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Thornhill Group Will Seek Answers From Markham Township Planners

By JIM IRVING

A "not-too-highly organized," but zealous group of ratepayers, who have been silent throughout most of the summer, will be vocal once more come October 7.

At that time the Thornhill Citizens Committee will pick up where it left off last July and will attempt once more to convince Markham Township Planning Board and Council that its proposed zoning by-law, which would allow high rise apartments in the area between Yonge Street and Dudley Avenue from Clarke Street north to Elgin Street, is not exactly guaranteed to bring medals and citations to the board.

It is, instead, so far as the ratepayers are concerned, the kind of thing that only

brings high taxes, traffic problems and a lot of bitterness.

That was the substance of the ratepayers' argument when they packed the But- tonville Chambers last July 22, and with Dr. John Fotheringham acting as spokesman, presented a prepared set of questions, some of which were answered in full and some of which were put in abeyance until the October meeting.

S. J. Gadsby, board chairman, told Dr. Fotheringham his presentation would have been more help if he had had some figures to support it. He wondered also if the group had investigated services in other communities and made comparisons.

"I felt the board would have these figures at their

fingertips," said Dr. Fotheringham.

"I don't think we can give you all you want tonight," said Mr. Gadsby.

Some of the answers wanted by the group centred around both the monetary and the aesthetic aspect of the apartments. What would they do to taxes? Would the widening of the streets, necessary to accommodate the expected flow of traffic, be borne as a local improvement? How else would the area be affected? Residents didn't want Yonge Street to become a "peanut, popcorn, hot dog, taste freeze drag strip."

Dr. Fotheringham said he had moved to the area because of the "single-family dwellings, the country set-

ting, the trees, the great charm and the history."

Mr. Gadsby suggested the ratepayers prepare another brief and submit it in writing to the October meeting. The board would answer questions both from it and any others presented that evening.

Last week Dr. Fotheringham told "The Liberal" that the ratepayers brief would be submitted by the end of the week.

L. S. Warnica, another member of the committee, said: "We pretty well have all we wanted to say. It's their (the planning board) turn to come back and give us the answers."

Mr. Warnica said the members had not got together through the summer because of holidays. What informa-

tion they had received had been by "word of mouth and door to door."

"We're a loosely-knit organization," said Mr. Warnica, "not highly organized."

Mrs. K. C. Smith, another committee member, said a brief would be submitted within the week. She said the citizens were not against apartment buildings, but against high-rise apartments in the Yonge Street area.

She has some supporters on the planning board, who also feel that 10-to-14 storey buildings in a predominately small town, would be impractical, but backed lower-density buildings.

"Twenty to 25 suites to an acre in three or four storey buildings, wouldn't affect the overall situation," one member said.

Mrs. Smith said, also, that the committee's plan to run municipal elections in Markham Township, was not progressing too rapidly.

"It seems the best men are all too busy," she said. Planning Director Ian Keith said there could possibly be some changes in the board's thinking, but that wouldn't be known until all the briefs had been considered at the October meeting.

At that time he would be asking the board for an answer "one way or another," Mr. Keith said.

Despite its lack of communication between members since the July meeting, the citizens committee may still have a fighting chance with the planning board if it rallies all its forces Oc-

tober 7. Last week, after several weeks of battling with the ratepayers of the district, the committee of buildings and development in the Beaches area of Toronto, unanimously rejected a proposal for two 15-storey apartments in the centre of the Beaches.

The proposal was also turned down by the planning board, which leaves only Toronto City Council to consider it.

Now if the Thornhill residents can get by the planning board, that will just leave the township council. And there are only five members there to convince, compared with nine on the planning board. Besides council members are elected by the people while the planning board is appointed.

Home & School Meet Considers Safety Patrols

Thornhill Public School

R. C. Urquhart opened the first fall home and school meeting of Thornhill Public School with a short talk to the parents. Mr. Urquhart outlined rules of the school and welcomed new parents to the school.

Mrs. K. Neely, teacher of Oral French classes held after hours in the school, taught the parents a French song, "Napoleon", and gave an excellent demonstration of how pleasant learning the French language can be.

Mr. Urquhart introduced a leader from the newly organized Vaughan Safety Council, Kirby Brock, who explained how the council was formed and how it functions. A group of citizens banded together on March 24 of this year and formed the council to help cut down traffic accidents. The Vaughan council gleaned much of their information from the Oakville Safety Council where the program has demonstrated excellent results through the forming of safety patrols during the school travelling hours. Mr. Brock then introduced Constable Jim Nugent, of the Vaughan Township Police, to explain how the system operates.

Constable Nugent explained how responsible pupils from the upper grades are instructed in basic safety rules with special emphasis on how to assist children to cross at intersections. Each school has four patrols with a spare patrol to be trained to take over the following year. There is a captain and lieutenant for each patrol who are posted at designated intersections. If a child does not obey the rules of the patrol he or she is reported to the principal who in turn reports to the constable. The patrol members are supplied with a raincoat and hat and a belt and cross strap. Once a year a jamboree

for all safety patrols across Canada is held in Ottawa and it is to be hoped that members from Thornhill will be represented at the jamboree in 1966.

Constable Nugent also emphasized the need for parents to co-operate in practising and teaching safety rules themselves as no project can succeed without their assistance. Constable Nugent is to be commended for his interest in child safety of Vaughan Township. In his own time he visits each classroom twice a year for the safety of children in all Vaughan schools.

Two home and school members opposed the patrol system stating they didn't want their child to be held responsible for others. Mr. Brock explained that no child could be held responsible and also that no child was obligated to be a patrol member. A vote was taken with a 90% affirmative result. The new executive was announced and is as follows: President, Charles Seath; Vice Presidents, T. Hofman, W. Hanson, Mrs. J. H. Stephenson, Mrs. D. Fordham; Treasurer, Mrs. H. R. Stewart; Recording Secretary, Mrs. R. Oades; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. C. Wood; Membership Mrs. A. Dowker; Social Convener Mrs. F. H. Billings; Room Mothers Mrs. P. H. Tilley and Mrs. K. Neely will attend all board meetings as the Thornhill Public School representative.

Parents were introduced to the teaching staff and instructed to go to their child's room where teachers gave an outline of the course for the coming year.

Woodland Public School

The first home and school meeting for the season at Woodland School will be held October 5 when parents will meet the teachers.

New principal at Woodland is S. B. Meyers who will introduce new members of the teaching staff at the meeting. New teachers of the senior school are as follows: D. Bush,

Miss D. McGowan, Mrs. J. Allen, E. Green, L. Evans and Mrs. B. Tanquay. New teachers of the junior school are Miss F. Jackson, Miss P. Crowe, Miss E. Taylor, Miss S. Burkholder and E. Melnyk.

St. Luke's Roman Catholic

A very successful tea for all ladies of the parish was held at the home of CWL President Mrs. A. S. Mallon, 53 Lincombe Drive, Bayview Glen, on September 26.

Pouring tea were Mrs. J. J. Matthews, archdiocesan president of the CWL; Mrs. M. Bell, president of York County Region CWL; Mrs. G. Wolfson, president of North York Region CWL; Mrs. M. Daley, president of Our Lady Queen of the World Parish Council, Richmond Hill; Mrs. J. H. Matner, president of St. Paschal's Parish Council; Mrs. R. Ashley, president of St. Edward's Parish Council; Mrs. M. Monheimer, president of St. Gabriel's Parish Council; Mrs. M. Hill, president of St. Mary's Parish Council, Richmond Hill; Mrs. E. Bruder, past executive member of the Archdiocesan Council and Mrs. V. V. DeMarco, past president of St. Luke's CWL.

In charge of the dining room was Mrs. N. Enright with Mrs. M. Baker, Mrs. M. Burkart, Mrs. A. Lynch, Mrs. K. Morris and Mrs. O. Browne assisting.

Kitchen convener for the event was Mrs. E. McDonald and assisting her were Mrs. A. Kirby, Mrs. U. Rossini and Mrs. D. Dent.

Hospital Auxiliary

The fall meeting of the York Central Hospital Auxiliary was held at the home of Mrs. J. L. Tyler, Dove Lane, September 15.

In the absence of President Mrs. V. Tremaine, Past President Mrs. H. R. Howden presided at the meeting. Mrs. Howden introduced and welcomed a new member to the auxiliary, Mrs. W. Rose.

It was recommended that the meetings be changed to the first Wednesdays in October, February and May.

A white rose ball has been planned by all the branches and will be held on December 3 at Tam O'Shanter Golf Club. Information for Thornhill branch members may be obtained from the ticket convener, Mrs. P. Large at 889-1885.

A booth will be operated by the Thornhill Branch at the Markham Fair to be held on October 1 from 10-2 and members will be called for donations of candy, pickles, etc.

The semi-annual meeting of the hospital auxiliary will be held on November 11 in the hospital cafeteria.

Mrs. Howden thanked Mrs. Tyler for inviting the members to her home for the first meeting.

Refreshments were served after the business meeting was adjourned.

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In the Estate of Olive May Keeler, deceased.

All persons having claims against the estate of Olive May Keeler, Housewife, late of the Town of Richmond Hill, in the County of York, who died on or about the 5th day of April, 1965, are hereby notified to send particulars of same to the undersigned on or before the 31st day of October, 1965, after which date the estate will be distributed, with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice, and the undersigned will not be liable to any person of whose claim he shall not have notice.

DATED at Richmond Hill this 22nd day of September, 1965.

STUART PEEBLES PARKER, Executor, by his Solicitors,

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Resident Of Thornhill Stricken In Chicago

Lawrence A. Hanson, 78 Riverside Blvd., Thornhill, manager of plastic products for Union Carbide died suddenly while on a business trip to Chicago last Thursday.

Mr. Hanson was in conversation with a group of people, including his wife, when he was suddenly stricken.

Born in Downers Grove, Ill., he moved to Canada in 1949 as plant superintendent of the Viking Corp. plant in Lindsay which was later acquired by Union Carbide.

Mr. Hanson was transferred to the Toronto head office as general manager in 1960. He is survived by his wife Marie, of Thornhill; two daughters, Mrs. C. Stebbins (Dianne) of Sandusky, Ohio and Mrs. G. Wakelin (Carolyn) of Peterboro.

A requiem mass was sung at St. Luke's Roman Catholic Church, Thornhill last Friday morning. Funeral service and interment took place in Chicago.

Thornhill Roads To Be Double Surfaced

The Department of Highways has approved a Vaughan Township by-law for the double surface treatment of roads in the Police Village of Thornhill.

The announcement was made at the September 20 meeting of council. It was indicated that bids would be invited for the work immediately and would probably be closed at the end of September in an effort to have the work completed this year.

Village trustees had first requested the work be done on June 24 last. They asked that all unpaved streets in the village, with the exception of William Street, be given the double surface treatment. Cost was estimated at \$13,500 to be shared equally between the village and the Department of Highways.

The proposal was turned down by council at its July 5 meeting but they subsequently reversed their decision.

STOUFFVILLE: Robert Slack, 16, topped more than 100 entries to win the Dr. Jim Stevens Memorial Trophy at the Mongolia Open Golf Tournament at the Willows. He posted a low gross score of 78.

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