

# Minutes

## May 4th 2005 Citizens' Meeting

### Mount Royal Borough Office

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#### Attended :

**Board of administration :** Mr Patrick Hamel, president  
Mrs Francine Brodeur, vice-president  
Mr David Johnson, treasurer  
Mrs Hélène Gaudry Seni  
Mr Luc Laurin  
Mr Pierre Garneau  
Mr William Habib  
Mrs Johanne Paradis

**Guests :** Mr Gérald Tremblay, mayor of Montreal  
Mrs Suzanne Caron, borough mayor of Mount Royal  
Mr Michael Applebaum, borough mayor of CDN-NDG  
Mrs Ava Couch, Mount Royal borough director  
Mr Gaëtan Rainville, CDN-NDG borough director  
Mr Saulie Zajdel, Darlington counsellor  
Mr Cliff Carrie, Frederick-J.-Todd counsellor

**Others:** Mr Ronald Poupart, transition committee

**Are excused :** Mr Ron Schiller  
Mr Dennis Trigylidas

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Meeting begins at 7h10 PM

#### **1. Opening remarks**

Mr Patrick Hamel opens the meeting and welcomes guests and citizens, as well as other people attending.

## **2. Adoption of the agenda**

The agenda is proposed by Mrs Francine Brodeur, assisted by Mr Pierre Garneau, as the following :

1. Opening remarks
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Introduction
4. Word from Mr Gérald Tremblay
5. Presentation by Mrs Suzanne Caron and Mr Michael Applebaum
6. Position of the association
7. Public question period
8. Closing of the meeting

## **3. Introduction**

Mrs Francine Brodeur introduces the guests, Mr Gérald Tremblay, mayor of the city of Montreal, Mrs Suzanne Caron, borough mayor of Mount Royal, Mr Michael Applebaum, borough mayor of Côte-des-Neiges/Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, Mrs Ava Couch, Mount Royal borough director, Mr Gaëtan Rainville, Côte-des-Neiges/Notre-Dame-de-Grâce borough director, Mr Saulie Zajdel, Darlington counsellor and Mr Cliff Carrie, Frederick-J.-Todd counsellor.

Members of the board of administration are also introduced.

Finally, Mrs Brodeur explains the basic geography of Glenmount, including surveying that had been done under mayor Dawson in 1984.

## **4. Word from Mr Gérald Tremblay**

Mr Tremblay explains that its objectives for this meeting are to listen to the citizens in the hope of finding solutions.

For this item, a summary of what is said later on by Mr Tremblay, during the public question period, is added.

The mayor of Montreal explains that he has received a summary of annoyances for the citizens of Glenmount. This summary had been asked by Mrs Brigitte McSween. He tells the audience that during the meeting, problems told by the citizens are in the document. However, the CP train problem is not.

He also explains that he does not want to have second class citizens in Montreal. He says that he will be able to give the citizens an idea of the taxes paid as compared to the investments and services given to the sector, before November 2005. This will be done with the objective of finding what could be improved in

Glenmount. He tells the citizens that before taking a decision for their future, they have to know and be comfortable with the consequences.

### **5. Presentation by Mrs Suzanne Caron and Mr Michael Applebaum**

In this section are reported presentations by Mrs Caron, Mr Applebaum, as well as Mr Zajdel and Mr Rainville.

Mrs Caron tells the citizens that before January 1st 2002, Glenmount was entirely part of the city of Montreal, Côte-des-Neiges sector. Since 1998, however, administrative agreements allowed Glenmount citizens to have access to Mount Royal sport and recreation services. That was in exchange of an amount of 40 000\$ from the city of Montreal to the town of Mount Royal. On January 1<sup>st</sup> 2002, Glenmount became part of the borough of Mount Royal. Many services from the latter became accessible to the former, especially: garbage removal, recycling, construction permits and public security. Moreover, participation of Glenmount citizens to the various Mount Royal committees became possible. However, blue collar collective agreements did not allow public work until recently. Since 2005, it is possible, for Mount Royal, to perform major infrastructure work such as: Jean-Talon/Canora intersection reconfiguration and road as well as sidewalk repairs for the worst ones. However an agreement has been concluded with Côte-des-Neiges for other services because of the short period before Glenmount goes back to Montreal (CDN-NDG).

As of January 1<sup>st</sup> 2006, Glenmount will be part of Montreal, borough of Côte-des-Neiges/Notre-Dame de Grâce. All services will be provided by the latter. However, Mrs Caron wishes that administrative agreements be renegotiated. As a possible merger of Glenmount to Mount Royal is concerned, the law does not allow it before January 1<sup>st</sup> 2006, following which an idea of Glenmount finances will be obtained to look into the possibility of it. More particularly, the Glenmount citizens' debt for the city of Montreal will have to be looked into.

When Glenmount will get back to Montreal (CDN-NDG), information will be distributed to the citizens concerning the transfer of services.

In his presentation, Mr Applebaum explains that he will always be able to work with his neighbours, even when Mount Royal will be a city again. Indeed, he will make sure that Glenmount citizens will still be able to use certain services from Mount Royal. He tells the citizens that Côte-des-Neiges/Notre-Dame-de-Grâce will always be open to discussion to find solutions. He also explains that many rules differ between Côte-des-Neiges and Mount Royal and that he has to look into it as Glenmount is concerned. At the end of the meeting he also says that a Glenmount committee could be created within the borough of Côte-des-Neiges/Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, including elected people and the director.

Mr Zajdel, in his presentation, explains that agreements are possible. However, Glenmount citizens will not be able to obtain the best from both world. He also says that the possibility of a trade/annexation of the territory surrounding Bates and Ekers streets could be possible.

Mr Rainville, as the responsible for service providing, says that he cannot accept two classes of citizens on his territory. He promises that he will provide the same level of services for all citizens of the Côte-des-Neiges/Notre-Dame-de-Grâce borough. However, he cannot promise that he will give services equivalent to other borough's. He agrees on the fact that the Glenmount territory is relatively remote from Côte-des-Neiges.

## **6. Position of the association**

Due to lack of time, this item is removed from the agenda.

## **7. Public question period**

Unfortunately, the name and address of people asking questions or commenting have not been written down. However, of note, Mrs Brigitte Mack-Arsenault, from Vigilance Mont-Royal, came to the microphone to express the support of its association to the annexation of Glenmount to the Town of Mount Royal. Also, Mrs Vera Danyluk intervened and explained that the citizens of Glenmount were clear enough as they requested an annexation to Mount Royal.

The other questions and comments were on the following subjects:

- Some citizens wish that Glenmount gets back to and stays in the city of Montreal (CDN-NDG). However, they tell the mayor that it would be a good opportunity to better serve the area and use it as an example to see how exceptional the services can be. It could even make TMR residents jealous.
- The fact that taxes keep increasing and services decrease in Glenmount is shown as a major disadvantage as compared to Mount Royal where taxes are much lower and services much better.
- Citizens discuss the use of sport infrastructures in Mount Royal.
- Some talk about the feeling that Glenmount citizens have about being part of Mount Royal.
- The noise and transportation of dangerous contents by the trains is discussed.
- What would happen with the property assessment roll and land/house taxes is presented as a subject of concern if Glenmount was merged to TMR.

- The availability of services, including snow removal, is presented as a problem.
- Access to the schools of Mount Royal is brought to attention.
- The geographic problem, as delivery people (etc.) are unable to find the area, is presented.
- Someone tells the mayor that the Glenmount problem has been going on for at least 40 years and that a definitive solution has to be found. Mr Jack Chardirdjian, former Darlington counsellor is one of the citizens intervening on that matter.
- Proximity of Glenmount to the various Mount Royal services is recalled.
- Security, including on Jean-Talon, comes as subject of discussion.
- It is asked that Glenmount citizens be better informed.
- One citizen wants to know more about the Glenmount Community Association legitimacy and the way it operates on a democratic basis. Citizens are told that it will be explained on the Association web site [and in a further meeting].

## **8. Closing of the meeting**

The meeting ends at 9h10 PM.