

Croatians outline expansion

By ANI PEDERIAN
Herald Staff

Permission to establish a cemetery and chapel on the Croatian Social and Cultural Centre's north end is being requested of town council.

The Centre also wants to add a tennis court west of the existing swimming pool, a garden equipment shed on the north end of the property and an extension to the existing multi-purpose building.

Plans are to alter a barn on the property to a crafts and artistic display gallery. It's not intended as a commercial sales outlet but rather as a museum.

Other alterations the Centre would like to make on their 160 acre site on Sideroad 5 and Winston Churchill Boulevard is to move the children's playground and the grandstand southwest of the multi-purpose building, and the barbecue pit and storage shed west 1,100 feet to the area of the multi-purpose building.

Right now, the Centre has four soccer pitches, one swimming pool and washrooms, one basketball court, one volleyball court, one grandstand, one bar, one barbecue pit, one storage shed for food, one multi-purpose building, one existing residence and associated structures, and four agricultural fields.

Councillors will be debating whether to approve the zoning and Official Plan amendments at their June 25 meeting.

Some Croatian support

Development of community centres is always questioned by neighbors who fear it will drop property values in the area, an RR5 Georgetown architect told councillors hosting a public meeting into development plans for the Croatian Social and Cultural Centre in Norval.

Speaking in support of improving facilities at the Centre, Carlo Testa said that neighbors' fears have been unwarranted, however, in his experience.

"We've noticed the exact opposite has happened," he said.

But he conceded the community centres were in urban areas and it would be difficult to compare them with what might be the rural experience.

The original owner of the property, Claude McLaughlin of RR2 Norval threw his support behind the Croatian plans.

"I would like to see it go on and develop," he said. "I get along with these people very well. When they do a job on that property, it's well done."

Manure worries

Farmer Harry Brander said he feared future lawsuits from users of the Croatian Centre objecting to odors emanating from his liquid manure storage tanks. "I'm concerned because I built this facility to reduce my costs from purchasing chemical fertilizer," Mr. Brander said.



These dancers were on hand to entertain during the official opening of the new Croatian Centre on Winston Churchill Boulevard south of Norval, last Sunday. Other activities included a

giant barbecue including 600 chickens, 120 lambs and 30 pigs. An estimated 10,000 people attended. (Herald photo)

Improved facilities won't raise numbers

By ANI PEDERIAN
Herald Staff

Improving the facilities at the Croatian Social and Cultural Centre won't increase the number of persons coming onto the Norval property, the lawyer representing the Centre claimed at a public meeting into the issue last week.

Brampton lawyer Rob Webb said the Centre's board of directors has agreed to put a limit on the maximum numbers allowed to use the site, "which is less than the numbers who have used

the facility already".

To satisfy neighboring farmers concerned about the future of their agricultural operations, Mr. Webb said the Centre is willing to enter into an agreement with them, promising to not object, in the future, to agricultural operations that take place on adjoining land.

Security staff, made up of Centre members and off-duty police, will ensure there will be no trespassing on neighbors' property during picnics, Mr. Webb said.

Another chance to voice opinions

Herald Staff

Should there be further development at the Croatian Social and Cultural Centre on Sideroad 5 and Winston Churchill Boulevard?

The Centre has applied to establish a cemetery and chapel on its 160 acres grounds, extend the present multi-purpose building, add a tennis court, a garden equipment shed and alter the barn into an art

gallery.

If you missed the public meeting, the town's planning department is accepting written submissions on the proposed amendments up to June 18, although it's preferable they be received by June 15.

The Centre's application will be debated by councillors June 25 at 7 p.m. in the council chamber.

Smokey situation

Angry farmers worry over their livestock

By ANI PEDERIAN
Herald Staff

Smoke doesn't usually start fires, but it certainly has in the case of the Croatian Social and Cultural Centre in Norval.

Smoke from the Centre's summer barbecue pit has fired up the neighbors adjoining the 160-acre property on Winston Churchill Boulevard on Sideroad 5.

Angry farmers and rural residents turned up at last week's public meeting to object to the Centre's development plans.

The development plans require amendments to the town's Official Plan and Zoning bylaw and were the topic of public discussion.

"It's a known fact that milk production suffers if animals have to swallow that smoke," Susan Alexander, a neighboring farmer with a herd of dairy cattle told councillors at the meeting. "You cannot assure me there will not be a breeze in the summer."

The Centre proposes to relocate the barbecue pit used during weekend picnics west 1,100 feet towards the existing multi-purpose building.

Mrs. Alexander said her cows are out in the summer and that the smoke from the barbe-

cue would pose a serious threat to the survival of the agriculture business she operates with her husband.

Besides the smoke, there were complaints about noise, trespassing and property damage.

"We've had garbage thrown on it (our property), our fences have been broken. Nobody has come over and said 'We'll pick up the garbage or repair the

fence'," neighbor Monica Rojc said.

She called the summer noise "continuous" and said she will continue to take the Centre to court over noise infractions.

"Expansion of facilities will mean more people and possibly more requests for expansion," Mrs. Alexander warned.

Agricultural concerns highlighted opposition to the Centre's plans.

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(Sections 44 (2), 50 (1))

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- The cost of the work is \$110,574.00 of which \$48,614.00 is to be paid by the Corporation. The special rate per metre frontage is \$102.00 The special assessment is to be paid in 10 annual instalments.
- The estimated lifetime of the work is 20 years.
- A court of revision will be held on the 20th day of June, 1984 at 7:00 p.m. o'clock at St. Joseph's Separate School, 147 Mill Street West, Acton, Ontario, for the purpose of hearing complaints against the proposed assessments or the accuracy of frontage measurements and any other complaint that persons interested may desire to make and that is by law cognisable by the court.

Dated June 4, 1984.
Further information can be obtained by telephoning the undersigned at 878-8113, Extension 354.
David J. Varley
Regional Clerk

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