



Meeting of the Old Ottawa East Community Association Board

Tuesday, 8 January 2019, 7p.m.

Old Town Hall, 61 Main Street

MINUTES

ATTENDEES

Board members

Alexandra Gruca-Macaulay
Tom Deadman
Phyllis Odenbach-Sutton
Don Fugler
Jocelyn Kearney
Heather Jarrett
Tom Scott
John Dance
Ron Rose
Catherine Pacella
Suzanne Johnston
Bob Gordon

Others

Doug Macaulay
Sam Hersh
Mary Houde
Lucas Bloess
Andi Stewart
Peter Tobin
Lorna Kingston
Jim Strang
Joyce Scott
Karen Oxom
Rosalina Weeks
Richard Weeks
Don Stephenson
Denise Inglis
Paul Goodkey
Jessica Brandon-Jepp
Neil Marshall
Jan D'Arcy
Christian Pupp
Bob Parkins
Jamie Brougham
Monica Helm
Shawn Menard
Taylor Marquis
Joanne Lostraw
Michelle Coyne
Wendy McRae
Bill Baldwin
John Jarrett

1. Call to Order – Phyllis Odenbach-Sutton
2. Approval of Agenda
 - Moved: Don Fugler; Second: Ron Rose; Carried
3. Approval of December 2018 Minutes

- Moved: Bob Gordon; Second: John Dance; Carried
4. Chair's Report – Phyllis Odenbach-Sutton
- Report attached as Appendix A
 - Highlights:
 - OOE Priorities
 - The last time we updated our “priorities” list was in 2014 (document is still on our webpage)
 - Discussion to follow
 - The OOECA sent a “fairness in representation letter to the Mayor”
 - Issue was debated by the Capital Ward community associations prior to Christmas – there was significant concern about the lack of representation for our ward on the committees that matter to us
 - Immaculata field
 - Will be discussed
 - OOE E-update comes out on Tuesdays
 - Everyone should subscribe for info about what’s happening in the community
 - Saint Paul University strategic plan
 - Capital Ward Cup will be held on January 26th at Brantwood Park – to date OOE has most wins (five)
5. Springhurst Park playing field – Lucas Bloess, President, Ottawa Beavers and Banshees Rugby Football Club
- Presented proposal for use of Springhurst Park – see proposal document attached as Appendix B
 - The Beavers and Banshees are a rugby club based in the Ottawa downtown core
 - Men’s and women’s teams as well as junior boys and girls
 - They previously used the Immaculata field for practices
 - Now proposing to construct a sports field at Springhurst park
 - Field would be built along western portion of the grassy area; club would grade the surface, level it, and build goalposts on side of field (no lighting)
 - Would look to use field eight hours a week
 - Club would be open to negotiating with City so that some of time is un-rentable
 - There would still be a lot of open space on the eastern side of space
 - Consulting with community to gauge interest
 - Club works closely with Ottawa Wolves (Ottawa’s LGBTQ rugby association) – would like to give them some of space for special event in 2020
 - Proposed timelines: would begin work in fall 2019 to have field running for spring 2020
 - Looking for feedback from community; if it’s positive, club will reach out to councillor’s office to talk next steps
 - Issues raised/discussed in Q&A:
 - Club is aware of the contamination issues

- No new parking will be built
- Club would be open to enquiring with City about prioritization for local rentals
- Club is willing to consult with other stakeholders as well
- General sentiment expressed that community would like to support a downtown sports club such as this, but it would also be nice if club could find a way to partner with CAG or do some programming for at-risk youth
 - Club has run summertime day camps for children in the past
- Maintenance would have to be arranged with City
 - Club envisions doing the grass seeding and aeration, but City would do mowing
- No trees would be lost due to project; no fences would be erected but a small rut may be put in place to delineate the field

6. LPAT Hearing regarding Immaculata Field – Alexandra Gruca-Macaulay

- The OCSB is appealing the City Planning Committee decision to restrict night lighting
 - School board wants to give Footy 7s ability to run to 11pm seven days a week
- Hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, January 16th at City Hall
- Other parties will have to request participant status at the hearing
- Phyllis had made a presentation on behalf of the OOECA to the Planning Committee at end of August – at that presentation OOECA supported City staff recommendations regarding curfew but wanted additional landscaping commitments
 - Moved by Alexandra Gruca-Macaulay that Phyllis make similar remarks on behalf of the OOECA at LPAT hearing; Second: Tom Scott; Carried (following Q&A)

7. Priorities/Strategic Goals for Community Association – Phyllis Odenbach-Sutton

- OOECA needs to update strategic goals (last done in 2014) – looking for feedback from attendees tonight
- Examples from 2014:
 - Greater participation from Lees Ave apartments – better integration
 - More parkland for Springhurst
- Suggestions:
 - We should limit ourselves to six at the most and priorities should be broader than committee structure – something that requires a more concerted effort
 - Need to be focused if you want to call them priorities
 - Since things leak from one file to another – e.g., transportation has an impact on planning – we could focus on what's going to happen in the next four years in our neighbourhood and think about how we're going to deal with that

- These should be phrased as community associated priorities, and not be subject-specific; don't need to rank the priorities; there should also be some positive goals (not all adversarial)
- We should look at social, environmental and economic benefits of all developments
- One suggestion for a priority could be to bring all aspects of the OOECA into the 21st century (social media, etc.)
- 3-4 people should put together an initial document and it could be circulated widely from there to get additional input
- Goals and priorities are not the same thing
- Engaging the Lees community should be an ongoing priority
- Engagement in with new Greystone residents is also important
- Community centre, outdoor park and spaces could also be considered as priorities
- Small group will form to draft a proposed (preliminary) priorities list for wider board and community consideration and debate
 - Suzanne Johnston, Ron Rose, John Dance, Jamie Brougham, Alexandra Gruca-Macaulay, Catherine Pacella volunteered to participate in that discussion

8. Councillor's Report – Shawn Menard

- Update attached as Appendix C
- Highlights:
 - Greystone 2A and 2B – looking forward to working with OOECA on comments regarding Regional's resubmitted application
- Two members of community have asked that the City consider a skating rink for Springhust Park
 - This will likely be a hard sell, but Councillor will enquire with city staff
- Aiming to produce a report on the Planning Committee process that could be used as a guide for constituents seeking to participate
- In Q&A, questions were asked about what scope exists for committee composition changes in the next four years (response was that the Nussbaum election will result in re-jigging and there is also always a mid-term governance review that could affect things; Councillor also plans to bring a motion forward to try to change the planning committee composition); about City plowing equipment (response is that there is a Ward Council information session about clearing in February); regarding derelict buildings at 99 Greenfield and 24 Concord N (Sam is looking into these issues and will be following up with City staff this week); about dangerous intersection at Main and Hawthorne (Tom Scott confirmed that these issues will be considered as part of Hawthorne redesign project)

9. Treasurer's Report – Don Fugler

- Account balance: \$22,838.46

10. Committee Reports

- Planning – Ron Rose
 - Application from 53 Mason Terrace for permission to put parking spots at front of house – if community members have concerns, please advise ASAP – otherwise Committee will not object
 - Proposal from Regional re 2A & 2B
 - Regional came back with revised proposal that still includes nine-storey building opposite Corners on Main
 - Planning Committee is seeking additional info from City and has until Jan 16 to make comments (will oppose again)
 - Planning Committee meetings are open and people are encouraged to attend as issues get more contentious
- SLOE – John Dance for Joan Batucan
 - Report attached as Appendix D
 - Highlights:
 - Rebecca Aird will co-chair community group re: protection of birds and is looking for co-chair
 - Tom Deadman and Heather Jarrett are looking into the green bin use in condos and apartment buildings
 - Barry Davis is interested in looking at how we as a community can be more forward-looking and anticipate the loss of trees
 - Joan Batucan met with the head of the Tulip Festival – he is interested in making the Flora Bridge all about flowers and is looking for affected community associations to support the concept of having large planters at the start of the bridge on each side as well as on the bridge itself (with flowers blooming spring through fall)
 - In general, there was support for this concept from meeting attendees but some concern about planters on the bridge itself since it's a transportation corridor
 - John Dance moved that we support in principle the "floral footbridge"
 - Second: Don Fugler; Carried
- Transportation – Tom Scott
 - City responded positively to both OOECA requests approved at December meeting (regarding safety audit and Greenfield project) and indicated that staff is willing to meet to go over OOECA recommendations
 - Transportation Committee members did a walkabout with City staff to review water and sewer plans for Greenfield redevelopment
 - City is very open to receiving input from community and asked for contact info of Greenfield residents – Tom will coordinate
 - City also wants Transportation Committee to help them establish a group to provide collective view of Hawthorne businesses on redevelopment
 - Lights will be installed at Concord and Greenfield

- Transportation Committee has asked City to look at how the pedestrian crossing at Colonel By and North Main is working
- Issue of burying wires on Hawthorne should be raised with the City ASAP since they are moving to the design phase of the project
- Federation of Citizens' Associations – Mark Seebaran
 - No report
- Communications – Catherine Pacella
 - No report
- Corners on Main & Greystone Village – Heather Jarrett
 - Organic waste disposal at Corners on Main is on their agenda for board meeting tomorrow night
- Health & Safety – Jaime Girard
- Membership – Suzanne Johnston

11. Community Activities Group – Don Stephenson

- Winter Party will be held Sunday, January 13th from 1-4pm and Valentine's Skate will be held February 8th from 6-8pm (both at Brantwood Park)

12. New Business

- Taylor Marquis from Regional:
 - Social housing commitment was to devote “cash or equivalent” – doesn't have exact dollar amount but will confirm next month
 - Work on Tower 2 will be starting in January with pile driving in February
 - Townhouses along Springhurst will close in the next few months
 - Deschatelets Building – Regional received proposal from the French School board to use the building
 - Will provide full update at next meeting

13. Date of Next Meeting – Annual General Meeting – Tuesday, 12 February 2019

14. Adjournment

- Moved: Ron Rose; Second: Don Fugler; Carried

APPENDIX A

Chair's report January 8, 2019 OOE priorities/ strategic goals

- while I am not a big fan of new year resolutions, I do think it would be useful for us to spend a bit of time at the January 8 Board meeting discussing and hopefully coming to a consensus on our key priorities and goals

- our new councillor has indicated that this would be very helpful for him; also a clearer understanding of our goals would help as we join in other discussions, e.g., at an upcoming Capital Ward council meeting and for the upcoming discussion with Saint Paul University (see below)

- for background, you can review our 2014 priorities document on our website at <https://www.ottawaeast.ca/files/oeca-goals-20140227.pdf>

Concerns re Rideau Canal walls reconstruction

- I was alerted to concerns about vibrations on OOE homes in the area north of the Queensway as a result of this construction

- my understanding is that a number of residents have expressed their concerns to Parks Canada, and as a result, a firm is to be hired in early January to do vibration studies on the affected properties.

- for others with concerns, I would suggest contacting:

Christie Ulicny

Public Relations and Communications Officer | Agente des relations publiques et des communications
Ontario Waterways Unit / l'Unité des voies navigables de l'Ontario

Parks Canada | Parcs Canada

C: 705-761-7294

christie.ulicny@canada.ca

www.parkscanada.gc.ca | www.parcscanada.gc.ca

- residents may also wish to contact the councillor's office as I believe he is aware of this issue as well

Main Street

- Tom will be providing information on next steps following from the passing of a number of motions at our December 11 Board meeting concerning the Main Street Safety Audit

Rugby playing field at 160 Lees?

- on December 17, I received an e-mail from Lucas Bloess, President of the Ottawa Beavers and Banshees Rugby Club (based primarily out of the downtown area, i.e., Old Ottawa East, South and the Glebe).

- their club had been practicing at Immaculata High School over the past decade or so, and has been having difficulty finding alternative downtown field space; it is in this context that they expressed an interest in looking at Springhurst Park options
- to date, I have forwarded the information I received from Lucas to CAG but have not yet heard back from them; note that Lucas has offered to come to our meeting next Tuesday to provide more information about their proposal as well as respond to any questions people might have
- note that there was a City proposal in 2015 to create 2 fields at Springhurst (1 for soccer and the other for rugby), but in that case the community did not support the plans for a number of reasons: the price tag was high (almost \$200,000); the funds would have come from our Cash in Lieu of Parkland reserves; and community use would have been greatly restricted

Rideau Canal skating

- On December 30, the National Capital Commission opened a 2.7-kilometre section of the Rideau Canal Skateway between Pretoria Bridge (Hawthorne Avenue) and the Bank Street Bridge, including Patterson Creek. The NCC noted that the public should not venture onto the closed sections of the Skateway until ice conditions are safe and weather permits.
- For updated information about Rideau Canal Skateway conditions, check out <http://ncc-ccn.gc.ca/rideau-canal-skateway>

Greystone Village

- Ron will be speaking to a number of items on the planning front at the Board meeting, but I wanted to draw attention to a couple of key dates for one of the planning files, i.e., 10 des Oblats (or Blocks 2A & 2B - the location of the current Greystone Village presentation centre)
- on Monday, January 7 there will be a special meeting of the OOE CA planning committee to discuss the revised plans for this location; if other members of the community are interested in this discussion, please contact Ron Rose for additional information (ron.rose@gmail.com)
- the city has asked for comments on the resubmission by Wednesday, January 9, although Erin O'Connell, the City planner for this file, has indicated that feedback can be provided by January 16 (with the proviso that the sooner comments are provided, the better).

Fairness in representation

- following the announcement of the composition of City of Ottawa committees in mid-December, there has been a considerable amount of angst and frustration from residents and community associations of the urban core with the lack of representation of their Councillors on key committees, most notably Planning

- I have received copies of correspondence between the Heron Park CA, the Glebe CA & OOE residents with the mayor in this context & will be sending a letter to the mayor on behalf of the OOECA shortly; I will summarize some of the submissions briefly on Tuesday

Immaculata sports field

- a meeting of OOE residents with the Councillor has been scheduled for Wednesday, January 9
- the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT) will be hearing the appeal of the Ottawa Catholic School Board vs the City of Ottawa on Wednesday, January 16; the appeal is against the City Planning Committee's decision on August 28 to limit the lighting on the field to 9:00pm on Sunday-Thursday & 10:00pm on Friday & Saturday

Saint Paul University (SPU) strategic plan

- Alexandra and I have accepted an invitation from SPU to represent the OOECA Board at a breakfast discussion on Thursday, January 17 on their recently launched planning exercise, which is to establish broad strategic directions for SPU for the years 2020 to 2025. The university would like to consult with external organizations and partners in order to ensure the best possible future for their institution.

OCDSB strategic planning exercise

- I received the following invitation from the Ottawa Carleton District School Board (OCDSB) on December 21:

"The OCDSB strategic planning process is well underway, and in January 2019 the District will enter the Strategies & Actions stage which includes focus group discussions. We'd like to invite you or a representative from your organization to attend our focus group for community partners. This is an opportunity for our colleagues in community based organizations to share ideas about the future priorities of the OCDSB.

At the focus group, participants will be provided with feedback from the idea exchange and will work in groups to explore and discuss the results from the online consultation, and help define specific strategies and actions for achieving identified goals.

Space is limited so all participants must pre-register. Please RSVP by contacting Halcian Joseph-Clost via email halcian.joseph-clost@ocdsb.ca or phone 613-596-8211 extension 8402.

The focus group meetings will be held on:

Monday, January 21, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Ottawa-Carleton District School Board - Administration Building

133 Greenbank Road"

- more information on this process is available at <http://ocdsb.ss13.sharpschool.com/>

Capital Ward cup

- & last but certainly not least, our Councillor's office will be maintaining the hockey tradition in Capital Ward:

"The 11th annual Capital Ward hockey tournament will be happening on January 26th from 9:30am to 12 noon at Brantwood Park Rink. Old Ottawa South Moose, Old Ottawa East Hosers, Heron Park Hackers and Glebe Goal-Getters will face-off on the ice.

Everyone is welcome to come watch the face-off between these neighbourhoods. Anyone who would like to play, 16 years or older, are welcome to contact Capitalward@ottawa.ca and we will let your community's team captain know. We encourage women to sign up! The game will have two women and two men on the ice at all times to encourage the gender-balanced bench policy."

- and FYI from John Dance, some info & statistics: the 10 year results of the cup are: OOE 5; OOS 4; Glebe 1, Heron Park 0 ... so this is the year Glebe can try to show that its larger population is actually capable of producing people who can skate; HP can squash the Red Sox curse; or OOS can show that it really is the equal of OOE. Alternatively, the OOE Hosers can just keep winning.

APPENDIX B
[See attachment]



Ottawa Beavers and Banshees Rugby Football Club

www.obbrfc.com



Springhurst Park Proposal January 8, 2019

Proposal

The Ottawa Beavers & Banshees Rugby Football Club (OBBRFC) would like to propose to the City of Ottawa the construction of a sports field at Springhurst Park at 160 Lees Avenue.

The construction of the field would be borne by the OBBRFC, in exchange for rental rights from the City of Ottawa from 6:30pm-8:30pm Monday to Thursday evenings.

Background

The OBBRFC is based primarily out of the downtown area, and offers rugby teams for men, women and junior boys and girls. The Club has historically been practicing at Immaculata High School until the 2018 summer season.

The OBBRFC makes efforts to assist the broader community. For example, the club runs a rugby program specifically for special needs youth, and we have hosted summer camps for children in community housing. We also run events to make charitable contributions to organizations such as the Canadian Red Cross and the Ottawa Community Immigrant Services Organization.

In 2018, the field at Immaculata was closed for the construction of an artificial turf sports field through an agreement between Ottawa Footy 7s Soccer and the Ottawa Catholic School Board. The area is now fenced off to the public, and Ottawa Footy 7s has sole access rights outside of school use for the foreseeable future.

The OBBRFC has since encountered drastic instability with respect to availability for a suitable practice location, and may have to consider leaving the downtown area if an appropriate solution is not established.

The Ottawa Wolves Rugby Football Club is Ottawa's inclusive rugby club, and is primarily aimed at fielding rugby teams for LGBT players. In October, it was announced that they will be hosting the Bingham Cup in 2020, the world's largest amateur rugby event. They have historically encountered similar difficulties securing a suitable practice location in the downtown area. This uncertainty is less than ideal for recruitment and day-to-day operations as they gear up to host a large-scale sporting event.

Project Scope

The goal of the project would be to establish a sports field comparable to other local fields such as Robinson Field. The work would require that the surface is graded, aerated and seeded, and goalposts would be erected on either end of the field.

As per the diagram below, a full-size sports field can be constructed on the west-side of the open space, and an equivalent area would remain on the eastern portion for ongoing unstructured use by local residents.



Community Benefits

Access: The OBBRFC would only seek access to the field for 8 hours per week, which they would also share with the Ottawa Wolves to give them some stability while they host the Bingham Cup. The remainder of the time would be open to rentals for broader community access. As part of our arrangement, the OBBRFC is also willing to ask for open-use periods where the field could not be rented. This would ensure access to local residents. Unlike some similar projects, the field would not be fenced off to the community.

Improvements to Communal Spaces: The construction of a sports field would enhance the current space and provide local residents with better recreational infrastructure.

Green Space: The construction of a grass field would maintain a natural presence that is often lost with large-scale artificial turf fields.

Minimal Disruptions: There would be no intention to install field lighting, which can lead to light pollution for nearby residents, as well as the noise associated with late-night sporting events.

Projected Timeline

Should the project proceed, the intention would be to initiate construction in the fall 2019 so that the field is ready in the spring 2020. Fall construction will help minimize and avoid disruptions to summer programming at this location.

Next Steps

Pending support from the Ottawa East Community Association, the OBBRFC would liaise with Councillor Shawn Menard's office to begin engagement with the appropriate City of Ottawa departments.

APPENDIX C

OOECA Councillor's Update

Jan 8, 2019

Location: Old Town Hall, 61 Main Street

1. Our first Capital Ward Council Meeting will be held January 31st (location TBD, could be at City Hall) and this inaugural meeting will consist of representatives from each of the Ward's community associations.
2. The City Budget process is on a tightened timeline as a result of this being an election year. A draft budget will be presented to council on February 6th, and the final budget will be voted on by council on March 6th. There will be a budget consultation that everyone in OOE are welcomed to attend on January 30th at the Ellwood Hall at the Jim Durrell Complex (1265 Walkley Rd.). There is also one being planned for urban wards on February 13th. One area of interest is a push for a \$12 million investment in affordable housing.
3. Immaculata: Met with the Catholic School Board and City legal team last week to discuss possible compromises around time of use of the field in advance of the LPAT Hearing, but there was little compromise from the OCSB.
4. The 11th annual Capital Ward Cup Hockey Tournament will be held at Brantwood Park Rink on Saturday January 26th from 9:30am to 12:30pm. If you are interested in participating on a community association team, please email capitalward@ottawa.ca
5. I've been appointed as the Vice-Chair of the Environment Committee, as well as a member of the Transportation Committee and the Board of Health. The nomination process triggered dissent from 9 Councillors for the first time in recent history, for its lack of transparency and democracy, and for its outcome: only one Councillor who represents an area within the greenbelt was on the nominating committee (no urban councillors were on the committee). Only one urban councillor was appointed to the planning committee, and only two Councillors from within the greenbelt were appointed to the City's most powerful committee, FEDCO. Our office appreciates the letter OOE sent to the Mayor on this issue.
6. Eastern Pedestrian Bridge linking Lees and Hurdman – City staff want to close it off this winter because of difficulty and safety issues with plowing equipment. We've asked that it remain open, even though it will not be maintained.
7. Met with Erin O'Connell at the City with regard to Greystone Project overview and recent resubmission application for Buildings 2A and 2B.

8. Main Complete Street project and Greenfield Reconstruction – Looking to arrange a meeting with City staff to discuss a shorter timeline for implementation of safety measures along Main street and more information on the North Main/Greenfield/Hawthorne project.

APPENDIX D – SLOE January Report – Joan Batucan

1. John Dance has made a call out to all SLOE members for thoughts on priorities, the CAFEs initiative, and an update on all sub-committees under SLOE
2. John has alternative wording for the Chalk River nuclear waste storage that was suggested by a member at the December meeting.
3. A few members at the December meeting had comments on the CAFEs initiative for Bird Friendly Urban designs.
4. Rebecca Aird, past SLOE chairperson, has volunteered to co-lead an initiative to make OOE a more Bird-Friendly place, citing the need to improve bird habitats and bird morality from cats. She needs a co-volunteer for this initiative? Anyone?
5. Rebecca Aird, has reinforced the request to have affordable housing be a key priority in OOECA list for 2019. And that this should be communicated to Regional as they continue to development the oblats land.
6. Regarding the Children's Garden, Sue McKee is drafting funding proposals for 2 summer staff to attend the Garden in the summer.
7. Regarding the use of Green Bins at apartment buildings, whether rental or condo, Joan has called the City's Solid Waste department. They will only speak with the building management or property management of an apartment or condo complex about implementing a Green Bin program at the location. They will not pick up individual green bins for multi-tenant dwellings; it has to be the entire building or no one in the building. This is because there are logistics, planning, and building support required for the implementation and ongoing maintenance of pickup of Green bins and supplying the initial green bin or green bins. Without management support, the city cannot pickup the Green bin or bins adequately and in a timely manner. This has been communicated to building reps in OOECA. So the next step is for them to contact their respective building managements and have a discussion. If their answer is no, the next step could foreseeably be to start a petition, with signatures required from residents within the building. Tommy Deadman of the Lees apartment buildings has responded. He has already spoken to building management. The issue is that the maintenance workers do not start working until after the first hour of possible scheduled pickups. He is planning another meeting with them shortly. Heather Jarret of Corners on Main will take up the matter at the next condo board members meeting. Any other building reps out there?
8. John Dance has initiated discussions with Jamie Brougham about the ski trails along the Rideau River. There is an Action Sandy Hill rep, Sue, who is concerned with the same issue. Perhaps this can be a new sub-committee? Jamie has spoken to the Rideau Tennis Club about their plans for the east side of the Rideau River and he has spoken to the Regional rep, Josh Kardish, about ski trails being a valuable social asset. Continuity along both sides of the river, and across Ottawa, would be desirable.
9. John Dance is drafting an article for the Mainstreeter about the CAFES initiative and would appreciate feedback. Joan has already provided some limited feedback.
10. The CAFES list was provided at the December meeting. Joan is still awaiting further thoughts on the items listed for prioritization and further discussions within our CA SLOE meetings.
11. Barrie Davis has expressed an interest in prioritizing for
 - a. (1) inplanting to anticipate the loss of very large trees that are threatened by storms and old age; (2) enlargement of existing "no mow" areas in parks and City spaces; (3) gradual

phasing out of City-maintained grass in favour of low-maintenance ground cover, shrubs and trees.

12. Joan Batucan has had an initial meeting with Michel Gauthier, of Ottawa Garden Council, and Director of Tulip Festival. Highlights of meeting discussion points are below in separate piece.

Joan's meeting with Michel Gauthier:

- Michel Gauthier is the Director of the Tulip Festival, and member of the Ottawa Garden Council. He is looking for general support of the idea to make the "Flora" Footbridge live up to its name. Main points:
 - a) He does not think the footbridge will be ready for the 2019 season. And neither will the logistical support for the involvement of the new footbridge. The "grand opening" will have to be another event.
 - b) Make the bridge a focal point for garden/flora displays and give it some seasonality, so that visitors will have a reason for coming back to visit/walk across the footbridge
 - c) OOECA does not need to provide any monetary support, but possibly volunteers. For now, he is looking for one person to volunteer to be the key contact person to attend meetings or have discussions. I would like it to be someone from SLOE, or one of the volunteers who are on waitlist for the community garden? If not, then a general call out to the community association for a volunteer will be made. Until then, I will continue to liase with Michel. I will need to get back to Michel on this (new) volunteer liaison on Wednesday afternoon.
 - d) No firm plans have been made, but ideas out there include having a committee to take turns watering the foliage on the bridge, having movable planter structures on the bridge itself, and at the foot of the steps on each side of the canal. Algonquin College has an agricultural program, whose students are looking for volunteer opportunities to gain experience; that resource has yet to be tapped.
 - e) Possibly have turn-taking opportunities for landscaping companies and garden-related supply companies to design and implement garden/floral designs, with volunteers to water plants. Perhaps turn this into some kind of competition?
 - f) Possibly make use of movable planters on the bridge as a form of traffic calming. All garden/planting materials need to be non-permanent structures.
 - g) Michel's group will provide liason opportunities between the relevant community associations (OOE and the Glebe), Landscape Ontario, Ottawa Garden Council, Tulip Festival, the NCC (for portions of the bridge along the canal that fall within NCC jurisdiction). There is already a contact from the Glebe Community Association assigned.
 - h) More planning needs to be done and more ideas will be discussed. The Ottawa GArden Council would like to make the Flora Footbridge be one of their focal destination points to tie in with the name of the bridge.

I also put out a request to meet all the past and current members of SLOE, responses are slow to come in.

I made a request to join the CAFE group. Involvement in the group should not dictate the priorities for our own CA. I will gather the responses with the SLOE team and the CA in general.

I find this a very exciting opportunity for OOE to participate in city-wide tourist attractions, and events in general.