



The AoG attended a hastily-called all-members meeting when news began to circulate that the councillor for South Marysburgh had filed papers to run for the mayor's position in the October municipal election.

In what developed into a wide-ranging discussion, the agenda included ways in which to assist the councillor's campaign; how proposed AoG projects might influence voters; and who among the AoG membership might be put forward as contenders for the council position.

"The way I see it," opined the member who clearly had earned a degree, "he's got to have a strong platform that addresses plank issues. Without those, and a commitment to carry through, people will not pay much attention."

"Agreed," said another member, "Steve-O will be pooched without the planks and the platform."

Discussion ensued about important platform issues that require action by the local municipal government.

"I think there are a bunch," stated a relatively new member to the group, nicknamed Piledriver. "There's healthcare, and houses and jobs. And the roads. The roads are bad."

"Any of those need to be part of the platform," said a longstanding and respected member of the AoG. "But there will be other planks affecting other parts of the county. What about the heritage stuff he's always talking about, could some of that be used to deal with housing? Just throwin' it out there."


The degree wielding member asked another question that prompted some introspection among the others. "So what about the new councillor for South Marysburgh. Maybe one of us should consider the job and we can build that platform too."

"Okay, perhaps" said someone else, "But let's deal with one thing at a time. We came up with the causeway idea a couple of years ago to get people from Long Point to Picton Hospital. That was followed by PERTS." Acknowledging the relatively new members, he explained the acronym, "It stands for the Prince Edward Rapid Transit System we proposed for all the tunneling wpd was to do for the turbines wiring."

"Actually," began another member, "It's been proven time and time again that transportation routes encourage growth in housing and jobs. I think the County appropriated our idea and made it the basis for presentations they made a few weeks ago about affordable transit."

There was general consensus among those gathered that the topics that had been discussed were valid concerns in the upcoming election. The matter of an AoG candidate for councillor was deferred to another meeting to allow members to check their calendars for the next four years.

The meeting had run over the usual amount of allocated time before members dispersed to their jobs or other responsibilities. The member of the AoG generally considered to not be the sharpest knife in the drawer who had listened but not made much of a contribution to deliberations, got up to leave, placing his baseball cap somewhat askew on his head. "I've been sitting here thinkin', how come municipal politics involves so much carpentry? At last count we needed a bunch of planks to build a platform and now we're talkin' about a second platform for a new councillor. I'm pretty good at building stuff so give me the dimensions and the types of planks and I'll build 'em both. And there sure won't be any platform issues because I'll build the platforms right the first time. You can ask anybody about my work. And I guess they'll need to be portable to take to all them fish fries and pig roasts that seem to occur during elections."



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