



**Meeting of the Old Ottawa East Community Association Board  
Tuesday, October 14 2014  
Old Town Hall, 61 Main Street**

**MINUTES**

**Attendees**

**Board Members**

John Dance, President  
Caroline Hyslop, Secretary  
Phyllis Odenbach Sutton, Member at Large  
Don Fugler, Treasurer  
Suzanne Johnston, Membership  
Ron Rose, Transportation  
Stephen Pope, Planning  
Catherine Pacella, Communications  
Jill Wherrett, Member at Large  
Ian McRae, SLOE rep

**Regrets**

Jim Strang

**Others present**

Ryan  
Laura Mueller  
Joanna Linsangan  
Vicki Davis  
Lorenzo Bruno  
James McKimm  
Lori Fraser  
Mark Seebaran  
Rick Burrowes  
John Jarrett  
Heather Jarrett  
Wendy McRae  
Christian Pupp  
Paul Goodkey  
Jamie Brougham  
Katherine Simonds  
Bob Parkins

**1. Call to order at 7:15 pm – John Dance**

**2. Approval of Agenda**

- Moved - Don Fugler; 2<sup>nd</sup> – Ron Rose; Carried.

**3. Approval of Minutes of September Meeting**

- Moved- Don Fugler; 2<sup>nd</sup> Stephen Pope; Carried.

**4. LRT Update**

LRT representatives were not in attendance, so there was no presentation

**5. Regional Group Development**

David Kardish presented a cheque to the community association for \$5000. Of this, \$2500 was compensation for the naming competition run by Catherine Pacella and \$2500 was the prize money intended to be awarded to the winner of the competition. Since none of the entries was in fact selected, the money was given to the Community Association.

Greystone Village is the name that has been chosen.

Simon Dupuis had master plan drawings available for people to look at, and presented an overview

of the planned development using a 3-D model on screen. A question was raised as to whether there would be any City public space such as a community centre or library. The answer is that at this point in time, there is no plan or discussion to that effect. CAG is taking the leadership on discussions with St. Paul University on the topic of community public space.

#### 6. **Chair's Report -- John Dance**

A report was disseminated by email, and should be referred to for details.

- John obtained approval from the Board to write to the City to pressure for a playing field on the green space at Springhurst Park.
- Undergrounding of wires on Main Street: it does not look hopeful.
- The wheelchair ramp to Old Town Hall will not be built until next year, so concerns about accessibility continue, particularly for individuals who face physical barriers.
- The Jane's Walk last Saturday was a great success.
- A big thanks went out to Phyllis and Heather for organising the municipal all-candidates meeting.

#### 7. **Treasurer's Report – Don Fugler**

The Association currently has approx. \$17,500. A detailed report will be presented at the AGM

#### 8. **Councillor's Report – David Chernushenko**

- Concerns have been raised by some residents about the reconstruction of Lees Ave. in particular, there are still issues that some homeowners have with the retaining walls.
- One bus stop on Lees has been removed due to issues with traffic patterns.
- There was a meeting with City staff re the Western Rideau River Nature Trail to discuss the slope between what is now the back of St Paul and Brantwood Park.
- Will be pushing for a safe pedestrian crossing at Colonel by and Clegg before the beginning of the Main Street reconstruction.
- The number 6 bus route has changed; it goes through the Glebe along Lees to the transitway. The result is more busses, which is an improvement for bus riders. A few residents raised concerns that they feel that there are too many busses on Lees.
- As far as councillor Chernushenko is aware, it is now too late to continue pushing for undergrounding of wires on Main Street. The design for the street is now complete and construction is essentially ready. To change that plan now would entail a two year delay. He is in favour of changing the policy, but it is just too late for the Main Street project.

#### 9. **Committee Reports**

##### 9.1 **Planning**

- When the Farmers' Market finishes for the season, Domicile will be putting in sales trailers and tearing down those buildings that will be demolished for the new development on the Sisters' property.
- There will be a transparency pilot project whereby members of our association will be able to sit in on preplanning stage at the City. This transparency pilot may be important as a confidence-building exercise but we will see how well it works out.

## 9.2 Transportation

- The number six bus is now running along Lees.
- There are questions about traffic and transit along Main Street when the reconstruction starts. These are questions we are hoping to have answered at the open house in November. Main street reconstruction is expected to begin in the spring of 2015. We do not know which end they will start at.

## 9.3 City Centre Coalition

No report.

## 9.4 Federation of Citizen's Associations

Jim was not able to attend but he did submit a written report. See appendix.

## 9.5 Communications

Catherine has website statistics, which she will send by email to the Board. As always, people are encouraged to send any announcements or information for the website and she will post it.

## 9.6 Community Safety

There was an issue raised that a dog similar to a pit bull escaped from its yard and attacked and killed a small dog that was on a leash at the time. This was at Mason Terrace and Main.

## 9.7 Membership

Suzanne reported that the membership drive is well under way and canvassers are out. They are still looking for a few more volunteers. It is hoped that canvassing will be completed by the AGM, but people will also be able to sign up at the meeting on Nov. 11.

## 9.8 SLOE

A written report was circulated by email. See appendix.

## 10. Rideau River Western Pathway Nature Trail

- Rideau Valley Conservation Authority and City of Ottawa are responsible for the design report.
- There will be paved paths essentially parallel to the nature trail.
- The main purpose of the September 30 meeting was to discuss the slope at the north end of Brantwood Park where the trail would connect with the path at the eastern edge of Greystone Village. The RVCA wants to work with the community to reforest the shoreline along the Rideau River and look at places where overland floodwaters can be redirected toward the river. There is also discussion about how the bike path would work at the south end of Brantwood Park where there is a grove of large oak trees, and finding a way to have an adequate path through the route without having to remove trees.
- It was reiterated that residents would prefer the path be surfaced with stone dust rather than paved through Brantwood Park. To the best of our knowledge there is no plan to clear the bike paths of snow in the winter.

## 11. Community activities Group

No report.

## 12. All Candidates Meeting

Phyllis reported on the all-candidates meeting in September.

- The Glebe community centre was a good venue, but it would have been good for the candidates to be on a raised stage to make it easier for the people at the back to see.
- There has been quite a bit of discussion of the format. Some people felt that there was not enough time for the candidates to answer the questions properly. Some folks felt that the community association questions were long-winded and did not give the candidates enough time to talk. The organising committee is going to try and ensure that the comments will be kept on googledocs so that the next time we have to organise something like this, we can refer back to the comments about what was good about the meeting and what can be improved.
- It has been raised that we should have a group tagged to organise all candidates meetings so that if there are future elections we can have a quick and efficient way to organise the all-candidates meetings.

### **13. Timing of Regular Meeting**

Ron proposes that we change the start time to 7PM instead of 7:15 PM in order to better ensure that we are finished by 9PM. The City and city staff object to meetings going over time.

Moved, Ron Rose. 2<sup>nd</sup> - Caroline Hyslop: That the Association Board begin its monthly meetings at 7PM. Carried.

### **14. Preparation for the Annual General Meeting**

- John is looking for volunteers to help set up and buy refreshments etc.
- Paul Dewar, Yasir Naqvi and the city councillor will each have a few minutes to speak.
- Wendy would propose a motion that the membership fee be raised to 4 dollars for next year.
- All the board terms are set to continue to continue to for another year.

### **15. New Business:**

- Retaining wall on Lees Avenue: the retaining walls in some places are now almost a foot lower than they were before. As a result, the roots of some trees are now protruding above the ground. Some residents are requesting that the City to reconstruct the retaining walls. The design appears to be inconsistent from house to house. Lees Avenue residents were assured that the property would be restored to the condition it was before but this is clearly not the case. John suggests that the community association offer its support to those residents who seek to have their property restored where the new retaining walls are insufficient to shore up the soil and the trees. Unfortunately, it is a poured concrete wall, which makes it difficult to alter the height. Paul has offered to take a look at the contract documents to see what still needs to be done.
- One resident commented that the City should commit to cleaning up the polluted land along the Rideau River. It was suggested that the City commit to clean up the legacy garbage and put in a boathouse for people to use and enjoy.

### **16. Date of next meeting – November 11, 2014 – Annual General Meeting**

### **17. Adjournment.**

Moved – Ron Rose; Seconded: Stephen Pope – Carried.

## APPENDIX 1: CHAIR'S REPORT

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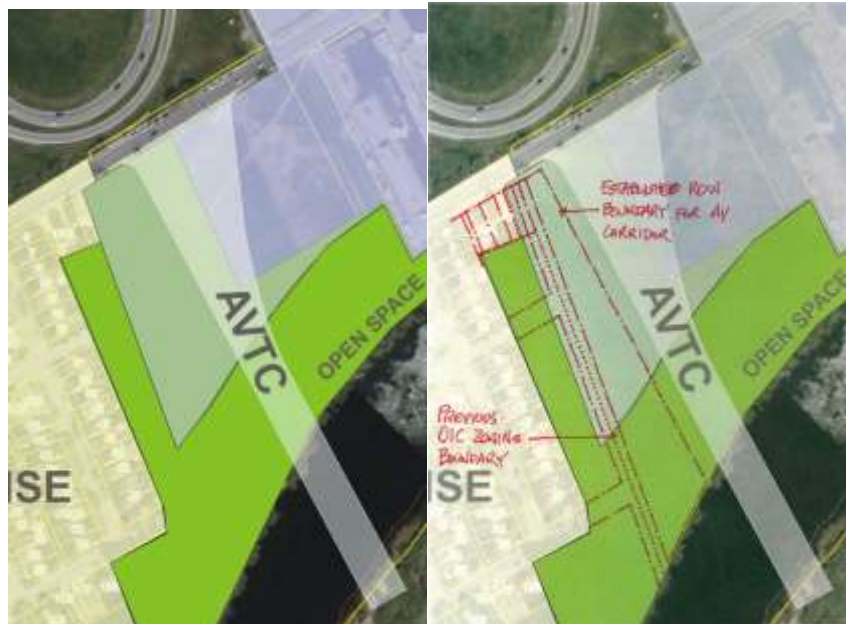
### Chair's Report – October 2014

1. ***Col By – Clegg Safe Crossing:*** No news on when the promised open house will be held to discuss the proposed design. That said, we've written both the City and the NCC suggesting that it would be advantageous to accelerate construction before the planned "fall 2015" so that there will be a safe crossing in place when considerably more traffic uses the intersection while Main Street is under construction, something that will start next spring.
2. ***Expansion of Springhurst Park – Follow-up:*** Several of us met with city staff and Councillor Chernushenko to understand just what the Springhurst expansion will consist of and how the additional parkland can be used. While the expansion is excellent, we were disappointed to learn that the expansion is less than what had been indicated in map that had been provided during the course of the city's consultation on Lees LRT transit-oriented development (TOD).

Indeed, although additional lands are being added to Springhurst Park the city is preserving Alta Vista Transportation Corridor lands that would still allow the full four-lane elevated (plus on and off ramps at Lees) AVTC proposal that OOE and other communities have strenuously opposed over many years.

Ian McRae, Mary Trudeau and I recommend that OOECA write to the Mayor, Councillor Chernushenko and city staff expressing our concern that the actual expansion is less than what we'd seen through TOD consultation and that we seek addition of "surplus" AVTC lands on the east (apartment side of the AVTC corridor) transferred to Rideau River Trail Park (also known as "166 Lees" Park); that the part that has already been transferred to Springhurst be integrated with improvements to be part of the larger Springhurst Park; and that the lands being preserved for AVTC become a regulation playing field(s) that would be used for at least 17 years. (The approved Transportation Master Plan excludes the building of the AVTC until at least 2031, as per the "affordable" roads schedule.)

See graphics below re what was originally provided in TOD discussions then what was recently provided – showing actual park expansion.



3. **Footbridge – Election Discussions:** In the interest of accelerating the construction of the Clegg-Fifth canal footbridge (currently not scheduled until 2020 – 2025) Councillor Chernushenko has proposed “a multi-party financing partnership.” To the extent that this would involve community fund-raising, most people I have spoken with are quite opposed. On the hand it would be good if other levels of government and wealthy philanthropists contributed. Also of note, Mayor Watson in an interview with the Ottawa Citizen, says he would “speed up” plans for the bridge. I know a number of people have spoken to him about this. My suggestion is that the priority of the bridge should be mentioned to any municipal candidates you meet.
  
4. **Rideau River Western Pathway (nature trail):** SLOE reps met with Robin Bennett (City – cycling), Jocelyn Chandler (RVCA) and Councillor Chernushenko to review the final “functional plan” proposed for the Rideau River Western Pathway. The plan has many excellent attributes but the sticking point continues to be that the City wants to have a hard-surfaced pathway running along the shore in Brantwood Park. The City insists on a hard-surface because, according to Mr. Bennett, the pathway is being built primarily as a component of the city’s transportation network, one that readily allows more people to bike to work etc. Also, the city says that from an accessibility standpoint a paved surface is required. SLOE reps dispute this and say a soft surface (stone dust) is readily usable by all but slows down fast bikes thus making the pathway safer for children and pedestrians in Brantwood.

Specifically, SLOE has proposed that if there really must be a hard-surfaced pathway through Brantwood it should be adjacent to Onslow, going back to the shoreline between the north face of the fieldhouse and the southern ball diamond. Also, representatives discussed where the

pathway should go up the steep slope at the foot of Clegg Street. The consensus is that it should enter the Oblate property about 30 metres from the shoreline, as set out in the CDP/SP.

5. **Regional's Oblate Development Open House (September 16):** Regional's public presentation of its plans for the development of the Oblate lands was, in my view, well-received and well-attended (packed SPU amphitheatre). The presentation was thorough and represented the discussions already had with OOECA planning committee and SLOE reps. Of considerable importance, the proposals adhere to the approved (2011) OOE CDP/SP with few exceptions.

The most significant exception is that Regional is proposing – with Saint Paul University – to extend Hazel so that this would become a primary access point to the development and would allow a “U” like accessibility, using both Oblate Avenue and the Hazel extension. A primary benefit of this is that the “Grand Allée,” originally proposed as a major access route would become a public linear park, with only emergency and service vehicles being able to use.

A second proposed change from the approved CDP/SP is that what is now deemed “mixed-use” well away from Main Street, would no longer be required to have commercial. The OOECA planning committee supports both of these proposed changes. The proposed heights and density of development remain as was set out in the CDP/SP.

6. **Undergrounding of Hydro Wires on Main Street:** Thanks to the hard work of Paul Goodkey, OOECA sent a letter regarding Main Street undergrounding to the mayor and all councillors but there has been no response to the letter. In a recent email Councillor Chernushenko made the following comment on the issue: “I made it very clear recently in person at an OOECA meeting and in some letters to residents that the ship has sailed on Main Street design and construction. I cannot devote any more energy into revisiting the hydro non-burial, even if none of us are happy with the outcome. What would we be trying to prove with a cost-benefit analysis? The design is finished and construction imminent. A decision to significantly alter the design, should that be possible, should there be money, would set the whole project back by about two years. If there is something I am not understanding, then I am open to hearing it.”
7. **Accessibility to Old Town Hall:** As a result of the delay in constructing the ramp at OTH those with accessibility challenges have been cut off from use of OTH for three years. It seems as though the gap is unreasonable as other accessibility issues are dealt with elsewhere. There is also the point that the second floor of OTH will remain inaccessible to those with mobility challenges. The City and councillor's positions on this are not known.
8. **Main Street Open House:** This has been set for 6 – 9 p.m., Thursday, November 20 in SPU's Normandin Room. A key part of the information is how the construction is proposed to unfold over the next two years, including proposed detours.
9. **Lees / Main Reconstruction:** The general sense that I get is that the Lees reconstruction went reasonably well aside from the excessive and speeding traffic that went onto adjacent streets.

However, one specific issue is that at least one Lees resident found that the city's restoration work of his front yard was not as it had been and the new configuration was not discussed in advance. This particular issue remains under review. The principle of ensuring the City fully discusses "before" and "after" construction will be important to all Main Street residents.

10. **AGM (November 11, Church of the Ascension):** I'll soon circulate the draft OOECA report for Board members' review. The goal will be to have this posted on the OOECA website two weeks before the AGM so that members can see in advance of the meeting. Also volunteers are needed to help with food and beverage purchase and meeting setup.
11. **Jane's Walk for Oblates Property:** A "Jane's [as in Jane Jacobs] Walk" of the Oblates property was held October 5, 2014 with about 70 people participating. Special thanks to Laura Mueller and other Jane's Walk organizers for making it happen and "tour" leaders Stephen Pope, Josh Kardish (Regional) and Dave Renfroe (Domicile).
12. **OOECA Column for Next Mainstreeter:** I'd propose to address miscellaneous issues that have come up, including those mentioned here (e.g., undergrounding, Main and Lees reconstruction construction, nature trail). It's due October 15.
13. **Open Streets Festival (Main Street) – Saturday, September 13:** Feedback I heard on this (I was away) was that terrible weather greatly limited participation. Also, there weren't major traffic problems as a result of the temporary closure of a one-block section of Main.



## APPENDIX 2 SUSTAINABLE LIVING OTTAWA EAST REPORT

### SLOE Report to the OECA Meeting of October 14, 2014

#### Lees Community Garden

Some of the vegetables were harvested from garden boxes for St. Luke's lunch table program at St. Luke's Anglican Church on Somerset. Twenty pounds of tomatoes and also a number of cucumbers were donated and were greatly appreciated.

The Garden had a work day to start cleaning the area and preparing for the winter. For the winter months we also put out a request for volunteers for two tasks: one to create some signs to explain what community gardening is and how to contact us, also to investigate and prepare a plan on the replacement of the benches. If benches are something the city or community could provide they would be very well used by the community.

#### Ottawa East Community Garden

It was a highly successful growing year for the Ottawa East Community Garden.

#### Children's Garden

There was a successful Potluck Harvest Dress-Up Party on October 11<sup>th</sup>. It was a time to give thanks to all the contributors, growers and the supportive community. There are continuing clothes swaps from 10 to 11:30, Tuesdays & Thursdays until the end of October. "Swap until you Drop."

#### Main Farmers' Market

EnviroCentre and the City of Ottawa, with the MFM, hosted Ottawa's first Open Streets Festival, on Saturday, Sept 13<sup>th</sup>. The driving cold rain dampened the event somewhat but there was still a good turnout.

An apple festival, sponsored by the City's Rural Association Partnership Program was held on Saturday Sept. 20.

#### Rideau River Nature Trail (RRNT)

Student volunteers from Carleton Serves were involved in maintenance activities on September 27<sup>th</sup>. They enthusiastically removed burdocks and buckthorn from Brantwood and Japanese knotweed from the Centennial Drive shoreline. They also divided perennials in the native wildflower bed at Centennial.

"Cleaning the Capital" events were held in Brantwood and Springhurst Parks on October 11<sup>th</sup>.

#### Deep Green Project

Regional is commissioning a business case assessment on district energy; is engaging with Enbridge in a Savings by Design process that aims to achieve high levels of energy efficiency; has indicated an intent to pursue significant landscaping approaches to manage storm-water on site; and has expressed a significant commitment to affordable housing. Its current design

solution to accommodate the City's multi-use pathway along with a "window road" will leave the 30 m green buffer along the shoreline intact. SLOE will continue to encourage and support progress on these and other aspects of the four themes of its Deep Green project

Jocelyn Chandler of RVCA and Robin Bennett (city - cycling) met with community members to discuss the plan for how the multi-use pathway and the nature trail will go through the Oblates property and through Brantwood.

Compiled by Ian McRae

## APPENDIX 3 FEDERATION OF CITIZENS ASSOCIATION REPORT

### Federation of Citizens Association

#### Report to the OOECA 14 October 2014

The October meeting of the FCA was held in Manotick and sponsored by the Manotick Community Association, approximately 22 FCA reps present. It is worthy to note that the MCA is a thriving, active, organization well connected with other key members of the community such as service clubs, the business association and developers. It stresses communication with members of the community including weekly e-mail newsletters to members, a full page in the Manotick weekly community newspaper and an attractive web site. Annual membership fees are \$15/family.

**Community Mail Boxes:** Much concern was expressed about problems that the cancellation of home mail delivery will bring to communities. Mr Peter Eady of the Civic Hospital area CA will be pleased to receive comments and welcomes other community associations participation in an effort to minimize difficulties that the community mail boxes will present. His e-mail is: [vp@chnaottawa.ca](mailto:vp@chnaottawa.ca)

**The TD Sign at TD Place:** The representative from the Ottawa South Community Association expressed his associations displeasure with the TD sign placed on the canal side of the new stadium. Mr Tim Leah is co-ordinating an effort to try and mitigate the negative aspects of the sign. His e-mail is: [leahfamily@sympatico.ca](mailto:leahfamily@sympatico.ca)

**Infill 2:** Has now been postponed until the 15<sup>th</sup> of January 15. Although this zoning and by-law review process concerns areas outside urban core mature neighbourhoods it may be of interest to members of the OOECA planning committee.

**Ottawa Neighbourhood Study:** It was agreed that this extensive study has been and will be an effective tool for community associations planning purposes. However, there were many suggestions to improve the study in order to increase its usefulness. In some cases, community boundaries should be re-defined, the web site should be cleaned up and be more user friendly and the absence of information on certain communities (eg: Old Ottawa East) is glaring. The FCA will approach the authors of the ONS to assist in overcoming some of these shortfalls so that Neighbourhood Studies material available will be current and more complete.

**Politicians Comments:** Last months FCA meeting was attended by three sitting Councillors. A few comments: Keith Egli – Collaboration with community groups had strengthened his capability in getting improvements for neighbourhoods in his ward. Marianne Wilkinson: Emphasized the importance of communication with residents of the ward to let them know what's going on and to invite comment. And from long serving outgoing Council member Diane Holmes: Planners are arrogant in seeking intensification without concern for context. "Ahem!"

Jim Strang, OOECA rep to the FCA