

# Leslieville big-box boycotters seek help

*By Duncan McAllister*

After months of planning and meetings, finally the wheels are starting to turn in the efforts of the Leslieville community's battle against the "big box" developments in what is known as the Foundry District on Eastern Ave.

"Right now we're just building our strategy—everything sort of happened very quickly," says Leslieville res-

ident Kelly Carmichael.

Community members met again to discuss their strategy on Oct. 25 at the Ralph Thornton Centre. They were joined by David Donnolly, an environmental lawyer who has been successful in representing community groups at the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB).

This core group has been meeting at the Ralph Thornton Centre every three weeks since last spring. Since

The Bulletin last reported on the campaign after the July 11 community meeting, actual progress seems limited and time is running out.

Smart!Centres attorney Dennis Wood has given the parties until Nov. 26 to have their final issues consolidated. The clock is ticking and it remains to be seen if the organizers can sufficiently ramp up their efforts in the coming weeks.

Out of the roughly 20 peo-

ple in attendance Oct. 25, there are probably only about five residents who regularly attend the meetings. "We will be continuing to look for volunteers" says Carmichael. "It's hard. People come when they can and pitch in when they can."

This summer the group mounted a poster campaign with the help of local resident Donna Henderson who creat-

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