

# Political meeting crowd votes for death penalty

RICHMOND HILL — An overflow crowd in Hillcrest auditorium Monday night gave its unofficial approval to the death penalty.

There was a show of hands, which showed about 60 per cent in favor and 40 per cent opposed.

The impromptu vote was taken at a public meeting with York Centre MPP Alf Stong and York North MP Parry

Danson.

The meeting was one in a series with the Liberal representatives to discuss government policies and hear the views of their constituents.

There was no debate on the matter of capital punishment although Danson, who opposes it, said the federal government is proposing a new law-and-order bill to be considered soon by

parliament.

The bill will cover the matter, as well as such other related issues as bail and parole.

Consensus of the meeting, however, was that the government was not taking a strong enough stand on over-all permissiveness in society.

There was also some discussion on rent review offices in the province. Stong said the Liberal party felt there should be some leeway in the matter, or hardships could result.

## Fire damages homes

RICHMOND HILL — It didn't pay to be away from their cottages or homes for three area people, including a member of York County Board of Education.

Victim of a fire of unknown origin was an \$8,000 cottage on Lake Dr., South, Keswick, belonging to Trustee

Keith Hargrave.

No one was in the cottage at the time.

Two Florida vacationers also suffered heavy residential losses in fires.

Biggest loser was J. M. Walsh of Islington Ave., whose \$80,000 summer residence at Wynhurst Beach, Keswick, was destroyed in a fire, Feb. 16.

The other fire occurred at the home of Peter Stratigias, RR 4, Sharon, Feb. 15, about 4 a.m.

It was spotted by a passing motorist, who called Queensville Fire Department.

No estimate of the damage was given.

## Potters guild planning show

RICHMOND HILL — York Potters Guild has announced a change in the dates for a show and sale to be held at Upper Canada Mall, Newmarket.

March 19 and 20 are the new dates, not Feb. 12, 13 and 14 as previously planned by the Guild.

For further information contact Joyce Jay at 884-5834.

In another fire in the northern area of the region, a man was arrested on a charge of arson.

Police charged Kenneth Norris, 26, owner of a BP gas station, Highway 48, Pefferlaw, in connection with an explosion and fire at the rear of the premises, Feb. 13.

A total of \$1,500 damage was caused.



Barney Danson  
..... an abolitionist

# Policy proposed on delegations

NEWMARKET — While the delegation of authority is one thing, delegations to council are another, so far as York Regional Council is concerned.

As a result, council spent much of its time last week dealing with closed meetings, open meetings and just how often the public should be allowed to appear before council.

The first matter to be resolved — and quickly — was Vaughan Councillor Dave Fraser's motion to ban press and public from council committee meetings.

Fraser, admitting there had been "strong objections" to his stand from many quarters, withdrew his motion.

However, a short while later, a recommendation of the planning committee concerning delegations to council with regard to plans of subdivisions, said that "deputations having appeared before the planning committee shall not be permitted to appear subsequently before the regional council with regard to the same subject matter."

This brought an immediate objection from Richmond Hill Councillor Lois Hancey, who asked that the clause be removed from the over-all recommendations.

Termining the ruling offensive, Mrs. Hancey said "all members of council should have the benefit of opinions of the delegations. The fear that council will be in-dated with applications, is crying wolf."

If, in the future, the open door policy became unwieldy, then that would be the time for a change, she said.

Markham Mayor Tony Roman said applicants had their choice. If they wanted to come before the whole council, they could.

"We're trying to avoid duplication," he said.

Mayor Bob Forhan of Newmarket said a delegation could appear as often as four times: to the committee, council, and then back to the committee and council again.

The full grievance, however, should come before council, he said.

Planning Commissioner Murray Pound said the committee was only an advisory body; council was the policy-making body. Appearing before just one or the other would speed matters up.

If they wanted to speed things up, they could limit the time of appearance of the delegation, said Richmond Hill Mayor David Schiller.

Said Mayor Evelyn Buck of Aurora: "I would be inclined not to give them a choice; I find the present method tedious."

She said also that, while Councillor Hancey didn't object to double appearances by delegations, she (Hancey) often didn't stay to the end of council meetings.

When Mrs. Hancey objected, she was told by Chairman Garfield Wright to go back to the original question.

"Then why didn't you rule Mayor Buck out of order when she was making her offensive remarks?" asked Mrs. Hancey.

The chairman didn't reply.

Supporting Mrs. Hancey were fellow Richmond Hill Councillor Gordon Rowe and King Mayor Margaret Britnell.

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"The developer still has a right to go before the OMB," (Ontario Municipal Board), said Chairman Wright.

Mrs. Hancey's motion was lost by a 7-6 count, with several councillors abstaining.

Council then voted to accept a subsequent amendment by Mayor Forhan giving council the right to refer any delegations back to committee after first appearing before council.

## Disabled may form group

RICHMOND HILL — Disabled adults of Southern York Region and those concerned with the status of the physically disabled will be meeting tomorrow (Thursday) at 7:30 p.m. in Don Head Secondary School, Major Mackenzie Drive, to pursue plans to form a self-help association in the area.

The meeting, which is open to all, is a follow-up to one held Jan. 21 for the purpose of sounding out the idea of establishing an action group and circulating information about facilities for the handicapped in the community.

Despite poor weather conditions, 21 people — some from as far as Musselman's Lake, Woodbridge and Markham, turned out to the meeting in Richmond Hill.

Group concern focused on such issues as transportation, education, employment opportunities, recreation and social programs and public attitudes toward the handicapped.

The January meeting was called by Norah Love, community development worker for the March of Dimes in York Region.

The group agreed to work together to assemble ideas and information for future action.

Members of the committee set up to organize tomorrow night's meeting are Ian Campbell, Tiki Papis, Norah Love, John Weir, Gaynor Jamieson and Paul Meyers.

For further information contact Norah Love, 727-1501, Aurora, or Helpmate Information, 883-2234, Richmond Hill.

## Youth charged with mischief

WOODBIDGE — Investigation by York Regional Police of an alleged hold-up at Tull's Gas Bar, Highway 7, Woodbridge, Feb. 13, has resulted in the arrest of a youth and a charge of creating public mischief over \$200.

Police received a call to the station about 7:30 p.m., after the attendant had been reported held up by two men, one with a sawed-off shotgun.

It was also reported his money pouch was taken from him.

Police later found the cash sales receipts from the station hidden in a snowbank.

Arrested was attendant, Jeffrey Morgan, 17, of Rexdale.

Tires taken

In another theft in Woodbridge, Franco Caradona of Weston, told police two radial tires, valued at \$150, were taken from the front end of his car while it was parked at the rear of 7065 Islington Ave., Feb. 14 or 15.

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