



**Meeting of the Old Ottawa East Community Association Board
Tuesday, December 10, 2013
Old Town Hall, 61 Main Street**

Attendees

Board Members

John Dance, President
Caroline Hyslop, Secretary
Phyllis Odenbach Sutton, Member at Large
Jim Strang, FCA
Don Fugler, Treasurer
Jill Wherrett, Member at Large
Bill Baldwin, Lees Ave. Rep.
Devin O'Grady, City Centre Coalition
Suzanne Johnston, Membership
Christine Loth Brown, Member at Large
Nick Masciantonio, Past President
Ron Rose, Transportation
Stephen Pope, Planning
Jaime Girard, Vice President

Others present

Ian Hayttow
Kim Haybes
Vicki Davis
Garrett Lawless
Ian McRae
Wendy McRae
Jan D'Arcy
Bonnie Wepler
Paul Goodkey

1. Call to order at 7:15 pm

Brief introductions

All those present at the meeting were given an opportunity to introduce themselves briefly. It was noted that the community safety committee would welcome anyone interested in joining, and that we are currently seeking a Sustainable Living Ottawa East (SLOE) rep.

2. Approval of Agenda

- Item added: public art update (Nick Masciantonio). Approval of agenda as amended: Moved- Stephen Pope; 2nd - Wendy McRae; Carried.
- It was noted that the minutes of the November minutes will be circulated in the near future but not will not be moved for approval until the 2014 AGM.

3. Approval of October 8, 2013 Minutes

- Moved- Don Fugler; 2nd - Bill Baldwin; Carried.

4. Chair's Report — John Dance

A written report was circulated in advance to board members.

- With respect to the AGM, John noted that we need to consider seeking a new venue and that we may want to consider a new format for future meetings. Before next year we may meet with CAG to redesign the structure of the AGM.
- Alta Vista Transportation corridor (AVTC) did not make it into the City's list of "affordable roads", although some City councillors are still advocating for it.
- Note that the Southern end of Elgin Street (by the TD Bank) has been closed to traffic, making the intersection safer for pedestrians.
- John, Ron and Don went to a City planning committee meeting today. The documentation regarding the pitch that was made is up on the website now. John noted that the City's Transit Oriented Development plan (TOD) is incompatible with the AVTC plan, and that TOD means an extra 20,000 people living near Lees Station. Above all, we may at this stage have an opportunity to make some real suggestions, and we may be able to advocate for a new environmental assessment of the AVTC. The previous environmental assessment was approved in 2005, and the situation has changed since then.
- Each board member should identify some major goals that we can discuss at the next meeting. Those suggestions will be shared with the community.
- The Brantwood rink is open! It has never been open so early in the season.

5. Treasurer's Report – Don Fugler

Since the AGM we have had over \$2000 in membership fees, and about \$750 in expenses. It has been a very successful membership drive. It was agreed that we still have work to do to cover more of the neighbourhood to encourage membership.

5.5 Rebuilding Lees

There is a proposal for completing the Lees construction in 2014, the idea being to get it done while the onramp to the 417 is closed. Proposal includes a dedicated bikeway for eastbound cyclists (i.e. on the south side of Lees). Sidewalks will be somewhat wider. Hydro poles will still be there. There were concerns about a bus-stop bump out on Lees near Main on the north side – could be dangerous for cyclists. We need to get the city's plans onto the OECA's website, and we should seek clarity about what the bump outs are.

6. Public art

Nick Masciantonio reported that the city must spend 1% of the Main Street project budget on public art. There is a program that will be established for about \$ 230,000 for a public art piece or pieces for Main Street. The city is currently preparing a call to artists, and the submission deadline will be at the end of March. By June there will be a shortlist and the community will have the opportunity to review. By September of 2014, the art should be approved in time for the RFP for the construction of the renewed Main Street to go out. There are various different forms that

public art might take, such as sculptures; each community is different. One suggestion is “gateway” ideas. A “parkette” (a small park) will be created at Riverside and Main and that could be a spot for public art. Adding art to the sidewalk might not be the best or most safe use of space on Main Street. Ultimately the City makes the choice on the public art – there is a committee that will include a community representative. We do not know yet how the small park at Main and Riverside will be planted, how it will be laid out. Nick will provide regular updates.

7. Committee Reports

7.1 Planning – Stephen Pope

The planning committee is very busy and has recently picked up two new volunteers. Various developments are being considered for certain properties in the neighbourhood. These include 99 Concord North, 129 Main Street, Verla’s Court and the Portuguese church site at the north end of Main Street. The developer that is looking at the Portuguese church site is Uniform; they are expected to come to the community to ask for exceptions in height, which we are not likely in favour of. There will be discussions and negotiations about the zoning.

Motion: that the developer, Uniform, be invited to present at the January meeting of OECA.

Moved: Stephen Pope, 2nd Jim Strang; Debate ensued thereon. **Motion carried.**

Note that Greenfield and Concord will go to Planning Committee in January. There will be changes to development criteria for that site – but it is not rezoning.

7.2 SLOE – TBC

Nothing to report. With respect to the Deep Green project, note that engineering students made final presentations.

7.3 Transportation – Ron Rose

Discussion of the widening of the 417. The Lees avenue overpass will be closed for 10-12 weeks sometime next summer. The Lees avenue construction will take place in 2014. The Lees avenue offramp from the 417 will stay open.

Clegg - Fifth Avenue bridge is put off until 2020 at the earliest. No news on that.

There is a Lansdowne traffic advisory committee (LTAC). Ron represents Old Ottawa East on LTAC. The committee is examining the impact on the communities of the development at Lansdowne. Ron will be making further reports.

7.4 City Centre Coalition - Devin O’Grady

Devin was not able to attend the last city centre coalition meeting but he has their summary notes. In 2014, the focus will be on complete street policies moving to complete street implementation. There was a newly announced downtown tunnel study and the city is moving toward an inter-provincial transit strategy. Changes to bus routes will need to be coordinated during LRT construction.

By and large we might think a tunnel strategy is a good idea but OECA is not sufficiently involved that we would co-sign a letter on the tunnel strategy.

7.5 Federation of Citizens' Associations - Jim Strang

There were 30 people at the last meeting of the Federation of Citizens' Association. There is concern about public engagement and the city's policy on public engagement. The FCA will be looking at the public engagement policies of certain other cities, notably Edmonton, Victoria and Halifax.

Talent search: the FCA is hoping to recruit new core volunteers.

7.6 Communications

Nothing to report.

7.7 Community Safety – Jaime Girard

Nothing to report.

7.8 Membership – Suzanne Johnston

Thanks to all the canvassers and supporters. This has been the highest year ever for membership drive and we are up by about 50 members¹. There was a big push on in the northern part of the neighbourhood. Please send any suggestions to Suzanne for increasing membership. We still have some streets not represented in the membership drive (canvassing) and we still need some membership captains so we are encouraging people to volunteer for those positions.

8. Community Activities Group

The Mainstreeter has not yet come out, but winter registration has started and online registration has started. The winter party in Brantwood Park will be January 19, and February 14 will be the Valentine skate.

9. New Business

Board members would like a list of board members with phone numbers and email addresses distributed.

10. Date of Next Meeting – January 14, 2014

11. Adjournment 8:25 pm.

Moved – Jim Strang. Seconded – Don Fugler. Carried.

¹ As of December 2013, there are 650 households that are members of the Old Ottawa East Community Association.