

Chair's report December 11, 2018

Annual General Meeting, November 13

- thank you to everyone who attended the meeting, and to all of the Board members who volunteer their time and efforts to help to make our community a wonderful place to live
- our attendance numbers were once again inspiring for a cold blustery night; almost 120 residents registered that evening, many from the new developments in our community
- Suzanne Johnston, our membership chair, will be updating us on annual membership numbers at the December board meeting

New Board members

- at the AGM, we identified several areas for which we hoped we could find new representatives: a chair for our Sustainable Living Ottawa East (SLOE) group + a representative focussed on improving engagement with the residents of the Lees Avenue apartments, one of the largest populations in our community
- I am very pleased to report that Tom Deadman, a life-long resident of OOE and now a resident in one of the towers, has agreed to fill the Lees apartment position
- we have also received an expression of interest from a new member of our community on the environment file; I may have a name to propose at the Board meeting on December 11th
- while it was not mentioned at the AGM, it has also come to our attention that we no longer have anyone representing the Spenceville portion of our community on the Board; this is the area bounded by the canal on the west, Main Street on the east, Clegg street on the south and Hawthorne on the north
- I would therefore like to propose that we add a new member-at-large, Alexandra Gruca-Macaulay, to join our Board to better represent this portion of OOE

Environmental priorities of Community Associations for Sustainable Development (CAFES)

- on November 17, CAFES representatives met to discuss what priorities and strategic initiatives CAFES wants to advocate for with the new City council, as one of their first tasks will be to set the new Term of Council Priorities and supporting strategic initiatives.
- John Dance attended this meeting & will be seeking Board endorsement of the priorities identified

Children's Garden

- at our October Board meeting, we discussed the possibility of supporting the garden through the provision of funds for the purchase of perennial plants, fruit trees and shrubs; the plants which had been in the garden were all lost during the remediation work undertaken by the City
- at that time we decided to revisit this issue at our December Board meeting, and to invite a representative of the Children's Garden to provide additional information

Glebe Community Association (GCA) Board meeting on November 27

- I attended the GCA monthly meeting as a follow-up to a summer conversation that I had with their president Sarah Viehbeck and to further our across-the-ward understanding
- I was asked to provide reflections on our Community Design Plan (CDP)/Secondary Plan and on effective processes and development more generally, given our shared Traditional Main Street Zoning; subsequent to this presentation, I have been asked to prepare a short article on this topic for an upcoming edition of the Glebe report
- I found the meeting of interest from a number of perspectives: although we are geographically very close to the Glebe, our issues can be quite different; also we have been quite successful in engaging new residents from The Corners on Main and Greystone Village while the Glebe has struggled to get engagement from the new residents at Lansdowne
- topics raised at the meeting included: increases in panhandling & homelessness in the Glebe which have raised public safety concerns; the potential for pop-up meetings throughout the ward hosted by our new Councillor, Shawn Menard; concerns with the development at 99 Fifth Avenue (currently Fifth Avenue Court), I.e., the difficulty of current occupants to find alternative space at a reasonable cost, the change in design to provide more units than originally planned, the potential switch from condo to rental units; a survey of Glebe Parks users & their concerns (number 1 issue identified was dog waste with maintenance and graffiti also identified as concerns)
- Sarah plans to join us at our December board meeting

Archville vandalism update

- Jaime Girard, our Health & Safety Board Member, will provide an update on the collaborative justice program action underway

Main Street Road Safety Audit / Hawthorne & Greenfield rebuild / Queensway bridge replacements

- Tom Scott, our head of Transportation, will be updating us on the results and discussion at the December 5 transportation committee meeting

Main Street plaque

- John has been looking into a plaque to honour the group of people most involved in the transformation of Main into a Complete Street
- the location for such a plaque has not yet been finalized

Old Town Hall rear porch

- the City started work on the back porch at the Old Town Hall in late October; as they found more issues than expected, the repair is now a knock down and rebuild.
- some more details on the new plans:

- The rebuild will once again be a covered porch, but it will not be as large as it was previously. (The usable area will be just over 100 sq feet rather than the previous 200 sq feet.)
- To compensate for the loss in a deck area they are building a wider overhang to incorporate stroller/bike parking in addition to the bike racks we already have

- The look and feel of the porch will be in keeping with the building and the new ramp. Heritage are of course involved.
- The upstairs balcony will be replaced by a sloping roof and the door to the balcony with a window.
- The area previously occupied by the external elevator will become a welcome extension to the existing storage.