



Meeting of the Old Ottawa East Community Association Board

Tuesday, May 13, 2014 at 7:15 p.m.

Old Town Hall, 61 Main Street

MINUTES

Attendees

Board Members	Others present
John Dance, President Jaime Girard, Vice President Caroline Hyslop, Secretary Jim Strang, FCA Stephen Pope, Planning Ian McRae, SLOE rep Don Fugler, Treasurer Ron Rose, Transportation Phyllis Odenbach Sutton, Member at Large Jill Wherrett, Member at Large Nick Masciantonio, Past President	Seamus Dezandpre Ana Genio Vicki Davis Joanna Linsangan Christian Pupp Bonnie Weppler Rick Burrowes Wendy McRae Carol Alette Jim Fraser Scott Blurton Don Lynch Stewart Pauline Lynch Stewart Paul Goodkey
Regrets Catherine Pacella	

1. Call to Order – John Dance at 7:15
2. Approval of Agenda
Moved: Don Fugler; Second: Jim Strang. Carried.
3. Approval of April 2014 Minutes
Moved: Jim Strang. Second: Phyllis Odenbach Sutton. Carried.
4. Rideau River Flooding / High Water – Pauline Lynch Stewart

This is an issue that has come up in light of recent events, as we have seen some flooding and excessive ground water from the River in our

neighbourhoods this Spring. Pauline, a resident of Old Ottawa East kicked off the discussion by highlighting her experiences in recent weeks.

On Saturday April 12, Pauline received an email from the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority indicating that we were expecting rapid and significant rise in water that would exceed the flooding we saw in 2008 and would be the highest flow recorded to date on the Rideau River. It was expected that we would see flooding in Brantwood Park and nearby streets. In the course of her communications with her neighbours, the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority and Carol Workun at CAG, it became clear that members of the community had many questions and that they would all benefit from some sort of plan or communication strategy that could inform everyone in the area of the potential risks and most suitable prevention measures. In the end, the flood warning was downgraded and the water damage was not as bad as was feared but the experience highlighted the potential need for a flood preparation strategy in the community.

Some questions and points of discussion:

- What can homeowners do in advance to prepare for overland flooding?
- What would be the role of the City in flood preparation?
- Who should be the contact point in the community to communicate with the conservation authority and with the neighbourhood?
- Do other neighbourhoods in Ottawa or other cities have a community plan and what can we learn from them?
- We could undertake some research to find out what damage individual homeowners suffered in our area.
- Perhaps we could put out a message to the community asking for volunteers to help put together a plan?
- Joanne at David Chernushenko's office has put out a query to the City to find out where we can find information about the City's plan for flood preparation and cleanup, what it is and what can be done to coordinate a community plan.

It was proposed that the Association put out an email to solicit some people to get together to form a small working group so that we can be better prepared for next Spring.

5. Community Centre / Hub – Nick Masciantonio and Chris Osler

The population in Old Ottawa East is rising, and we are seeing our community spaces being stretched to accommodate the growth in the community. CAG has been cooperating with Sandy Hill Community Health Centre to look at long-term planning and discussion about what the community needs,

particularly in terms of recreation facilities, programmable space, overall public space.

SHCHC is a tenant at 88 Main; it is an old building and although they plan to continue to use the space, there are discussions going on as to whether they might be able to partner with CAG on developing a better long-term community space.

The councillor has suggested that development fees could potentially be allocated towards improved community space, but there is a question of whether there might be enough money to allow for any meaningful movement toward new or improved public facilities.

We are initiating discussions about what the community needs and what sort of funding we might be able to lobby for or seek out – federal, provincial, charitable funding. We need to consider both general multipurpose space as well as specialised space for particular purposes such as art, recreation, health etc.

Both CAG and SHCHC are fully programmed and facing inadequate space for the needs of the growing community. Chris says we have been talking for a while with the City about the community needs and questions around where the public space is to accommodate the current and predicted level of population growth in the neighbourhood. Other community centres in the region (Sandy Hill, Firehall, Glebe) are also at capacity in terms of meeting their community needs.

A question was raised about whether there are standards in terms of how many people live in a neighbourhood before they get a community centre. Are there standards and what are they?

There is some pessimism about how long it might take to actually get community programmable space – but at the same time, we should look at this time as quite an opportunity with these big developments about to take off.

If the community were to create a new community centre, SHCHC would be interested in coming in as at least a tenant or perhaps a partner. It remains to be seen how this will unfold.

motion: whereas CAG and SHCHC have initiated an examination of the needs for community amenity space, that the Community Association designate two members to work with CAG and SHCHC to define the community needs and to examine the processes by which this amenity space can be provided.

Moved: Ron Rose. Second: Steven Pope. Carried.

John dance says he is willing to be one of those two.

It was also suggested that we might look at other models such as for example a recent case in Sandy Hill where a community investment fund was set up that individual members put money in so that a heritage building could be saved and used for a daycare and community amenity space. Could we look at that model, see what they did, what the finances were and whether that or something like it might be feasible?

6. Chair's Report – John Dance

A report was distributed electronically last week. Please refer to it for details.

- The National Capital Commission is planning a signalized pedestrian crossing at Queen Elizabeth and Fifth Ave, on the West side of the Canal. Although the NCC will be drafting plans for an improved crossing at Colonel By and Clegg, no timeline or budget has yet been set. If you have any comments for the NCC and if you think the East side of the canal should be prioritized for an improved pedestrian crossing please contact the NCC to let them know
- Sale of Oblate lands – we expect to find out in the next few weeks whether the sale as proposed is going ahead. The next Community Association meeting will take place at the Church of the Assencion, where the ideas from the Deep Green Forum will be presented. (June 10 2014).
- It was noted that Scott Blurton, a declared candidate for Capital Ward in attendance at tonight's meeting. The Community Association should consider whether there are specific issues we ought to raise during the municipal election.
- The Community Association does not endorse any particular candidate, but may push for certain issues of importance to the community. Some suggestions from the floor:
 - That all candidates should be asked if they agree that the City should pay to underground utilities.
 - That John should be authorised to write to the NCC about the pedestrian crossing at Colonel By and Clegg, and request that the NCC complete the design and construction of a safe pedestrian crossing within the next year.
 - That the City needs to invest in staff trained and working on bylaws.
- Main Street renewal: the Working Group still has not seen a detailed plan as to how the construction will proceed, how residents will access their homes, how the businesses will continue to work throughout the construction. These are issues the Association will continue to be looking out for.

7. Treasurer's Report – Don Fugler

There is \$13,500 in the OECA account right now. The gardens are collecting

and spending money in considerable amounts. The garden money does not belong to the Association, but Don is managing it.

8. Councillor's Report – David Chernushenko

David was not able to attend, but Joana offered a report on his behalf.

- Oblates lands: affordable housing is an important issue for David and he has been meeting with people in the community to discuss.
- Springhurst Park expansion: there is a twenty day period to allow for objections if anyone objects to lands being transferred to parkland. No one in the room had heard that the notice had gone out.
- There will be a speed board at Main and Toronto and that is expected to go up this week.
- June is Seniors Month. David is hosting an event at the Palisades Residents on Monday June 23. Seniors are invited to attend; there will be a complimentary lunch, information booths and guest speakers.
- The Community Cup will take place on June 28 to encourage newcomers and members of the community to get together to play soccer.
- Tree planting has started in a few locations, and will continue through the summer.
- Fire hydrant testing will take place between May and October; residents can expect to lose some water pressure and water may be somewhat brown during the testing.

9. Committee Reports

9.1 Planning - Stephen Pope

- 140 Springhurst – issues have been raised with respect to parking and curb.
- 129 main street has obtained a site plan approval for a four-storey building.
- Portuguese Church project does not appear to be moving forward.
- Section 37 discussion – trading community benefits for height. Under section 37 of the *Planning Act*, developers may be allowed additional height in exchange for benefits to the community. The benefit that comes to the community is currently \$300 per square meter. This may mean some other potential for money for community amenities – but not necessarily enough for the sort of space we are talking about with hopes for new community centre space.
- 170 Macgilvaray – there is currently a proposal for two storeys.

9.2 SLOE – Ian McRae

- The next OECA meeting will include a presentation and discussion about the Deep Green forum on the sustainable development of the Oblates lands.
- There was a good turnout for the community gardens behind St. Paul University.
- Lees community garden: plans afoot to build new beds
- Rideau nature trail – numerous bags of garbage and waste have been picked up by volunteers during a recent cleanup event.
- The farmers market will need to relocate for the next two years.
- The TD environmental leadership award project has been cancelled.

9.3 Transportation - Ron Rose

- For football games starting July 18: there will be one or possibly two parking bylaw officers patrolling the Ottawa South neighbourhood for parking offences.
- Please note that the City does not ticket cars that are blocking laneways unless someone calls to complain – just in case it is the homeowner blocking their own driveway.

9.4 City Centre Coalition

No report.

9.5 Federation of Citizens' Associations - Jim Strang

- The most recent FCA meeting was last night. It was mentioned that the NCC is now under new direction and the signs so far seem to be positive, with emphasis on ecology. Their meetings are now public.
- Some associations are very concerned about mailboxes in neighbourhoods and the Federation has launched a committee to consider the issue.
- The FCA needs someone to develop a new website and will be offering a small honorarium for an individual willing to take this on.
- Infill One bylaw applies to mature neighbourhoods only. Infill Two bylaw applies to outer urban areas. FCA will formally request that the city planning department update Infill Two information on their website.
- The next FCA meeting will be June 3.

9.6 Communications

No report.

9.7 Community Safety - Jaime Girard

There does seem to be a fair bit of new graffiti in the neighbourhood, and an increase in tagging. Jaimie is going to keep a list and will alert the City if it is city property or we may look into getting assistance for homeowners.

9.8 Membership

No report.

10. Community Activities Group

- Main event will take place on June 14, with a movie the night before – June 13.
- BBQs in Brantwood Park start this Thursday evening and will continue through July.
- There will be four community movie nights this summer, two in Springhurst and two in Brantwood.
- Summer camps are filling up fast and there is some assistance for fees for those families who need financial assistance.
- Brantwood after school program is full, and a waiting list is being established.

11. New Business

- Phyllis: Thursday October 2 date for all candidates meeting – municipal election.
- Main event – June 14. Volunteers are needed for setup and BBQ staffing.
- A question was raised: is there to be a provincial election all-candidates meeting?
Caroline agrees that she will look out for when and where a provincial all-candidates meeting will take place and will communicate that information.

12. Date of Next Meeting – June 10, 2014 at the Church of the Ascension on Echo Drive.