

SUMMARY, MCCAULEY COMMUNITY SAFETY MEETING MONDAY FEB 12, 2018

FACILITATORS:

Mark Davis, McCauley Community Coordinator
Jan Fox, REACH Executive Director
Brenda Robinson, Robcan Group

ATTENDANCE:

Total: 38:

Residents: 19 (50%)

Service Agency staff: 7 (Ambassador Program, BGCBiggs, Boyle McCauley Health Centre/AB Health, Edmonton Intercultural Centre, E4C, Multicultural Family Resource Society, Our McCauley)

McCauley Revitalization Steering Committee: 6

REACH Edmonton: 4

McCauley Community League Board: 3

McCauley Safety Council: 3

City of Edmonton: 3

Business: 3 (incl. Viva Italia DA)

EPS: 2 (incl. Beat Const. Andrew Melney)

MLA Office: 1

SUMMARY:

- Jan presented **overview of REACH**
- Brenda presented **history of McCauley Community Safety Meetings** and overview of the initiative's **Community Report-Back document** (Report-Back was requested by Todd Janes, McCauley Revitalization Steering Committee, Chair)
All invitees were provided with an electronic copy of Report-Back prior to the meeting and a hard copy at the meeting. All were invited to provide feedback about the document
- Group discussed issue of **Santo's/Running Horse Saloon**, (Gaming, VLT's, Minors Prohibited Liquor Licence, AGLC, City of Edmonton Permits and Licencing etc.)
 - Group requested information re. number of objections filed (AGLC/Toni Hazelwood)
AGLC has informed that a total of 26 letters of objection were filed
 - Brian Gibbon suggested forwarding above information (re. number of letters) to Minister Ceci
Brian was provided the above number, as well as copies of several letters. Minister Mason is now aware of the numbers and the mood of the community, and can communicate both to Minister Ceci. AGLC noted that Minister Ceci is not in a position to influence the objection process while it is underway.
 - Group requested follow up with Councillor McKeen to clarify his stance and further actions
Councillor McKeen has been supportive of the community and has made his stance in opposition of gaming at the location clear in the press.

Update: On April 10, AGLC sent letters to 26 objectors stating that the MP Liquor License application had been denied “based on a lack of community support.”

Update: A follow up meeting has taken place between Councillor McKeen and a small group of residents who received letters from the Mayor’s Office.

- Group discussed **current priority issues:**

- **VLT’s**, their impact and how they influence other safety issues (see above)
- **Needles:**

- Impact of Safe Consumption Services
- How are needles distributed? Meaning of needle “exchange” (i.e. “one for one” vs. unlimited access)
- Needle clean up/pick up: Group discussed the existence of several services for needle pick up. Most in the group were not aware of all services. Discussed the need for wider distribution of accurate, comprehensive info on all clean up services i.e. Who is collecting? How many?

Update: **City of Edmonton response:**

City of Edmonton, Capital City Clean Up:

- When a needle is found on private property, the property owner is responsible for disposal. The property owner and/or resident is encouraged to report the discovery of the needle to 311, in order for the City of Edmonton to track discarded needles.
- When a needle is found on public/City property call 311. If it is an emergent situation (ie. near a school or playground), Fire Rescue Services will be dispatched. If non-emergent, 311 will send a request to Capital City Clean Up. CCCU operates 7 days/week from 10AM to 4PM. In most circumstances, CCCU will be able to clean up on the day of the call.

NOTE: Information regarding safe needle disposal on private property will be sourced from CCCU.

NOTE: We will connect with Mustard Seed/Revitalization, Boyle Street Community Services/Street Works, and Boyle McCauley Health Centre to determine the full scope of the pick-up services available

NOTE: We will connect with local pharmacies to determine their role in distribution and collection

NOTE: We will attempt to determine if a full count of needles picked up by all services is being compiled and available; if not, can this be developed?

NOTE: There is a need to track numbers on an ongoing basis for future evaluation of the impact of Safe Consumption Services on the community

- **Reporting/Educating residents on how to become active, effective:** Reporting provides hard data to guide City and EPS response to safety concerns. They can not allocate resources to a situation if they don’t know it exists
 - McCauley Revitalization and Safety Council will be undertaking the annual distribution of “Who to Call When” postcard, “Neighbourhood Response” (LEVER) booklet and “Make the Call” pocket-size resource
- The cooperative efforts of McCauley Revitalization and McCauley Community League Board has resulted in the upcoming launch of the **“Meet Me in McCauley” website** – a one-stop resource

- to engage community stakeholders. Website has potential to include “Safety Page” with links to resources
- More/continued efforts to do **Neighbourhood Connecting**
 - **Abundant Communities** Connectors can be effective connector; eyes on the street
 - **Connect the Connectors:** McCauley now has several “Connectors”. They will convene to determine who does what.
Follow Up: Discussions have taken place between community Connectors. REACH has offered to convene meetings
 - **Human trafficking;** ACT Alberta (The Action Coalition on Human Trafficking Alberta) was cited as a resource/contact
Follow Up: Other available resources:
 - **CEASE (Centre to End All Sexual Exploitation)**
 - **The Joy Smith Foundation**
 - **CPTED** (Crime Prevention through Environmental Design) for households; non-sales-oriented information on **security systems** for residents
Follow Up: Experts on property safety (EPS/CPTED, security systems specialist) have been invited to present to the group at a future meeting. EPS Sgt. Paul Looker has agreed to present
 - Number of **pharmacies.** MCL Board Member confirmed that a City report on the proliferation of pharmacies in McCauley has been requested from Councillor McKeen
Follow Up: Councillor McKeen has been provided with comprehensive list of pharmacies in the McCauley area. Report will be shared with group when available
- Group discussed public, inclusive **McCauley Community Safety Conversation:**
 - Group agreed that the above priority issues should guide the conversation/agenda, most specifically:
 - Needles: Safe Consumption Services, Distribution and Clean Up, Pharmacy role etc.
 - Gaming, VLTs, Licencing
 - CPTED, Security Systems
 - Problem Properties
 - Human trafficking
 - Group discussed **future Safety Meetings:**
 - **Alternate times** to allow for broader engagement and participation; example, next meeting 7-9PM rather than 5:30-7PM; and the following on a weekend, daytime
 - Ian (BGCBigs) offered their facility both for Community Conversation and for future Community Safety Meetings
 - Other issues discussed:
 - Breaking down concerns into pieces we can handle
 - Effective, comprehensive system to connect community to resources and tools to address safety concerns
 - Uniting pockets of support to get better results (including more residents and stakeholders)
 - Mapping; Building on community strengths
 - Empty store fronts
 - How to be a better resident; How to deal with a difficult neighbour
 - Google doc for sharing of content; those unable to attend can access updates

