

North York Zoning Proposal Is Markham Township's Fight

Although North York Township is at present trying to zone 96 acres of land within its own borders for low rental housing and a shopping plaza, its biggest opposition to the plan is coming from outside its borders.

So far the most vocal of any group to appear before the recent Ontario Municipal Board hearing to state its objections have been members of the Markham Township Planning Board, and more than 40 residents whose property is adjacent to the projected development.

Several members of council, including Cleary Palmer, who

was there both in his capacity as Ward II councillor and as a resident of the area, were also on hand.

As an adjacent municipality, Markham Township can comment on any proposed changes, and it was as a result of the township's intervention that the matter was referred to the OMB.

Assisting the township in its fight were former Planning Director Ron Forrest, now with York Township, and Special Solicitor Jim McCowan of Toronto.

The land in question is situated on Steeles Avenue between Bayview Avenue and Leslie Street, and is

now zoned for single-family homes, with a 60-foot frontage and a minimum area of 7,500 square feet. North York would like the land rezoned to allow 50-foot frontages, with a minimum of 6,000 square feet, as well as semi-detached houses and maisonettes.

The Bayview Glen Subdivision, which is right across the road from the proposed development, is an area of homes ranging from \$30,000 to \$75,000, and its residents fear their new neighbors will soon let their houses degenerate into a slum.

On the other hand, Dr. E. G. Faludi, planner for Steeles

Heights Registered, developers of the new project, said that Bayview Glen itself could become a slum.

Testifying for the OMB, Dr. Faludi said the lots were too big and many of the residents would not be able to hold onto their homes as taxes went up every year.

"The area will deteriorate," Dr. Faludi said. Mrs. John Lovett-Doust, of Bayview Glen, said she wondered if the witness might not be influenced somewhat by his own interest in the project.

As for the project itself, Mrs. Lovett-Doust said she could imagine what the multi-colored row houses "would do for our homes."

he felt there should be something to keep the zoning by-laws as they were when the residents first moved into the area three years ago.

"You beat one developer who wants to change by-laws, then there's another waiting," Mr. Palmer said.

This was the third time the subdivision had had to battle with developers since it opened, the Markham Township councillor said.

Norman Manchester, another resident of Bayview Glen, said it was "senseless" to build another shopping centre when there were already three of them in the area, one of which could only rent half its stores.

Mayor, Clerk On Southern Six

Mayor Thomas Broadhurst and Clerk Russell Lynett will represent Richmond Hill on a co-ordinating committee of the southern six municipalities in York County. The committee will bring in recommendations to a meeting of municipal representatives scheduled to be held in Richmond Hill on August 10.

The committee is the outcome of a dinner meeting held last week by Markham Township Council, which was attended by representatives of five of the six municipalities. Mayor Broadhurst reported that that meeting was overwhelmingly aware of the need to co-operate but rather vague as to what areas could lend themselves to co-operation or what measures would be effective. The committee is to explore the question and bring in concrete recommendations.

Mayor Broadhurst commented that the new spirit of co-operation evident in all six municipalities, will have to be rather delicately nourished. "We are off to a cautious start, but are fully conscious of the fact that this was tried once before and fell flat on its ear."

Jack Crutenden, assistant planning director of Markham Township, said that it was "not compatible with what is in the area," and although municipally, it was part of North York, physically it was part of Markham Township.

He said that a green belt and a conservation area to the south of the proposed development, meant that exit from the area had to be made at Steeles Avenue to the north.

No date has been set as yet to hear the arguments of the lawyers.

AURORA: Harold "Andy" Anderson of Andy's Signs suffered broken vertebrae while attempting to paint the IGA sign on the Timbers farm. Andy leapt from the sign to the ground and over the fence when charged by a bull.

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Birthdays

Belated birthday greetings to Ronnie Bell, July 2; Kathy Gamble, July 5; Jennie Ann Black, July 7; Michael Moscrop, July 13; Stewart Chubb, July 16; Joy Miller, July 18 and David McDowell, July 19.

Many happy returns to Blair Gibson, July 25.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Passmore and Margie have spent a few days in Bavaria before sailing for home from LeHavre on July 20.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Jones are driving with their daughter Mrs. Vaughan Sieber and her three daughters to New Jersey. Friends of Mrs. Forrest Snell will be pleased to learn that she is recovering quite well in the hospital.

Sympathy of the community is extended to the family of Mrs. Thomas Dick of Brookside.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Leno spent last weekend on a camping trip in north-eastern Ontario.

Mr. and Mrs. Ron Browne and family of Bathurst Street spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Archie McFee and Heather at Kearney.

Sympathy of the community is extended to the family of Mr. Frederick Thorn Duvall of Maple Avenue.

A very enjoyable trip is wished for Carl and Freddie Waters of Rothbury who have left on a visit to England.

Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Fullman of Bathurst Street, who have Mrs. Fullman's mother, Mrs. E. D. Johnson and her aunt, Mrs. B. A. Harvey visiting them from England, visited in Guelph last week with Mr. and Mrs. J. McDonald.

During the visit Mr. McDonald showed a movie of Mr. and Mrs. Fullman's wedding, much to the pleasure of all. Mrs. Johnson had been sent an album of the wedding 14 years ago but with the movie it was as if she were really present.

Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Harvey and Mrs. Fullman were recent guests at the home of Mrs. L. Stevens in Maple.

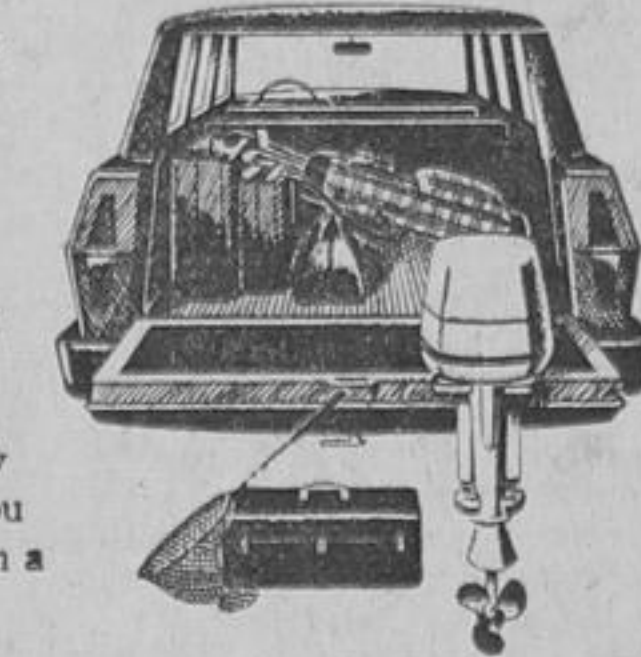
Mrs. George Goulding of Bathurst Street also entertained the same three ladies for lunch. Last Sunday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Meyers, Edgeley, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Davies, Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Boyle, Colleen, Gary and Carl enjoyed a barbecue, ending with a surprise birthday cake for Irene, who celebrates her birthday this week.

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