

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Regarding Stinson Neighborhood

From: Jeff W

Sent: September 15, 2020 11:04 AM

To: Office of the Mayor <mayor@hamilton.ca>; Wilson, Maureen <Maureen.Wilson@hamilton.ca>; Farr, Jason <Jason.Farr@hamilton.ca>; Nann, Nrinder <Nrinder.Nann@hamilton.ca>; Merulla, Sam <Sam.Merulla@hamilton.ca>; Collins, Chad <Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca>; Jackson, Tom <Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca>; Pauls, Esther <Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca>; Ward 8 Office <ward8@hamilton.ca>; Clark, Brad <Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca>; Pearson, Maria <Maria.Pearson@hamilton.ca>; Johnson, Brenda <Brenda.Johnson@hamilton.ca>; Ferguson, Lloyd <Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca>; VanderBeek, Arlene <Arlene.VanderBeek@hamilton.ca>; Whitehead, Terry <Terry.Whitehead@hamilton.ca>; Partridge, Judi <Judi.Partridge@hamilton.ca>; Bates, Tamara <Tamara.Bates@hamilton.ca>;

Subject: Regarding Stinson Neighborhood

Dear Council Members,

My neighbour informed me that residents of this community are to compose concerns by noon today. I again was not told of this until 10 am Tuesday the 15 September, and therefore am writing a quick draft.

In the way of background, I am a clinical psychologist, and I am working in the community. I moved to Hamilton to start a new life in a smaller city than Toronto (I am born and raised in western Canada). I bought a Victorian house in Stinson with the hopes of restoring its history and heritage. I feel Hamilton is one of the few standing heritage communities in Canada, and I have a passion for it; I have hopes for this community. However, I think that it is being mismanaged and run by several people with a narrow viewpoint and a quest to make their ideals a community identity. Unfortunately, it is not consistent with all the homeowners, and I feel it also has an irresponsible element to it because compassion before functionality and logic can be problematic. I have found that during my stay here since December 2019, after purchasing the house, the violence has increased. I have so far witnessed severe fighting, yelling and threatening behaviour, not to mention endless petty crimes. My walks on the street have seen unsavoury behaviour that has left me feeling threatened, and to the point, I can not walk the streets comfortably in Stinson.

Furthermore, when I addressed the issue to the Facebook Stinson community, I was ridiculed and attacked personally. This attack was most disturbing, and I choose to leave the group. My concern is the sheer amount of care homes that the Hamilton council approves in the community. I understand the need, and with COVID, it makes it difficult, but we can not concentrate poverty in one area alone for the simple reason that it will create further social problems for all involved. All communities should share the burden, not just the wards that may welcome the ideas. Those that push back must also share responsibilities for social issues, regardless of their socioeconomic positions. Please consider that in the future as we need balance.

Obviously, we need more primary prevention, but balance with tertiary prevention is imperative.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jeffrey Weatherby