

Building & Land Use Committee
Notes from Thursday Feb 3rd meeting

New attendees:

Danielle Lavalley – JK parent
John Keenan – Spectrum parent
Lisa Cain - Spectrum parent
Brendan Conway – Spectrum parent
Melanie Haynes – DHH parent

1. Information summary on Building and land use

- approx. 80,000 sqft.
- behavioural program is on average only 8 students annually
- Ministry Capacity for this building is 384 students, 2011 expectation is **XXX**
- Spectrum is 2 classes on average of 62 students total
- If/when TLC goes we will reclaim that space
- French Immersion classes will need new space next year for 1-2 Grade 2 classrooms – depending on attrition etc.
- Computer room proposed to move to favor larger library for all students
- Spectrum will share all common spaces: gym, library, cafeteria
- Before & After school program may need to move or share space or both – to be determined

2. Brief history of ARC and Redevelopment discussion

- ARC and Redevelopment together were confusing and generated much concern and speculation amongst the community
- Councillor Walker refused to participate in ARC, Davisville is zoned ‘neighbourhood’ at a height of 27 feet – but these facts have always been subject to change through rezoning applications
- Question: have John Fisher FI enrollment/catchment numbers been considered in new projections for Davisville FI – to be determined

3. Open Brainstorming Session #1

Opportunities:

- Pool
- Improve the land use design
- Community programming space
- More technologically advanced
- Updated modern and new facilities: cafeteria, kitchens, etc
- Wheelchair accessible space
- Better library
- Maintain space for lunch room

Student & Community Needs

- Improved green space
- Regulation sports fields
- Continue attracting great teachers
- Community centre within walking distance
- Resolve small classrooms
- Gym on the first floor – bigger gym with stage that is dividable

- Soccer field

Issues & Concerns

- bus drop off situation is dangerous, re turn around space
- building height
- student safety during construction
- play space and field during recess – during construction
- accommodation during construction
- fiscal responsibility of TDSB to taxpayers
- no viable business financial model/justification for redev
- more cramped floor space
- MTSD move has not been decided, communicated as to when?

Shelley Laskin – review of Development Process Chart

- no timeline assigned to this yet
- jobs have been posted for the staff to be on this LDT
- Sheila Penny will be leading this process, with a project manager
- “A school is required” on this site – whether old or new
- See article re Town Crier , writer Chris Sewell?
- A possible “If you build it they will come” situation – a North Toronto experience
- Board leads this process, TLC does not
- At the LDT table: Developers, not-for-profits, other boards, board staff, parents, community representatives, ratepayer reps,
- Our reps are appointed by us, School reps appointed by school
- Potentially a VERY BIG group
- Minimum 6-8 month process, breaks for summer, could go into 2012
- “It needs to take as long as it takes” - SL
- Question: are these separate or single meetings?
- Question: will BLU have representation at that session?
- Through this process there will also be public meetings to test the issues
- Shelley suggests the committee tour a recently built school, during the day when in use. Shelley will organize it for us.

NTCI:

- discussions started in 2000/01, vote to proceed in 2003, construction started 2007, building in use 2010, completion 2011.
- "if there's re-zoning, there's an issue"
- TDSB has built 7-8 schools since NTCI, incl. deep retrofits

Process

- agreement to develop a framework with local community box = MOU (Memorandum of understanding)
- we will work through it together
- we will need open school council and community meetings at the appropriate time
- Councillor (Matlow) is not a member of LDT, but considered a partner (see flowchart)
- Process is TDSB controlled, it's not your process it's our process
- Min of Ed approval is built into the TDSB Board approval stage

Shelley's job

- get answers to our questions

- advocate for student needs
- ensure no compromise between developers and school priorities
- vision the best for students
- This is all about geography, Davisville is one of only 15 sites that has potential for re-development (location, location, location)

Q&A

- Has it been decided that some of the land will be monetized? (We need to be on the same page to get what we want, we don't want to be seen as derailing the process.)
- Yes, but there is no pre-determined anything. Board believes there is a potential for redevelopment but has not met with anyone. We have the opportunity to have a brand new school in our community. If it works fab.
- Who owns LCBO & rest of block?
- Shelley will find out for us.
- Are there any processes that are going on inside TLC independently of this TDSB process?
- TLC is not involved until TDSB directs them to engage through a formal motion. TLC will not act proactively, it is not their mandate.
- Clarity of communication is v. important & must exist. Parents would like to see in writing that TDSB did not instruct TLC to move on Davisville and that TLC has been instructed not to meet with developers about this site. Can we get this confirmation in writing? Shelley will work on this.

Action Items:

- All committee members are invited to add to Brainstorming started last night: Please email Wendy with your additional input in the following areas:
 - Opportunities
 - Issues/Concerns
 - Student/community needs
 - Your vision for long term success – what does this look like to you?
- ~~Engage Spectrum, DHH parents, Wendy~~
- ~~Arrange for speakers to provide information for familiarization session, Wendy~~
- ~~Create 1 pager: history of development discussion, Wendy~~
- Draft committee voting procedures proposal, Rob/Viv
- Draft community communication guidelines proposal, Lisa
- Draft committee guiding principals proposal, Lisa
- Create website prototype, John/Rob
- ~~Write piece for Feb Newsletter, Wendy or Lisa~~

Shelley Laskin will get back to us on the following:

1. Will the discovery session be a single session with all public partners at one table or will they be conducted separately with each partner? Shelley will find out.
2. Will BLU have representation at the Discovery session(s) with public partners? Shelley will find out.

3. Committee to tour a recently built school, during the day when in use. Shelley to organize.
4. Who owns LCBO & rest of block? Shelley will find out for us.
5. Clarity of communication is v. important & must exist, especially in light of the confused ATC/Redevelopment communications from TDSB last year. Parents would like to see in writing that TDSB did not instruct TLC to "move" on Davisville and that TLC has been instructed not to meet with developers about this site. Shelley will work on this.

Next meeting Tuesday February 22 - 6:45 – 8:45pm
TLC Boardroom 3rd floor

Objectives:

Finalize:

- voting procedures
- website
- next steps

Discuss:

- Community communication procedures
- Committee guiding principles

Agenda:

1. Voting procedures draft proposal: present, discuss, modify, vote/pass, led by **Rob/Viv**
2. Parent and community communication procedures draft proposal, present, discuss, modify, **led by Lisa**
3. BLU committee guiding principles draft proposal, present, discuss. modify, **led by Lisa**
4. Review of BLU website, **led by John/Rob**
 4. Identify next steps: Action items and March meeting(s)

Additional Note:

We have achieved good representation across grades and programs on the BLU committee, see attached spreadsheet for current details.

