

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING COMMENTS

3.3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING – Application – 1350 Trafalgar Street (Z-9009)

- *(Councillor A. Hopkins indicating that when she first read this, she thought it was just retail and nothing else, but what else is allowed with this new definition of a Second Hand Goods Outlet.); Ms. S. Wise, Senior Planner, responding that the specific definition will allow for both the retail component as well as the refurbishment activities associated with this specific use; those are the types of uses that are more industrial in nature including the refurbishment, repairing, those types of uses are what tips the scale in terms of its appropriateness instead of just being a pure retail facility in this location and those are both captured by the definition to ensure they can sell as well as restore on site; (Councillor A. Hopkins enquiring if they would need to do both retail and industrial.); Ms. S. Wise, Senior Planner, responding that yes, it specifically prohibits the retail use so that it does not evolve into a non-complimentary commercial use on this site.*
- Laverne Kirkness, Kirkness Planning Consulting, on behalf of the applicants – operating for approximately seven years; finding this a very interesting business and this couple have taken the estate liquidation business another step, when they get these goods from households and businesses they do not take them to auctioneers or non-profits or God help us, landfill, they recycle them in their own store; indicating that they have a building upon which they refurbish the goods and then put them out on the floor for the public to come and buy; advising that if you have not been to this 15,000 or 16,000 square feet of space, you should go, it is very interesting and you might find some really good deals; stating that it is kind of unique and he does not think there is anything else quite like it in the city; knowing that there are non-profits that have large retail stores but liquidators usually do not, it is new and there are a lot of benefits; indicating that goods are fixed up and recycled; advising that they are on display for the retailing public to come and consume; indicating that they use space that is marginal, commercial industrial space like in the Brydges area that otherwise might be vacant and we would much rather have an occupied premises than a vacant building; noting that a lot of the rest of this building is self-storage and these kind of uses contribute to that; having looked at the staff report, they have been working on this for a couple of years; thinking the City had some empathy with them because they saw it as a legitimate business, they developed the Brydges Street planning policies to permit this kind of use; stating that they have the policy framework in place, very recent, and they have now been asked to bring a zoning application forth to implement those policies; expressing agreement with the staff report and thank staff for it; asking the Planning and Environment Committee to take it on to Council and get the site reasoned.
- Dennis Beacon – advising that he is all for this application; parking is at a premium, it shares its property with a pretty nice restaurant but parking there is a premium, it is so close to Trafalgar Street; advising that one time the restaurant was so busy that he had to go across the street, Highbury Avenue, to park at the grocery store and walk over; reiterating that parking is a premium there.