

## **Civic Affairs Newsletter Article February 2010**

As I write this article it has been three days since the Ramsay Community Association AGM continuance took place on Tuesday January 12. I wish to congratulate the Board of Directors and especially Adele Sanoy, for all the hard work and logistics management that went into making the evening's election of new Board members run smoothly despite the actions of a small but vocal group of Scotsman's Hill residents in opposition to the rink redevelopment plans. I would also like to congratulate Art Matsui for being voted in as new VP External and Chair of the Civic Affairs Committee. Art had been a member of the Committee for about a year, and his election will provide the necessary continuity for dialogue with external stakeholders and City Administration. This is probably the most important aspect of the job of VP External and Chair of Civic Affairs, and Art will do a great job on behalf of Ramsay.

**DP2009-4048; 1012 – 17 Avenue S.E.** The Committee met on December 16 with the applicant to discuss adjustments to his building plans for an infill on a building site where the previous small bungalow house has already been demolished. The address of the infill is within Sub-area 1, a heritage district within the Ramsay ARP and consequently contextual rules for infills are stringent to make sure they are contextual with the existing heritage streetscape. We wish to thank the applicant for agreeing to meet with the Committee to discuss the changes that had been requested by the Calgary Planning Applications Group (CPAG) and further suggestions of the Committee.

**Black and White Store land use change application (LOC2008-0119).** In mid-December a second neighborhood meeting was called by the Applicant to invite close neighbors to the store to discuss the imminent land use change that had been passed by Calgary Planning Commission and was heading to a Council Public Hearing on January 18. On January 6 the Civic Affairs Committee met with two City Planning Dept. officials to discuss the zoning issues and consequences of the land use change. In further discussions, the Committee has decided to withdraw support for the application because the policy and ARP amendment language was not strong enough to ensure the built form of development on the site after the Ho family sells the package of three building sites. Recently the VP External met with Alderman Ceci to request more time to negotiate the terms of the land use change, and another meeting is being requested for further discussion. It is likely that the application will be postponed on the Council Public Hearing agenda until February or March of 2010.

The community of Ramsay welcomes sustainable development that respects the history and emerging character of the neighborhood, complies with the Area Redevelopment Plan and Bylaws, and will be a benefit to the people who live here. The Civic Affairs Committee welcomes new members. Contact the Committee Chairman at [vpexternal@ramsaycommunity.ab.ca](mailto:vpexternal@ramsaycommunity.ab.ca) for information about upcoming meetings and the Committee Terms of Reference and the Volunteer Code of Conduct.