

Public participation needed

By BEN DUMMETT
The Herald

Public participation in the planning of the Town of Halton Hills and more specifically how it pertains to Maple Avenue in Georgetown, was the message people in attendance received at a ratepayers information meeting Wednesday at Park Public School.

Residents Active In Development Decisions (RAIDD) sponsored the information meeting and throughout the group's presentation audience members were urged to make their opinion known to Town planners about what type of housing development they want in Halton Hills.

As far as RAIDD is concerned a proposal to build two multi-storey condominiums on the Maple Avenue property beside the North Halton Golf and Country Club is wrong.

RAIDD representative Ken Thorne told the approximately 80

people at the information meeting single family homes is the only appropriate type of development for the property. The group bases its opinion on the fact the land is zoned for single family housing.

Mr. Thorne said RAIDD will challenge the development proposal to the highest authority - the Ontario Municipal Board - if required, in an attempt to stop the development proposal.

Just as RAIDD talked about public participation so too did representative for Burlington based developer Zupet Associates, the developer behind the Maple Avenue project.

Ken Dakin told the audience a public meeting would be held early this summer or in the fall to give people a chance to discuss the property's future.

Mr. Dakin of May, Pirie and Associates Limited in Burlington, is a land use planning consultant hired by Zupet and Associates. Mr. Dakin told the audience his company will be carrying out technical studies on the property,

including a biological analysis, soil and slope stability studies, and water and sewage studies, to determine the property's limitations regardless of the development proposed for the land.

Once the studies are completed, Mr. Dakin said a public meeting would be called to explain the findings and give people a chance to convey what they think would be the appropriate type of development for the land.

Mr. Dakin told audience members the existing proposal is "premature."

Following the meeting RAIDD president Gail Rutherford said of the consultant that "he seemed like a reasonable man."

Asked what message she thought the consultant would relay to the developer as a result of the meeting, Ms. Rutherford said, "reconsider the proposal or look for a new consultant."

Asked his impressions of the meeting, Mr. Dakin said, "the group is well organized and is looking for participation. And I think they are seeing it."

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Special volunteers

Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital held its annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony Wednesday and over 90 of the 150 hospital volunteers attended the special event. Four of the volunteers (left to right) Lois Graham, Inez Crichton, Eva Patterson and Lena Johnston, were

each presented with a 30-year service award. As 1991 marks the hospital's 30th Anniversary it should be noted this select group of volunteers have been with the hospital board since its beginning. (Herald photo)

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