



## Meeting of the Old Ottawa East Community Association Board

Tuesday, December 9 at 7 p.m.

Old Town Hall, 61 Main Street

### DRAFT 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  
Bill Baldwin  
Katherine Simonds, Member at Large  
Jim Strang

##### Others present

Evelyn Danilko  
Laura Mueller  
Joanna Linsangan  
Vicki Davis  
Paul Goodkey  
David Chernushenko  
Bonnie Wheppler  
Jamie Hurst  
Kenn Rankine  
Wendy McRae  
Christian Pupp  
Bob Parkins  
Ian Haythorn  
Khaled Salam  
Glen Linder  
John Jarrett

#### Regrets

Joe Zaffar

1. Call to Order – John Dance, at 7PM
2. Approval of Agenda  
Moved: Stephen Pope ; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Phyllis Odenbach Sutton; Carried.
3. Approval of October 14, 2014 Minutes  
Moved: Don Fugler; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Ian McRae; Carried.
4. Confederation Line Project  
Evelyn Danilko a program manager from the Rail Implementation Office of City of Ottawa provided an update of the Confederation Line light rail project.
  - Construction has started and over 50% of the downtown tunnel has been excavated.
  - Work has been started on the vehicles themselves, and the public will be able to see the trains in 2015, although they will not yet be in operation at that time.
  - In 2015, tunnel construction will continue, and the highway from Hurdman station east to Blair will begin accommodating the buses that will be displaced from that part of the transitway.
  - Construction at Lees station will not begin until 2016. Transitway buses will be redirected onto street routes. LRT will not be functioning until 2018.
  - The Coventry pedestrian bridge near the Vanier junction will be reopening early in 2015.
  - The onramp to the Highway at Lees will not reopen until 2018.
  - A concern was raised that the eastern pathway includes certain detours that put cyclists onto the Vanier parkway

- OOECA asked that pedestrian/ cyclist access be maintained under both sides of the transitway bridge during its reconstruction

#### 5. AIDS Committee of Ottawa – Khaled Salam, Executive Director

Mr. Salam participated in an informal meet and greet and provided information about the ACO, with an opportunity for questions and answers.

- 19 Main Street is the new home of the AIDS Committee of Ottawa.
- There is a new article about the ACO in the *Mainstreeter*.
- ACO will be marking its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year.
- The ACO provides a wide variety of services and programs for people living with HIV AIDS. It is primarily funded by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, as well as some City and private funding.
- ACO has 16 full time positions. 30-60 dropins per day come into the centre.
- An Open House will be hosted in February, and staff and volunteers will be mobilised in the Spring to get to know the community and make sure people in the community knows what the organization does.
- Among other services, OCA operates a needle exchange; it is not a safe injection site. Thus, people come in to drop off and pick up needles and other supplies, but there is not to be any drug use, buying or selling on the property. There are approximately 16 needle exchanges in Ottawa already.
- Some residents expressed concern that the crime rate in the area may increase as a result of the introduction of a needle exchange. On the other hand, it is recognised that OCA provides an essential service and some residents are pleased to see them come into the neighbourhood.
- Mr. Salem says he would be happy to come back to the OECA again to discuss any issues and concerns that might arise or develop as a result of the new premises. This is tentatively scheduled for the next board meeting of February 10, 2015.

#### 6. Chair's Report – John Dance

A report was circulated by email prior to the meeting. [See appendix 1]

- This coming Thursday December 11, there will be an Open House for the proposed safe crossing at Colonel By and Clegg.
- Jan D'Arcy has agreed to draft an OECA orientation package for community residents who might be interested in learning more and becoming involved with the Association and related groups such as CAG etc.
- Councillor Chernushenko has agreed to have a meeting with several Board members to discuss community issues etc.

#### 7. Councillor's Report – David Chernushenko

- Main Street traffic is clearly an issue currently and will continue to be for another two years. Key issues to keep an eye out for are cut-through traffic and dangerous driving.
- Landsdowne events and noise – the folk festival has been rebranded as City Folk and is moving to Landsdowne. David is working with a group to revamp the City's noise bylaws, in particular to deal with deep bass vibrations.
- David has been nominated as Chair of the City's environment committee.
- David's website, [capitalward.ca](http://capitalward.ca) has a separate page for updates on Main Street renewal.
- Some residents commented that there are too many signs along Main Street. Some are redundant, some are contradictory. They are hard to read. David says he will look into it.

#### 8. Committee Reports

##### 8.1 Planning - Stephen Pope

A report has been sent out by email. [See Appendix 2]

- The committee is working with City Staff on Main and Hawthorne rezoning.
- Note that a Subway restaurant is planning to move into 164 Main Street.

8.2 SLOE – Ian McRae

A report has been sent out by email. [See Appendix 3]

8.3 Transportation - Ron Rose

Bus #16 route has apparently been altered, and Ron is looking into it. Traffic on Main Street has been somewhat chaotic. What is happening right now is not Main Street renewal; it is work being done by Bell. The lanes are changing from time to time, so drivers' experiences change from day to day and driving is rather unpredictable.

8.4 City Centre Coalition - Devin O'Grady: No report.

8.5 Federation of Citizens' Associations - Jim Strang

A report was sent out by email. [Appendix 4]. Thanks to Phyllis for attending with Jim at the last meeting. Various issues were raised including municipal election donation regulations, and infill

8.6 Communications - Catherine Pacella: no report

8.7 Community Safety : no report

8.8 Membership – Suzanne Johnston

Membership drive was fabulous and very successful. We ended up with over 750 households as members – up by approximately 100 members from last year. Membership volunteers will be reviewing comments from residents about community issues. Also, they will assess the membership drive and consider whether any further improvements can be made to continue to engage the community and/or get more residents involved.

9. Community Activities Group

CAG is having its first meeting as a new board next week.

10. AGM Review

One thing to note is that the draft Minutes that were sent out did not include Jill and Phyllis on the list of continuing Board members, but this is an error and will be rectified. Both are continuing as Members at Large. The Minutes will not be submitted for approval until next year's AGM.

11. Interim Vice President and other Volunteer Requirements

We still need a Vice President, since Jaime has resigned from the Board.

12. Echo Drive Update

Recently, a meeting was held in which residents of Old Ottawa East and Ottawa South discussed the issue of Echo Drive safety. [see Chair's report]

13. New Business

We were previously looking at a possible 40 km/h speed limit in residential areas. We should come back to this and ascertain what our plan is for advocating for that.

14. Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday January 13, 2015

15. Adjournment: 8:52 PM. Moved: Stephen Pope ; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Bill Baldwin. Carried.

## APPENDIX 1 – CHAIR’S REPORT

### Chair's Report – December 2014

#### 1. *Col By – Clegg Safe Crossing – Open House*

This is scheduled for Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup> (5:30 – 8:00 p.m., Room L120, Laframboise Hall, Saint Paul University, 249 Main.

For at least 25 years, residents have been requesting that there be a safe pedestrian crossing of Colonel By Drive at Clegg. Currently, it is difficult and dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists to cross Colonel By at peak periods. So, at last, the NCC, working with the city, is proposing a design for a safe crossing. If the NCC Board approves the design and budget in February the work could be completed next year, possibly in late spring.

On November 26th I attended a meeting the city and NCC had organized so immediate neighbours (Clegg, McGillivray, Herridge, Echo) of the proposed crossing could see the proposal and respond.

Generally, it was a favorable response although there was concern about additional traffic on McGillivray and Herridge. Also, there was one individual who was, it seemed to me, unimpressed with the value of making a safe crossing, particularly one that resulted in the closing of Echo north at Clegg. BTW, the NCC says the closure of Echo is necessary to satisfy distance standards of a safe crossing with lights. I suggested that the closure of Echo south at Clegg had worked out well so that doing the same on the north should be fine.

One idea that came up was removing the current planters / barriers at Hazel-Echo so Echo residents would be able to get to their homes without having to use McGillivray ... this may have potential.

Nobody knew how much traffic currently uses Echo from Clegg to Hazel so it's hard to know how much more traffic there might be on McGillivray ... I suspect it's not much. NCC has since confirmed that they will have traffic counts for the Dec 11<sup>th</sup> open house.

I suggest we have discuss the proposal at our Board meeting of the 9th. The NCC would like to have our position for the NCC Board meeting when the proposal will be voted on.

One other point: the NCC does not propose to have an advance green at Clegg for CBD southbound traffic.



2. **Main Street Renewal:** Details of the November 20<sup>th</sup> open house can be found at: <http://ottawa.ca/en/city-hall/planning-and-development/transforming-ottawa/open-house-20-november-2014>
3. **Footbridge Progress Elsewhere:** The Airport Parkway footbridge has now opened, the Coventry-train station bridge is nearing completion and the Rideau River footbridge at Somerset East and Donald is underway. Now if we can just get on with the Clegg-Fifth Canal footbridge. It's notable that Councillors Fleury, Holmes, Clark and McRae all have spoken proudly of their footbridges – mind you these are not the councillors who have opposed footbridges in the past.
4. **Citizen Article on Greystone Village / Domicile Development:** The recent (November 22, 2014) lengthy and positive article on the Regional and Domicile developments reflected, in my view, key community perspectives. I regret not giving greater credit to the city for all it did in supporting the CDP process and also I should have thanked the institutional landowners for their willingness to agree to lower intensification than what they might have requested. I do believe that their relatively modest requests reflect their wish to leave a lasting legacy with the community, their home for so many years. I've thanked Sister Suzanne Brulé for this but, despite several attempts, have not had emails returned from the Oblates' Father Luc Tardif.
5. **AGM Review:** The AGM was well-attended, Church of the Ascension seemed to work well as a venue, the social hour was well-attended and we had considerably more time for questions and answers because of the imposed time limits on OOECA, CAG, SLOE and Mainstreeter. Suggestions I've heard so far are: allowing a bit more time for OOECA and CAG and getting speakers (me) to slow down on the speaking ... what other changes should we make for next year? Many thanks to Chris Osler of SHCHC for keeping speakers within their limits and for well moderating the Q&As.

6. **Interim Vice President and other Volunteer Requirements:** Alas, Jaime Girard has resigned from the vice president position and from the community safety "portfolio," so we need to appoint a person or two people on an interim basis to fill assume these responsibilities. Ideally, the person who becomes VP on an interim basis would also be interested in standing for president at next year's AGM.

Also, we are looking for a community association member who would lead a committee to explore options / ideas for the three new parks on the Oblates property: the 30m linear park along the river, the Grande Allee and the Deschatelets Forecourt. The City is planning for these parks but we need strong community input and consultation to make them as good as possible

7. **AIDS Committee of Ottawa at 19 Main:**

On November 6<sup>th</sup>, Khaled Salam, the Executive Director of the AIDS Committee of Ottawa (ACO), emailed me to let OOECA know that ACO had signed a 5-year lease at 19 Main Street, and would be opening on December 1<sup>st</sup>. He asked if he could come and speak at an upcoming OOECA meeting but I had to defer this request because of the AGM the next week. He would like to let "community members to know more about who we are, what work we do in the community and who we serve etc. ACO is a not-for-profit, social justice organization that for nearly 30 years now has been providing education, support, outreach and advocacy for people living with and at risk of HIV/ AIDS in the Ottawa community. Our primary funders are the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and the City of Ottawa."

I met with Khaled December 1 and he readily agreed to come and speak at the Board meeting of December 9, 2014 and to pursue related discussions after. Thus far I've heard of support for the valuable work that ACO does but several people have raised questions about the needle-exchange program that will be run out of the office and how this was created without neighbourhood consultation.

8. **Human Scale Documentary:**

Given the email feedback I received, OOECA will be one of the sponsors of the Sandy Hill Community Health Centre's screening of the Human Scale sometime this winter. SHCHC sees that the screening will promote dialogue on the need for more "people-centred" planning in Ottawa. The free screening will be followed by a brief panel discussion (now confirmed at the Bytowne on Thursday Jan 29th from 6:30-8:45). Partnership does not necessarily mean funding but can mean helping out with volunteers or to promote the event among our members, etc.

In **The Human Scale**, (see the trailer here <http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=BxywJRJVzJs>), the work of celebrated Danish architect Jan Gehl is highlighted through a glimpse at how his "human scale" approach to development has been implemented in different cities around the world. Gehl spoke to a standing room only crowd in Ottawa a few years ago when his book "**Cities for People**" was published. Last year, **The Human Scale** was screened in Ottawa to a full house at the Mayfair theatre and had a short run at the Bytowne Cinema.

9. ***New Outdoor Lansdowne Rink: This is now open and*** the hours of operation, weather permitting, will be:

- Open daily from 6 am to 11 pm.
- The heated changing facility is open daily from 8 am to 11 pm.

Ron Rose and I tested the rink on the official opening December 2 and attest to its delightfulness. Now we just need a footbridge to readily get to it.

10. ***Old Ottawa East Orientation Package:*** Jan D'Arcy has kindly agreed to draft a brief orientation outline for Old Ottawa East residents who may be interested in becoming involved in the various community groups such as OOECA, CAG, SLOE, etc. This would be presented for comment at an upcoming Board meeting. The information would allow residents to understand the various mandates and how to become involved. It also could be used as the basis of a simple brochure / page on the website that new residents could look at to get a better sense of the community.

11. ***OOECA Column for Next Mainstreeter:*** I'd propose to address miscellaneous issues that came up at and after the AGM, including those mentioned in this report. I'd also like to talk about the issue of specific negative impacts vs. overall community benefits of proposals. For instance, I know the proposed Clegg-Fifth footbridge will result in parking in front of my house when there are large events at Lansdowne. Yet I think, for the larger community, the 24/7 increased accessibility the bridge will provide to pedestrians and cyclists will easily compensate for "my" perception of negative impact because of increased parking from time to time on "my" public street.

## ***12. O'Connor Bike Lanes***

As part of the approved Transportation Master Plan bike lanes are proposed for the full length of O'Connor. Rather than having a southbound bike lane on Metcalfe – which is very interrupted by the Museum of Nature – both north and south lanes are proposed for O'Connor (which is one-way southbound for cars). So the issues being considered are whether there should be a southbound bike lane on one side of O'Connor and a northbound one on the other side or whether the two bike lanes should be together. There will be lots of discussion on this issue for, like Main as a complete street, there are lane reduction issues for motorists.

My initial reaction is that the bi-directional / side-by-side bike lanes would be best north of the Queensway and unidirectional would be best south. Although, in terms of the south, the loss of parking could be an issue. Bi-directional north of the Queensway would allow continuation of parking and would be safer for parkers. For me, as an OOE cyclist returning from downtown, the awkward part has always been at the Queensway.

Also, I have always been frustrated by trying to go north on Metcalf, given the museum obstacle, so your proposal to have NB cycling on O'Connor makes sense. The city's proposals make several references to O'Connor allowing cyclists to access the new footbridge at Fifth-Clegg: this bridge will be an important piece of the network.

Surprisingly, the city's presentation didn't show the new bike lanes on Main / McIlraith Bridge and the Rideau River Western pathway - these will be key parts of the network.

13. **TD Sign on Veil at Lansdowne:** It now appears that Councillors were not consulted beforehand on the massive TD sign on the stadium's veil. And TD Bank in its decision to keep the sign never consulted with neighbours or community association nor, it seems, the NCC and Parks Canada.
14. **Diane Holmes:** When I was at city hall November 27<sup>th</sup> I bumped into the retiring Councillor Holmes. I thanked her for all she had done for the city and Centretown and for her support of OOE initiatives. She seemed relaxed and happy as she left city hall.
15. **Meeting with Councillor David Chernushenko:** Re-elected Councillor Chernushenko has agreed to meet Board reps to talk about his new term and OOE's priorities and how his election platform relates to our community. Thus far Paul Goodkey has offered to join me at such a meeting. Anybody else interested?

#### **16. Echo Drive Safety:**

At the AGM, one member raised the issue of pedestrian/cyclist safety on Echo Drive. Unfortunately, I don't know who it was that raised this question but with Don Fugler, Ron Rose and Theresa Wallace we met OSCA reps to talk about the safety issue and came up with what's below. Catherine – perhaps we could put this info on our website and seek input from residents.

Everyone loves the easy feel of the street now and wants to retain that ambiance. Echo provides a unique, lovely and useful feature shared by OOS and OOS. That said, there are some safety concerns, as noted below:

First, the Avenue-to-Bank section:

1. Strong support from Ottawa South reps for continuation of current Avenue to Bank situation (shared space for walking, cycling, and cars)
2. Identified problems by Theresa (mainly) about peak hour traffic of the Royal College traffic posing dangers to pedestrians, especially students
3. Possible solutions being: marked street to direct pedestrians to house side, flags to delineate pedestrian lane, a sidewalk on one side (although many enjoy walking on the street), speed limit reduction to 25 kph, etc.
4. Possible exit to Bank from College - either a small lane to facilitate Bank North only traffic or moving barriers to east side of College driveways - some resistance to both
5. Need for Echo resident representation on any group studying the issue
6. Need reinstatement of barriers on Colonel By slope

Other Echo issues mentioned:

1. Need to have cyclists yield as they pass through barriers at various locations (e.g., Hazel) and for cyclists to give right of way to pedestrians
2. Re-alignment of cyclists/pedestrian traffic/ cars at Clegg when Colonel By lights put up, plus new barriers at north side of Clegg at Echo (see attached)
3. Traffic illegally going north at Church of Ascension - "no entry" camera?
4. Traffic increasing in southbound direction at Church of Ascension due to Main blockage - it's legal, have to monitor effects



5. Possibility of making the Echo /Graham/Colonel By intersection to see if we can make that work more safely (Don and I discussed this after the meeting).

Next Steps:

1. Talk with City Staff (Phillipe Landry +?) to determine if current Echo road and pedestrian provisions / configuration meet current standards and what options there are for improving safety - Winnie and Ron
2. Raise issues in OSCAR / Between the Bridges / Mainstreeter / at community association board meetings - John, Kathy, Winnie
3. Canvass / solicit interest / opinion of Echo residents (esp. in Avenue to Bank stretch but also in OOE portion) - Sue, Winnie, Theresa
4. Check interests / concerns with other groups of primary users (Hopewell school council, Southminster Church, Sunnyside Library users, +?) - Winnie, +??
4. Meet Councillor Chernushenko to discuss - TBD
5. Present options to Community Association boards - Winnie, John
6. Meet with Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons - TBD
7. Revise rec's, submit to community association boards, seek City and College endorsement - TBD

## APPENDIX 2 – PLANNING REPORT

Planning Committee activities to 9 December 2014:

Welcome two new committee members:

Andrea Vecsei and Hector Hinchcliffe have joined the committee following the AGM. The committee now stands at 9 persons.

Comments on 2014 Zoning Review for Hawthorne Ave., and Main Street:

Arising from Official Plan Amendment 150, the City has decided to revise the zoning bylaws in the areas targeted for intensification to reflect the direction of the Official Plan. Previously the City had put the onus on rezoning of the land on the development community. This has the effect rezoning the residential properties on Hawthorne Ave., and Main Street to a mixed use traditional main street zoning. General Mixed use zones will also be change to the Traditional Mains Street zones. Paul Goodkey and Stephen Pope are working with the City to attempt to bring some coherence to the new work.

Councillor Chernushenko also brought forward a motion to the 25 November Planning Committee meeting to limit the potential height on Hawthorne Ave. OOECA Planning Committee supported the motion. Outgoing Chair Peter Hume directed staff to work with individuals and community groups to address their concerns, in addition to instructing staff to prepare the Official Plan amendments required to implement the zoning changes.

Minor Variances for 683 Echo

The planning committee is reviewing requested minor variances arising from a proposal for a new single family house replacing the existing at 683 Echo Drive.

Minor Variances for 47 Elliot

A letter objecting to requested variances for a large scale renovation at 47 Elliot was sent to the Committee of Adjustment on behalf of the community association. The Rideau Valley Conservation Authority, and City planners also recorded concerns about the project, and an adjournment was granted “sine die” meaning without a new date being set. This requires a complete restart of the process for that property.

I would like to congratulate the neighbours who organized and delivered 22 letters in opposition to the proposal to the secretary of the Committee of Adjustment. Their efforts followed the principles of addressing the planning issues as described in the four tests for a minor variance, and were professional and studied in tone and content.

How much parking...?

In response to Phyllis Odenbach-Sutton’s column in the Mainstreeter, the Planning Committee has been approached by the Pastor of the Chinese Bible Church to discuss future plans.

### **APPENDIX 3 – SUSTAINABLE LIVING OTTAWA EAST REPORT**

Sustainable Living Ottawa East (SLOE) report to the Old Ottawa East Community Association

December 9, 2014

The Ottawa East Community Garden held its AGM last Thursday.

There will be a second visioning session for the future of the Children's Garden next week (Dec 15<sup>th</sup>).

On the Deep Green project, we'll be working with the Regional Group on a Low Impact Development (LID) workshop for early in the new year to explore further ideas and options and to see what the City can bring to the discussion.

SLOE and the Sandy Hill Community Health Centre were successful with a modest grant application to the Community Foundation of Ottawa to take some next steps to define innovative housing, servicing and financing options for accommodating older adults and potentially other under-serviced populations. We've been doing some informal networking around this and will be targeting a first meeting in January to see if there is enough interest and capacity to continue to pursue this significant community-based initiative.

The Rideau River Nature Trail is looking different these days due to ash tree removal by the city behind Rideau Garden Drive, wind throw of several trees at 160-166 Lees and beaver activity along most of the shoreline. Freeze up should now keep the beavers away except possibly between Brantwood Park and Centennial Ave. Barry Davis and Ian McRae removed buckthorn seeds at 160 Lees.

For information, the Main Farmer's Market will be having its annual general meeting Tuesday evening. There is a good possibility that they may reach an agreement with the Museum of Nature for use of their land to hold the market during Main Street reconstruction.

## APPENDIX 4 – FEDERATION OF CITIZENS ASSOCIATION REPORT

### Federation of Citizens Association

#### Report to the OOECA 9 December 2014

Joanne Chianello was the special guest to the November meeting of the FCA. And shared some of her thoughts about City Council's likely path for the next 4 years. Here are a few: City Council will be on "the same train" as during the previous 4 years with perhaps some increase in the amount of debate. She saw the potential for more involvement and engagement by councilors in development of the Cities budget. Representation by population is politically challenging, however we could see an increase in the number of urban wards. We might also see the formation of an "urban caucus" amongst some councilors who share common interests. As does Toronto, Ottawa may choose to ban election donations from corporate and union groups. There could be more interest shown regarding the provision of affordable housing. This new council could be more "thoughtful" than the last.

**Community Mailboxes** Kanata and Beaverbrook continue to experience difficulties with the new community mail boxes: Location, handicap access, snow removal, etc. are all considerations.

**Infill 1&2** Flat roof vs sloped roof and the way it changes bulk and esthetics remains a big issue. Action Sandy Hill has submitted a very good paper on this. Other Community Associations are encouraged to make their submission to Alain Miguez prior to 20 December. The FCA will communicate its concerns on this issue to the City.

**FCA Website** Should be functioning in the New Year.

**Next regular meeting of the FCA** Planned for 7 Jan 15 at the Tanglewood Community Hall

Submitted by: Jim Strang OOECA rep to the FCA and Phyllis Odenbach Sutton