

Chair's report March 14, 2017

Main Street

- I am happy to report that concerns re limited street lighting south of Clegg have now been resolved; my understanding is that the bus stops just south of Clegg on Main are now well lit and it is much brighter on the sidewalks
- thanks to the concerned residents who raised the issue as well as the City for responding so quickly

PM Sesquicentennial project

- I am pleased to report that we now have 9 confirmed speakers; see our OOECA web-site for our tentative schedule and other information <https://ottawaeast.ca/pm150> (thanks Catherine)
- our format will be a 1 hour presentation followed by Q&A / discussion session of 1 hour; our moderator will be Bob Parkins
- our locale will initially be the Old Town Hall
- we have been focusing our publicity thus far on our community and have used the e-update to promote our March 28 first speaker on Sir Wilfrid Laurier; John is following up with our neighbours in the Glebe and Old Ottawa South as well as media outlets
- He has also drafted an article on our proposed series for the next Mainstreeter (MS)
- if we could get agreement from the MS, we think it would also be a good idea to have an article on each of the presentations - volunteers to write the articles would be greatly appreciated
- John and I met with Saint Paul University (SPU) on Friday, March 10 and raised the possibility of SPU co-hosting this series and allowing us to use their campus facilities; we received very positive feedback and Rector Beauvais will be seeking SPU Board approval
- we are also exploring the idea of trying to tape the proceedings
- ***we hope to see as many Board members and members of the community as possible register and attend these evenings*** - please register by sending an e-mail to info@ottawaeast.ca

SPU presentation at upcoming OOECA Board meeting

- we are exploring possible dates with SPU for a presentation by Rector Chantal Beauvais to our CA on their strategic plan
- there are many exciting plans that are in the works for SPU, including extensive renovations for their new school of social innovation, as well as landscaping on the north side of the university and the enhancement of the student and community space (which will include a new area for Cafe Urban that includes an accessible heated courtyard)

Circumnavigation of Rideau Island sesquicentennial project

- our Councillor has offered to make a contribution of \$100 to help in defraying the costs of our post-paddle celebration
- John is still looking for some additional help to ensure this event is a big success

"Sesqui-Tree" Project - Proposed SLOE OOECA effort

- the objective of this initiative is to encourage tree planting in Old Ottawa East by providing tree seedlings and planting / care advice to residents at a nominal cost
- this item will be discussed at our March Board meeting

Regional's Greystone Village

- the zoning amendment for the North Village (D02-02-16-0057) was approved by the City's Planning Committee on February 28. It will go to Council for approval on March 8, 2017
- the primary concern of the OOECA was the potential for future encroachment into the 10 metre corridor which accommodates the multi-use pathway (MUP) on the eastern edge of the property
- following a discussion at the last Board meeting, the CA indicated to the City and Regional, we would not oppose the zoning amendment (which includes a limited encroachment on this corridor by 2 units) if we received an assurance that future changes could not be made with respect to incursions in this 10 metre corridor.
- a representative from Regional subsequently provided us with the following assurance:

"Regional has agreed and will be conditioned by the City to place a legal restrictive covenant over the full length of the area which makes up the 10m buffer along the 30m river corridor. This will occur when the subdivision is registered and before permits are issued and will be placed on units 48 & 49 land titles for in perpetuity. This covenant will prevent anyone from building a shed, place any fencing or building a new home in this area regardless of what the setbacks are. The fencing proposed around unit 49 side yard respects this boundary as it wraps around."
- while the OOECA did not raise any issues with respect to the zoning amendment at the February 28 Planning Committee meeting, John Dance was allowed to make a presentation on the desirability of the creation of a New Rideau River Park on the eastern 30m corridor along the River zoned Open Space of Regional's development.
- note the recent news, the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority has recently declined to accept this land, while the City continues to resist taking ownership
- watch for John's article in the next Mainstreeter on this issue
- Construction progress: Regional is moving ahead with soil remediation of Phase 2 & 3 starting April 1. This includes the lands adjacent to residents of Springhurst Ave. This work is estimated to take 3 months, at which time Regional anticipates starting the construction of the sewers and future roads in Phase 2 including the expansion of Oblats Avenue. In preparation for this work, Regional has applied for a tree removal permit and anticipate the removal of select trees starting in two weeks. Tree protection fencing will be installed to protect trees that are to be preserved.
- Demolition of the Lacombe building and garage (attached to the north side of the Deschâtelets) is targeted to begin April 1 as well. Careful attention will be made to ensure there is no impact on the heritage portion of the Deschâtelets building

Greenfield Ave

- we have received concerns from north of the Queensway residents about engine braking on large diesel trucks (Jacobs Brakes or Jake Brakes) as they rapidly decelerate while on the Nicholas access route behind Kings Landing, to and from the city core. (The use of Jacobs Braking system causes a very loud rapid machine gun like noise which can be clearly heard by homeowners in this northern sector of OOE.)
- the issue of sound barriers (or a lack thereof) also remains a concern
- there is also an ongoing issue with stormwater surface drainage; residents feel they are not getting cooperation from the Province and only very slow and incomplete feedback from the City

OOECA Planning Committee

- the February planning committee discussion considered the recent coach house bylaw proposed revisions, the status of a number of developments north of the Queensway (47 Havelock, 41 Concord St North, 99 Greenfield), and the Regional zoning amendment for the North Village (discussed above)
- the committee intends to note its concern with the proposed change to the recently approved by-law regulations to allow more height (with the potential for a second storey) for coach houses
- we also discussed the proposed patio right of way rules which were approved at the City Transportation Committee meeting on March 1

Community electronic information

- the idea of having a better sharing / coherence of the community's various electronic faces (I.e., the Mainstreeter site and its Facebook page; CAG's weekly e-updates, Facebook page and web-site; and the OOECA web-site) has come up in the discussion of the difficulty of community members to readily get a clear picture of what's new
- it will probably be difficult to get a discussion going right now as the Mainstreeter is in the midst of searching for a new editor, but I think the idea has a lot of merit
- if anyone is interested in getting involved in a discussion on this topic later this year, please let me know