee today at which Ernie Reid, Chief Administrative Officer, is scheduled to present a verbal report including work references on each of the 10 architects.

Choose locals

Last Wednesday's debate got under way when Milton Councillor Jim Watson suggested that all but the names of the six architects whose business are located in the region be crossed from the list of candidates for the Regional Headquarters building.

The six Watson recommended were: Donald M. Blenkhorne and Associate

Architect, Burlington; R. Stuart Carter, Burlington; Hallford and Wilson, Oakville; John J. Harkness, Burlington; Peter McCutcheon, Burlington; and Robert S. Yamamoto, Burlington.

This met with strong opposition from Oakville mayor Harry Barrett who objected to seeing the name of Dunlop, Farrow and Aitkin, Architects, Engineers and Planners of Toronto, stricken from consideration under Watson's plan.

Barrett began to name names of several architects on the list who he said he knew from past experience would do an excellent job both in designing and in carrying out plans for the new headquarters.

"I'm at advantage because I don't know any of the architects on the list," Watson said. "I have no preferences. That is why I suggested we use those who live in our municipalities as criteria."

Proximity

"I like to think in terms of proximity of the office to the supervisor," Watson explained.

David H. Coons, chairman

of the administration committee, said he liked Watson's approach to the problem, but later agreed to add the names of four other architects who were researched and recommended to the committee by consultants Ray Cripps, Ed Cumming, and Jack Corbett.

A vote taken by committee members finally agreed on the 10 names — Watson's six local architects plus four from other regional municipalities.

The four non-Halton architects still on the list of possible designers of the new headquarters are: Dunlop, Farrow and Aitkin of Toronto, Prack Partners Architects, Hamilton; Donald E. Skinner, Mississauga; and Shore Tilbe Henschel Irwin, Toronto.

Questions need

Earlier in the meeting Oakville Councillors F. McLean Anderson and Carl Erikson had words when Anderson questioned whether or not the new headquarters should be built at all.

"I'm not that confident in regional government as it exists today," Anderson told fellow councillors. "I don't

think it's wise to go ahead with plans for this building in an era of restraint."

"I'm not convinced with the track record we have that we're ever going to build," Anderson said. "We've changed our minds time and again. I think it's better to continue to rent until

Regional government becomes a reality."

Erikson responded with these words: "That's good for the press, but council has made the decision to build. We're here to decide names."

He asked that Anderson be ruled out of order, if he continued to flog the other issue.

100 assembled Liberals, "involvement" would be the key word in the Association. He predicted involvement would bring victory in the next election as it did in the last.

Mr. Streek was nominated by Lester Whiting, father of former M.P. Rud Whiting, and Mrs. Walker was nominated by Elizabeth Robson and seconded by Rud Whiting.

Mrs. Alice Walker, Georgetown, was chosen executive vice president, Steve Ormsby, Acton, and Terry Johnston, Oakville, vice presidents, Paul De Rue, Georgetown treasurer, and Peter Salmon, Oakville, treasurer.

The new president told the



NEW EXECUTIVE of the Halton Federal Liberal Association: Secretary, Peter Salmon; Vice-President Steve Ormsby; Executive Vice



President, Alice Walker; President Slim Streek and Treasurer, Paul DeRue. Absent Vice-President Terry Johnston.

Federal Liberals elect executive

Dragonflies vs. mosquitos in Halton

The possibility of using dragonflies as a means of controlling Halton's mosquito problem was introduced to members of the Regional Planning Committee June 8.

The suggestion was submitted by E. R. Cumming, Director of Regional Planning, who cited a newspaper clipping from Wells (a coastal resort town in Massachusetts) where residents are raising

dragonflies to battle the mosquitos that plague that area each summer.

According to the news article the dragonfly larvae feed on mosquito larvae that breed in salt-water estuaries and still ponds surrounding the town. When fully grown, the dragonflies will be able to eat their weight in mosquito larvae in just half an hour, the story says.

Seek larvae

In his report to the Planning Committee Mr. Cumming stated: "Since the dragonflies appear to thrive on mosquito larvae, the introduction of a large dragonfly population within the Region could prove very effective, since dragonflies would naturally seek out mosquito larvae wherever they are located."

"From an environmental point of view this type of program would appear to be far less damaging to the ecology and possible far more acceptable in the eyes of the public," he said.

The cost of buying and raising dragonflies would also be much less than that of proposed chemical spraying programs.

Free Press WHO DOES IT DIRECTORY

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