

Predesignation of land coolly received by Town

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Ratepayers' Association is pushing for pre-designation of Town land. By this method, areas of the municipality would be

marked as residential, commercial and industrial zones. These cannot be changed without amendments to the Official Plan.

Those members of Council who

responded to this recommendation at a public meeting, Thursday, appeared opposed. Rather, the Planning Advisory Committee prefers to deal with each application on its own merits.

Town Planner Michael Saunders explained that pre-designation tends to place the municipality under even greater pressure, particularly in the area of estate residential. Maintaining a rural ambience, he said, is one of the Town's prime goals. Pre-designation, he explained, could lead to the creation of a large hamlet, something that, at this time, Council might not want.

Mayor Fran Sainsbury said pre-designation encourages speculation because some people will acquire property and hold it, knowing what's proposed for particular parcels.

Mrs. Sainsbury pointed out that within a period of 110 years, the Town's population had escalated to only 15,000 people. In the next 14 years, the target has been set at

20,000 total. "I don't consider that rapid growth," she said.

The mayor said Whitchurch-Stouffville would never become another Markham due to buffer zones of lakes, forests, conservation areas and golf courses. "This makes our municipality unique," she said.

Ann Bellanger of the Ratepayers' Association questioned the Town's planning expertise that would allow 200 homes in one area. She pointed to what she described as 'the detrimental affect' this build-up would have on the rural environment.

Mayor Sainsbury replied that in a total area of 52,000 acres, only four residential developments had been given Council's okay.

Using the Dulverton Development in Stouffville as an example, Mrs. Sainsbury said it had taken close to 20 years to bring it to its present state of completion. "It didn't happen over-night," she said, "it's the result of 15 to 20 years hard work."



Dancing sisters stole the show

Heather (left) and Karen Kennedy, both students attending Dickson's Hill School, won the hearts of spectators attending a Fun Fair on the grounds, Saturday. The two young charmers danced with the Ontario Rhythm Cloggers as part of the afternoon program.

—Jim Thomas



Mrs. Mabel Williamson, Parkview Village, Stouffville, welcomed many visitors Sunday on the occasion of her 80th birthday. Mrs. Williamson's love of people has won her a host of close friends in Stouffville and beyond.

—Jim Thomas

Friends return the favors

By JIM THOMAS

STOUFFVILLE — To have friends you have to be friendly. The saying holds true for Mrs. Mabel Williamson, Parkview Village, Stouffville.

Mrs. Williamson makes friends wherever she goes. On Sunday those same friends returned the favor. The occasion was an Open House in honor of her 80th birthday.

Mrs. Williamson, the former Mabel Walker, was born at New Liskeard, daughter of Frederick and Etta Jane Walker. Following high school graduation, she attended Shaw's Business College, Toronto.

Initially, she was secretary to the manager at the King Spadina Branch of Imperial Bank of Commerce. Later, she was secretary to the manager at the Bank's head office.

Because her parents had retired to Stouffville, Mrs. Williamson came to live here also, while husband Jack was in the Airforce.

"I came for one year and stayed for thirty," she says with a smile.

Mrs. Williamson's earlier association with Stouffville made returning that much easier. Previously, she had lived in the Dublin Apartments, Markham, and then with her son-in-law and daughter Roy and Kay Dowswell, Toronto.

She has one grandson, Stephen in Coquitlam, British Columbia; one granddaughter, Ellen in Toronto; and one great-grandson, Benjamin Dowswell, Coquitlam, B.C.

One sister, Ada Jennings, lives in Richmond Hill. Another, Myrtle Horton, resides in Ajax.

Mrs. Williamson enjoys playing the piano. This talent is appreciated in concerts in Parkview Village auditorium.

She is a member in the congregation of Stouffville United Church and enjoys this association also. She loves to read.

Mrs. Williamson is happy in her new place of residence. Her friends are happy too. She's known by almost everyone.

On Sunday, 21 almost everyone attended the party in her honor. The Tribune says Happy Birthday.

Emergency plan ready-waiting

By DENISE McDONALD

Whitchurch-Stouffville is now fully prepared for the advent of any peacetime disasters, caused accidentally or by the forces of nature, after Town Council adopted its first emergency preparedness plan May 12.

According to Clerk Coordinator Pat Oakes, initial preparation of the document was prompted by a similar plan's recent success when a tornado struck Barrie.

Outlined in the document's opening pages, are the Town's main objectives should an emergency situation arise. It reads: "Whenever a disaster occurs which has an effect on the lives and property of our citizens, the initial and prime responsibility for providing immediate assistance rests with the municipal government. This plan is designed to ensure the co-ordination of all services, essential and volunteer, to bring the situation under control as quickly as possible."

It also explains its primary aim is to lay down the framework for the efficient employment of all services required in order to assure:

"The earliest response to an emergency site by all services required and to provide overall control of an emergency situation. To establish a Municipal Emergency Control Centre at the scene and/or elsewhere, depending on the type of emergency."

Prompt traffic and crowd control

be imposed so operations are not impeded and additional problems avoided.

The rescue of trapped persons with a minimum delay and the provision of first aid at the disaster.

Provisions of controlled evacuation and proper distribution of casualties to hospitals.

The evacuation of buildings considered to be in a hazardous situation.

Factual official information be available at the earliest possible time to officials involved in emergency operations, the news media to lesson anxiety and reduce the number of onlookers at the scene and concerned individuals seeking personal information.

Provisions of such social services required for persons involved and for emergency service personnel.

Restoration of normal services.

Included in the document are outlines depicting the various roles and functions to be played by the fire and police departments, coroner and Chief Coroner of Ontario and various departments operated by the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

It also provides a detailed listing of area services available, as well as, selected emergency shelter centres and evacuation procedures.

"The plan will be up-dated annually," says Mrs. Oakes, "and copies supplied to ambulance, police and fire departments."

Ratepayers give Town planner confidence vote

Member of the Whitchurch-Stouffville Ratepayers' Association may not be the ones some members of Town Council once believed.

At a public meeting May 21, Mayor Fran Sainsbury pointed to a concluding statement in the group's Brief related to proposed changes in the Official Plan that reads:

"It has been suggested by some that we, (the Ratepayers' Association), search out a planner or other such knowledgeable person from among the residents of Whitchurch-Stouffville, to sit as a member of the Planning Committee. We feel this is unnecessary, and have every confidence in the

staff of the Planning Department of Whitchurch-Stouffville to provide complete, accurate and objective information for the Planning Committee according to professional standards."

Mayor Sainsbury says she's pleased the Town's Planning Department has been accorded this kind of support.

The Ratepayers' Association also pledged its co-operation, saying:

"We believe that, as residents of this community, it is our duty to help you, our elected representatives, in any way we can, to make this Town the kind of place we can all be proud to call home."

Serving 15,000 not seventy mayor replies

"We're here to serve 15,000, not just the 70 in this room," Mayor Fran Sainsbury told an Official Plan public meeting in Stouffville's Latcham Hall, Thursday.

Mayor Sainsbury's response was in reply to a terse statement by Wayne Warnica, President of the Whitchurch-Stouffville Ratepayers' Association.

Directing his remarks to the mayor, Mr. Warnica charged "you're not hearing what a lot of people are saying. Your voice should be a lot stronger. You're running a business and the shareholders are asking you to pay attention to what they're saying

and plan ahead, so we don't lose our shirts socially."

"Will Council recognize this?" he asked.

Mrs. Sainsbury explained that because of the Official Plan, the Town is what it is today.

"If it ain't broke, don't fix it," she snapped.

At this point, Councillor Wilf Morley interjected. He promised all comments made at the meeting would be studied carefully. He described many of the recommendations as "excellent".

Morley said he didn't want anyone to leave with the impression Council's not interested.

TWO auctions

STOUFFVILLE — Auctions, both silent and public, will be two of the features when the Stouffville Christian School holds its annual Spring Fair Saturday, in the town's park, May 27.

The Silent Auction extends from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Public Auction starts at 3 p.m.

In the public auction Terry Sturman will be calling bids on such valuable items as a beautiful quilt donated by the Videman Mennonite Church, an Hitachi cellular phone donated by G.C. Simmonds & Sons, one and two weeks in three luxurious bedroom condominiums in Florida, a limited edition print by noted wildlife artist Glenn Jones, a Stihl chainsaw and more.

The Silent Auction has no less than 30 items and services, everything from a 15-cup endearing lot of 100 Mardi Gras circulars, two Oscar the Grouch T-shirts, a framed wall mural including a football tournament, a home-baking calendar for the children, and more.

The Spring Fair continues Sunday, May 29, in the park, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Dolls on show

Anna Norman of Anna's Crafts & Antiques, R.R. 2, Claremont, displays some of the dolls she featured at the Stouffville Antique Show. The sixth annual sale attracted large crowds to Markham Fairgrounds both Friday evening and Saturday. It was organized by the congregation of Christ Church Anglican in Stouffville.

—Chris Shanahan