

Centre's cost major concern

STOUFFVILLE — How much will it cost and how will we pay for it?

The question, related to a proposed Whitchurch-Stouffville Community Centre Complex, came up time and time again at a public meeting here, Sept. 24.

Purpose of the gathering was to discuss recommendations contained in a recently completed Culture and Recreation Master Plan.

The Study, costing \$26,000, was necessary so the municipality can benefit from future Wintario grants.

The total project, estimated at \$3½ million, would include an indoor pool, an arena, a teen centre, a community centre, a health club, a racquet ball court plus improvements to soccer and ball facilities in Stouffville, Ballantrae and Lemonville. The recommended site is ten acres across from the High School between Edward Street and Ninth Line North.

Throughout the evening,

several made mention of costs, claiming the expense could pose a financial burden on some taxpayers. A Gormley area resident claimed that Stouffville was getting everything and that communities like Pine Orchard and Cedar Valley had been totally ignored.

Fred Galloway, a professional planner, explained that Stouffville's geographic location in one corner of the municipality, made distribution of facilities difficult. He noted that almost half the Town's population resided in this single urban centre.

The poll (every second home), conducted across the municipality, showed anxiety for the plight of young people between the ages of 12 and 19, Galloway said. He described it as "a dominant concern".

He criticized the Town's recreation program as being "fragmented", with no one assuming a leadership roll. Because of this, a Director of

Recreation was given high priority.

Galloway advised against spending more money on the present Arena claiming it not economically sound. He suggested also that two ice pads were not presently required but one could be added to the new facility when needed.

He said he liked the Edward Street-Ninth Line site due to its proximity to the High School.

Near the conclusion of the discussion, Daphne Goldman, Elm Road, Stouffville, voiced disgust at the negative attitudes of some speakers. She pointed to the possibility of a major breakdown at the Arena and the likelihood that both Uxbridge and Markham could ban non-resident use of their facilities, thus placing Whitchurch-Stouffville in a serious predicament.

"For once let's support something positively and get moving on this thing," she urged. Her remarks received enthusiastic applause.

Culture - Recreation

Town decision '82

STOUFFVILLE — The direction Council will go with respect to meeting culture and recreation needs in Whitchurch-Stouffville, is a decision members must make early in 1982, Mayor Eldred King told The Tribune this week.

He emphasized the fact that whatever's decided, it must be based on what the municipality needs rather than what it wants.

"There's justification for taxing people on what is

required but not on what is desired," he said.

He considers an Arena and an Indoor Pool high priorities.

"Actually, we need everything the Study recommends," Mayor King said, "but I don't want it to be a burden on the taxpayers."

With a Wintario grant, he estimates the total cost including capital and maintenance would represent an additional \$65 per \$20,000 assessment.

Mayor King admits a concern over resentment to the fact the majority of new facilities will be located in Stouffville.

"If the former village was more centrally located, say at the intersection of Bloomington Road and Warden Avenue, there'd be no problem," he said. In an effort to alleviate any animosity, he feels a two-level "user fee scale" could be adopted, giving some relief to those who would receive minimal benefit from the facilities.

Poison chemicals found at dump

STOUFFVILLE — A concentration of deadly poison, identified as PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls), has been discovered at a depth of sixty feet on the property of York Sanitation's controversial landfill site, north of the Bloomington Road, east of Hwy. 48.

The disclosure was made public by Waste Management of Canada Incorporated (parent company of York Sanitation), in the form of a written statement, Sept. 24.

It reads in part: "We have discovered a waste that our neighbors and the public in general should be made aware of. There is a concentration of PCBs on the site. We are working with the Ministry in order to determine in more detail the quantities of the PCBs and their location".

This chemical deposit, used in industrial insulation, is attributed by the company to the dumping of bulk liquid waste at this location prior to 1972 before Waste Management Inc., came on the scene.

According to the statement, migration (the spread) of the poison will not occur. "The Whitchurch-Stouffville water supply is in no danger of contamination," it said. The firm has suggested that rather than attempt to remove the chemical, it should be left where it is.

Anne Gagnon, one of several leaders in the anti-dump campaign, claims the company is just now telling the people what many have suspected all along. "How much more is known and not being told?" she asked.

While claiming she doesn't wish to be an alarmist, Fran Sainsbury says she can't minimize the seriousness of the

situation. She recalled that back in 1974, the Town was assured there were no PCBs at the site. "The head pins have now come forward with a statement so we couldn't accuse them of cover-up," she said.

She said many people had moved to Stouffville because of its artesian water supply. "All we're trying to do is protect

what we now have — the dump's in the wrong location."

Mrs. Sainsbury claims a hook-up with a water source from Metro is not a satisfactory alternative. The cost, she estimates at \$2.5 million.

As for a decision on the application for expansion, Mrs. Sainsbury expects that to be handed down the second week in October.



Guest of honor at birthday celebration

Walter Davis, formerly of Park Drive, Stouffville and now at Parkview Home, was the guest of honor, Sunday afternoon at the Silver Jubilee Club. The occasion was his 90th birthday. More than 100 friends and relatives were present

including his ten year old step grand-daughter, Julie Whynot of Ottawa. Mr. Davis has a son, Morley at Utica and a daughter, Effie in Markham.

Jim Thomas

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An absence of 37 years from competitive plowing didn't prevent Wilfred Ferguson of RR 2, Stouffville from staging a comeback at the North York Branch match, Saturday. Sharing a team and plow with neighbor and fellow competitor Murray

Grove, the two turned excellent lands despite inclement weather. Wilf also plans to attend the International near Barrie this week but only as a spectator.

Jim Thomas

Test wells

STOUFFVILLE — A committee, organized to fight expansion of the York Sanitation landfill site and protect Stouffville's water supply, no longer accepts test findings as provided by the Environment Ministry. It's doing its own.

Fran Sainsbury told The Tribune that with every \$100 raised, the committee checks the water purity of another well. Proceeds from a recent yard sale and bake sale were used for this purpose.

As to who is doing the testing, Mrs. Sainsbury would say only that it's an independent laboratory.

Veteran plowman makes comeback

WHITCHURCH — A persistent rain, Saturday, failed to deter the enthusiasm of 27 participants in the 59th annual North York plowing match on the Elward farm, Kennedy Road, Whitchurch-Stouffville.

Much of the interest was focussed on one plowman who, after 37 years, attempted a

come-back in the lone class for horses.

Wilfred Ferguson, Ninth Line North, was last a competitor when the match was held at Bob Timbers' farm, Main Street West in the mid-40's. On Saturday, he shared a team of Belgians owned by his neighbor, Murray Grove. Both men plowed lands with Murray

placing first and Wilf second.

"You can be away from it for awhile but you never quite forget," Mr. Ferguson told The Tribune. He recalled taking part in the International at Langstaff around 1926. He travelled the distance by team and wagon, going back a second time because the first day was rained out. His father, the late Peter Ferguson usually accompanied him, he said. It wasn't unusual to start out at four o'clock in the morning to reach the site on time. When horse travel proved out of the question, teams were provided by the Association.

To enter Saturday's match wasn't a snap decision, he said. "I'd been thinking about it for quite awhile". The sight of the Grove Belgians in the field next to his house, put him in the mood. "I've handled horses all my life, I wanted to try it one more time," he said. The team, he said, performed very well.

The veteran plowman was (Cont'd Page B9)

Burn church mortgage

MARKHAM — It was back in 1971 that the sanctuary of Grace Anglican Church was constructed at 19 Parkway Avenue, Markham. The cost was \$96,000.

On Sunday, ten years later, the mortgage was burned in a ceremony attended by Arch-

bishop Lewis Gainsworthy of Toronto. More than 500 were present.

Archbishop Gainsworthy delivered the message and assisted in the burning of the mortgage along with Rev. Thomas Greene, the congregation's pastor and church warden, Gordon Case and Russell Weeks.

Other participants included Dorothy Russell of Markham and John Armstrong

of Locust Hill. It was Mrs. Russell's grandfather who owned the land where the present church is situated and it was Mr. Armstrong's great-grandfather (Capt. Wm. Armstrong) who donated the property 135 years ago where the original church stood. The site was on the north side of Hwy. 7, west of Hwy. 48.

Both Mrs. Russell and Mr. Armstrong are long-time parishioners at Grace Anglican Church.

Set deadline

STOUFFVILLE — Oct. 9 is D-Day as far as the Dulverton Development is concerned. Tenders for the addition to Stouffville's sewage plant will be opened Oct. 8.

Mayor Eldred King told The Tribune that Council is anticipating the necessary funding from Dulverton to cover a major portion of the project. "Everything's proceeding towards that date," he said.

The total expenditure is expected to be around \$1.9 million.

The plant will be designed to handle the Dulverton scheme plus about 1,500 people. At that time, the mid-town stream will be monitored to find out how much treated effluent it can handle, Mayor King explained.

With respect to Stouffville hooking into the Big Pipe, the link-up would have to be extended south to 14th Avenue. Feeder lines, extending south to Markham's 16th Avenue wouldn't be adequate to serve the Town's needs, the mayor said.

Own destiny

STOUFFVILLE — The slow-growth edict for Whitchurch-Stouffville isn't etched in stone, Mayor Eldred King told The Tribune this week. "If we wish to develop beyond the 20,000 population figure by the Year 2000, there's nothing to say this can't be done."

Mayor King said Council would have to make application to Queen's Park through York

Region for permission to ignore previously established guidelines.

"It's up to Council to decide the limits we wish placed on growth," he said.

Mayor King said that in conversations he'd had with people, he'd concluded that most residents don't want the town to become part of Metropolitan Toronto.

Fair Days

MARKHAM — The 126th annual Markham Fair rolls into high gear Thursday (today) and continues through Sunday till 6 p.m.

The 1981 president is Dennis Seeley of Unionville.

If good weather prevails, crowds in excess of 100,000 are expected.

Saturday has been proclaimed "East York Day" at the Fair. Special guest at the official ceremony (12:15 p.m.) will be Alan Redway, the Mayor of East York. An antique aircraft flypast will precede this event at 12 noon.

A bus service will be provided from Stouffville to the grounds, Saturday and Sunday, leaving from Main and Stouffer Streets (Success Plaza), with pick-ups along Main Street. Departure hours Saturday are 10:30 a.m. and 7:40 p.m., with return trips at 7:30 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. On Sunday, the bus will leave at 12:30 p.m. and return at six. The (exact) fare is fifty cents adults; twenty-five cents children 6 to 15 years and twenty-five cents for senior citizens.