



**Meeting of the Ottawa East Community Association Board
Tuesday, March 13, 2012 at 7:15 p.m.
Old Town Hall, 61 Main Street**

Board Members

John Dance
Jaime Girard
Don Fugler
Jill Wherrett
Barbara Hicks
Stephen Pope
Ron Rose
Vicki Davis
Leslie Kirk
Jamie Brougham
Catherine Pacella
John Baglow
Jim Strang

Regrets: Nick Masciantonio,
Bill Baldwin

Other attendees:

Heather Jarrett
John Jarrett
Carol Alette
Jim Fraser
Mouzaya Dabboussy
Michael Oster
Christian Pupp
Paul Goodkey
Steve Furr
Claire McMenemy
David Chernushenko

1. Call to Order @ 7:15 – John Dance

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved – John Baglow, 2nd – Don Fugler. Carried

3. Approval of February 14, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Moved – Stephen Pope, 2nd – Vicki Davis. Carried

4. Chair's Report – John Dance

• ***Cash in lieu of parkland proposals***

- no news from councillor's office/city except that they will not fund the two basketball courts or Brantwood rink base leveling through CiLP: must be done through "life-cycle" expenditures
- two additions to our list: permanent shelter (open sides) at Children's Garden / Legget Park and suicide memorial area / bench / trees in Brantwood (subsequent agenda item)

• ***AVTC***

- met with Pierre Sadik, John Verbas (City Centre Coalition) and two City staff to discuss traffic growth stats the City had provided
- City staff remain utterly in favour of the AVTC plan
- the stats show little or no traffic growth on McIlraith and Billings bridge despite forecasts
- the City had absolutely no answer to how Nicholas would cope with additional traffic from the proposed AVTC.

- **Lot North of Old Town Hall**

- Discussion of whether OECA should resume the push to have the City acquire lot north of Old Town Hall despite the remediation issues that derailed the deal.. Views were expressed against (not a good location) and for pursuing this further (can't count on Oblate land for community space) and questions raised regarding the extent of the contamination.

It was agreed that John would seek further information from the City regarding the land/contamination. Don Fugler will review the information.

5. Treasurer's Report – Don Fugler

- Approximately \$12,000 in the bank, \$2000 of which belongs to other organizations.

6. Proposed Brantwood Park Suicide Victims Memorial – Claire McMenemy

- Claire McMenemy presented a proposal for a suicide/mental health memorial near the Clegg Street river landing (see attached).
- Discussion included support for the proposal or some form of mental health monument or area for quiet contemplation, as well as suggestions that a memorial might be better placed at Carleton University and concerns about a memorial connected to a particular person. There was also discussion about what form of (boulder, plaque, etc.,) might be appropriate and suitable for the area.
- It was agreed to any recommendation from the OECA would be deferred, in order to allow for further consideration and discussions with other members of the community. Claire McMenemy agreed to return to discuss the matter in two months.

Motion: That the matter be considered by the OECA Board in two months. Moved – John Baglow; 2nd – Stephen Pope.

7. Main McIlraith Working Group – Ron Rose

- See 9.3.

8. Councillor's Report

- Lansdowne Traffic: Establishing a committee of interested groups and city staff to be called the Lansdowne Transportation Advisory Committee (LTAC).
- AVTC: all communities in the ward are opposed
- Progress on U of O Sports Field proposal – river pathway
- Main St. reconstruction: will be delayed – full construction maybe summer of 2014. The point was made that the delay should not affect our focus on getting a good design in place now. The councillor agreed and suggested that this would happen in the fall.
- Cash-in-lieu of parkland: list has been culled, based on what qualifies. Glebe has one project, OOS no projects and Heron Park a few modest projects. OECA was asked whether we wanted to advance any big ticket projects. John Dance advised that this was not possible; Councillor replied that it is then likely that everything on the list that qualifies will get funded. (Levelling of the rink and resurfacing of basketball courts don't qualify).
- ***Councillor committed to: 1) finding out the timing of the lifecycle renewal of the basketball courts and 2) to looking into whether a meeting on Main St reconstruction would still be held in March (possibly without city staff).***

9. Committee Reports

9.1 Planning – Stephen Pope

- Redmond Place: street allowance will be closed and city will sell the property.
- John and Stephen have committed to signing letters against digital signs.
- s. 37 adoption was at Planning Committee. There will be a one year trial and city will study it further, but they have generally accepted the proposal from January. The majority of OOE is below the threshold for s. 37, but it could possibly be triggered by Oblate development.
- 2 applications: 1) 157 Drummond – generally very good; 2) 46 Glengarry – some concerns about parking issue, but it was agreed that OECA would not raise concerns in the context of the variance request.

9.2 SLOE – Vicki Davis

a. Rideau River Nature Trail

- 200 Lees Avenue: SLOE (John Dance, Ian McRae and Michael Osler) made representations to University of Ottawa at their Sustainable Development Committee meeting to present our wish for a permanent “soft” path along the river at 200 Lees Avenue when the stadium is put into place. Due to the widening of the Queensway at this location in the next 3 years a “temporary” trail along the river is proposed. Discussions are ongoing.

Motion: That the OECA supports the development of the Rideau River Nature Trail along the river in Old Ottawa East, including 200 Lees Avenue, property of University of Ottawa with the following characteristics:

- ***"soft" surface (crushed stone)***
- ***pedestrian friendly, bicycle and wheelchair accessible***
- ***respect natural features***
- ***continue the vegetation management plan already in place***
- ***well treed***
- ***set back from the river as much as possible***
- ***continuous with other parts of the trail***
- ***contains amenities such as benches.***

Moved – Vicki Davis, 2nd – Don Fugler. Carried.

- Brantwood Park trail planning: We have given notes about our November 20, 2011 meeting and the design elements discussed to Martha Lush, landscape architect for trail design. Wayne Sawtell has agreed to work with Anthony Leaning to format the design using our notes for Auto CAD to give to Martha. A public meeting will be held to discuss Martha's proposed designs some time in April, most likely at the Brantwood Park field house (perhaps on a Sunday afternoon).
- Signage: Mary Trudeau will order a sign to replace the large vandalized sign on the Oblate property and medium signs showing specific features of the trail up to the value of \$3000 which has been provided by the City.

b. Lees Avenue Community Gardens

- Fiskars (a tool company) has selected this new garden as an “Orange Thumb” community garden project and will support the development of a 5000 square foot garden (up to 18 plots) and will provide all materials and tools. They require 40

volunteers to work on it the first weekend in June. The group is holding a meeting March 1 to enlist gardeners and volunteers.

9.3 Traffic and Transportation – Ron Rose

- Alta Vista Transportation Corridor. Informal committee of staff and citizens from 4 affected wards will meet in the next couple of weeks to review traffic data for key intersections and bridges leading into the downtown. Preliminary evidence shows that traffic from the south has not increased significantly over the past 10 years over the Billings and McIlraith bridges.
- Route 16. Small changes in the schedule for April. The first trip in the morning still departs Chapel/Mann at 9:46, arriving at 10:04, but the second trip will depart Chapel Mann 5 minutes later at 12:16, arriving at 12:34. The return trips from the General in the afternoon have been pushed back considerably, with the first departure from the General at 13:00, instead of the previous scheduled time of 12:30, while the second trip from the General has been put back more than an hour, now departing at 15:00 instead of 13:50
- Hawthorne Ave traffic calming. No developments.
- Main St/McIlraith Bridge reconstruction. The sub-committee formed last meeting is being constituted and a meeting is being arranged with City engineers for later this month to review state-of-play. We invited OSCA to participate as well because of their concern about the McIlraith Bridge connectivity issues.
- Highway 417 widening. We wrote to the Ministry of Transportation outlining our concerns following the mid-January open house. We received an acknowledgement but still no response to our concerns, which include the 5-year closure of the Lees Ave on-ramp to the east-bound 417, with its resulting traffic through OOE, and the closure/possible realignment of the multi-use pathway under the 417 Hurdman's bridge. However, we have been advised via a public notice in the media that the multi-use pathway under the Queensway on the west side of the Rideau River will be closed from September 2012 to May 2013.
- Lansdowne Parking. Last week, the Transportation Committee considered a report on traffic issues at Lansdowne. They concluded that traffic and parking problems generated by both day-to-day activities and events would be worse than previously thought. The Committee agreed to Councillor Chernushenko's motion to form a committee of interested groups and city staff to be called the Lansdowne Transportation Advisory Committee (LTAC). The Councillor will be moving quickly to refine the Committee's terms of reference. The OECA will be represented on this committee by a Board member, but we should have an alternate representative as well, and I suggest that it be someone from the Mutchmor/Echo area of our Community. **Ron will be seeking volunteers.**
- 200 Lees: the University and the City have agreed that the pathway will go between the river and the new stadium/playing field, as OECA has insisted. The lobbying of the association, SLOE and other community parties was successful.

9.4 City Centre Coalition – Leslie Kirk

- Nothing to report

9.5 Federal of Citizens' Associations – Jamie Brougham

- The March 2012 FCA Meeting addressed the following items:
 - Rural Ottawa Challenges: focussed on challenge facing March Rural area. Jamie suggested that March Rural do a one-page summary of the situation to explain to other CA's so that they can express support for their community issues to our councillor.

- FCA 25th anniversary: On June 5th the FCA will be having a 25th anniversary event at the Colonel By room at city hall. The mayor will be in attendance.
- Expertise Resource Survey: The expertise resource survey designed to identify individuals' expertise in CA members will come to us soon. Members of our CA will be asked to make the FCA coordinator aware of specialized knowledge they might be willing to share with other CA representatives. Requests for information will go to that coordinator and he will ask you if your name can be passed on to the person making the specific request. It will be forwarded when it becomes available.
- Pooling Community Associations Buying Power: The FCA will be looking into group buying benefits from organizations such as Staples.
- Coordinating Lobbying and Opposition Efforts: Jamie suggested that for issues such as Section 37, the FCA should coordinate interested parties so that community opinion and lobbying can be coordinated.
- Choosing Our Future – Green Space Report: The city of Ottawa's consultation on Green space development was completed. It appears that no further action is scheduled to anyone's knowledge. Graeme Roderick, FCA President, will follow up to enquire as to whether the city is going to do anything about this report.
- Poverty Reduction Report: Jamie has a copy of this Ontario government report.

9.6 Communications- Catherine Pacella

- Website is almost ready to go "live." We are currently in the process of transferring the domain name and once that is finalized, the website should be up and running pending a few minor items (addition of archived minutes, email addresses, information about city's 311 service). In the meantime, please review the website and advise Catherine of any edits, changes, new content, etc.
- Once the website is ready to go public, an announcement will be sent out via eUpdate.
- After the website is complete, will turn attention to creating a brochure.

10. CAG – Catherine Pacella

- Valentine's skate was a great success.
- Registration has started for spring programs and summer camps. March Break camp sold out this year.
- Starting to turn our attention to the Main Event, talking to businesses about sponsorship.
- It was agreed that OECA would host the "Political BBQ" at the Main Event. Nick Masciantonio will coordinate for OECA.

11. New Business

Farmers' Market Notice Board – Jamie Brougham

- Jamie asked if any members would be interested in helping to maintain a notice board at the Farmers Market, providing general community information, upcoming events, etc.
- After discussion, it was agreed to Jamie and Barbara would develop a plan, and then a roster of people would be established to maintain the board. ***Jamie and Barbara will return next month with a plan.***

12. Adjournment

Moved – John Baglow, 2nd – Stephen Pope.

Suicide Memorial Proposal (Claire McMenemy)

Proposal

That the OECA construct a suicide memorial beside or near the Clegg Street river landing as a place of tranquil reflection to honour the memory of suicide victims and their families.

Background

According to the WHO, suicide is the fourth leading cause of death for people aged 15-44. Approximately 3500-4000 Canadians of all ages and gender commit suicide each year, many related to mental health illnesses such as depression.

One victim of suicide whose story became well known to the citizens of Ottawa was Nadia Kajouji, an 18 year old nursing student, whose body was found at the Clegg Street landing on April 20, 2008. Ms. Kajouji's family maintain a memorial at this site, including a park bench with writings, dried flowers and a wind chime. The Clegg Street memorial has become a place of tranquil reflection for our community and for visitors who walk the Rideau River trail.

Discussion

It is timely to consider the erection of a more permanent memorial at this site given plans for the development of the Oblates land (including the Clegg Street access point) and proposals for the installation of amenities along the Rideau River Nature Trail. A memorial would preserve the reflective nature of this location and honour the memorial created by Ms. Kajouji's family.

The Royal Ottawa Hospital Partners in Art Initiative supports artists suffering from mental illness and acknowledges the role of art in encouraging well being. By partnering with this program, our community could "commission" a small piece of art for the memorial, such as a wind chime, to help foster tranquility and reflection at the memorial site.

Estimated Costs

Costs would vary greatly dependent upon the nature and scope of the memorial being sought, and might include:

- A. Seated Area. Wooden or Stone bench with plaque. \$1000.00
- B. Tree. Willow or Red Maple. \$500.00
- C. Art. Mounted Wind Chimes. \$750 - \$1000
- D. Boulders. \$3,000

A proposal of a bench with plaque, tree and wind chime would be approximately \$ 2500. A proposal for a boulder seated area with a plaque and wind chime would be approximately \$4500.

Funding might be sought from the City (CiLP) and through fundraising. Ms. Kajouji's brother, who now works with an organization called Your Life Counts, indicated support for a fundraising initiative at which he might be invited to speak.

Motion

That the OECA support the creation of a modest memorial site along the river in Brantwood Park to provide a place of tranquil reflection which honours the memory of suicide victims and their families, and that it seek CiLP and other funding to make the memorial a reality.