



## Meeting of the Old Ottawa East Community Association Board

Tuesday, April 13, 2021, 7p.m.

Zoom meeting

Attendance: Bob Gordon, Catherine Pacella, Ron Rose, John Dance, Tom Scott, Jayson MacLean, Brendan O'Kelly, Peter Tobin, Gerogia Blondon, Krista B, Courtenay Beauregard, Don Fugler, Phyllis Odenbach Sutton, Ian Sadinsky, Suzanne Johnston, Councillor Shawn Menard, Ariela Summit (councillor's office), Taylor Marquis (Regional), Tina Raymond (CAG), Elisabeth Bruins, Evan Garfinkel, Adriana Beaman, Camrose Burdon, Terry and Donna Walsh, Paul Goodkey, Heather Jarrett, Donna Killeen, Monica Helm, Mitch Vlad, Rowan Aird, Rebecca Aird, Bonnie Wepler

1. Call to Order – Bob Gordon
2. Approval of Agenda – moved by Tom Scott, seconded by Phyllis Odenbach Sutton
3. Approval of Minutes – March 9, 2021
  - Tom requested amendment to councillor's report re: AVTC – added
  - Moved by Tom Scott, seconded by Ron Rose
4. Chair's Report – Bob Gordon
  - Thanks to John Dance for work on ward boundary LPAT appeal
  - Thanks to Tom Scott for presentation re: burying of Hydro wires
5. Councillor's Report – Councillor Menard
  - Everyone worked together to get the motion through re: burying Hydro wires, lots of team work to make it happen
  - COVID 19 – difficult time for everyone, briefing on it tomorrow after council meeting
  - Next Monday is the board of health meeting
  - Environment committee passed motion on nuclear waste disposal
  - Ward boundary approval – thanks to John Dance for his work on it, have agreed on a change
  - Surprised no appeals for areas in the east end with lots of gerrymandering
  - Tenders out for Springhurst Park
  - Climate change and resiliency – assess how Ottawa is vulnerable to climate change and how we can adapt
  - Important piece for climate change emergency that was passed
  - AVTC – can't say who is pushing it and why, but over a thousand emails were sent to push back on this
  - Timeline for OP and TMP don't align – once TMP is updated, OP will be amended to reflect it
  - May be an opportunity to bring this forward at a Transportation Committee when TMP is updated based on feedback received
  - Lansdowne – OSEG is holding off on reconveying consultation group, Shawn has asked that everyone previously involved is included in the new stakeholders group
  - Lees Avenue bridge – discussion about bike lanes over that bridge

- They do exist, but need proper bike lanes that are safe
- Speed changes are being requested – 30km/h in all of Capital Ward
- East of Main should be approved this summer to match west of Main
- Q – Why the need for the “You are leaving” a 30 km/h sign on someone’s lawn?
- A – Looking to make Main Street 40 km/h as part of these changes. Re: signage, it is city policy. It’s a gateway so you’re supposed to know when you enter/exit that it is now a different speed. It does help people to realize the speed because the signs are only when you enter/exit the gateway. In terms of location, it needs to be on city property but understand it does end up being on the front lawn. But office can ask that the placement of a sign be changed.
- Q – Recreational/pedestrian access to city streets – NCC is making certain streets available but why is the mayor so adamant that councillor’s budget be used to make these changes when people from outside the ward also benefit from this?
- A – Tried to bring two motions to have city take this on, identify areas that would make the most sense but it has fallen on councillor’s shoulders, not seen as a big priority. It’s an ongoing battle.
- Q – TMP/IMP process seems to be on hold until OP is done. How we address these links between secondary plans and OPs? Also, Lees Avenue bridge – have asked MPP for safety railings but have not received a good response.
- A – The OP will give direction to the TMP. Once TMP is updated in 2023, the OP will be amended to reflect any change that arises from that master plan process. Re: Lees Avenue bridge – adding railings on Bank Street bridge so perhaps an opportunity exists. Willing to work with you on this issue, see if we can get an answer from staff.
- Q – Walk a lot through Brantwood Park, appalled by the number of dog poop bags even though they are not supposed to be placed in garbage bins. Can we get more bins like those in Windsor Park designated for dog poop disposal?
- A – Currently a city pilot project for multi-stream waste in parks in Ottawa. It is in Windsor, could look at getting it in Brantwood Park. Also looking to get more pick up, more bins.
- Q – Removal of yellow poles on fire hydrants – can they be removed now that snow is gone?
- A – Not sure of policy, will follow up by email

## 6. Regional Update – Taylor Marquis

- Evan Garfinkel will be taking on Taylor’s role when she takes maternity leave in July
- Riverbank restoration – now that everything has melted, rehabilitation work will continue that was started in the fall but can’t undertake work in water until summer
  - o Will make sure that everything is safe for turtles
  - o Everything will be cleaned up and returned to a more naturalized state
- 2B tower crane – scheduled to come down on May 10<sup>th</sup>, will affect busing but signage/notification will be given in advance
- Q – Bag of stakes between the walking path and the riverbank behind the Deschatelets building, about 30 stakes. Who do they belong to/can they be cleaned up?
- A – Will have someone look into it on-site tomorrow.
- Q – Is it the city’s job or Greystone’s to do street sweeping on the MUP?
- A – Not sure, will look into it.

## 7. Treasurer’s Report – Don Fugler

- a. Current balance is \$17,539.13. No changes from last month.

8. CAG report - Tina Raymond
  - Did have a virtual Easter event
  - Have opened after school registration for September
  - Lots of activities for the summer planned
  - Q – Can members attend your monthly meetings?
  - A – If someone asks, we don't say no – just don't get many requests.
  
9. Ward Boundary appeal update – John Dance (\*Please see attachment after committee reports)
  - Looks as though things will be successful pending discussion at council tomorrow
  - City report says they had “discussions” with community associations – we only had one email but again, outcome is positive
  
10. Committee reports (\*all received reports attached below)
  - Health and Safety – Courtenay Beauregard
    - No report
  - Transportation – Tom Scott
    - Hydro wires going to council tomorrow, had success with the committee
    - Next meeting is end of April – councillor's staff, city staff, OOECA transportation committee
    - City staff second report on Main Street safety audit – number of outstanding issues, four issues transferred to GMH project and they have yet to be addressed
      - Intersection of Main and Riverdale – they have done a conflict report
  - Lansdowne – John Dance
    - See report attached
    - Look forward to seeing anything from the city – haven't heard anything about any engagement in a while, other community associations are frustrated too
  - Communications – Bob Gordon
    - Working on transitioning the website to a new format – moving to WordPress
    - Will look into online membership option
  - FCA – Ron Rose
    - See report attached
  - Corners on Main and Greystone Village – Peter Tobin
    - See report attached
  - Parks and Greenspace – Brendan O'Kelly
    - See report attached
  - Membership – Suzanne Johnston
    - Continuing to think of alternatives for the next membership drive for safety reasons
    - Need ideas for buildings without mailboxes (ie: condos)
    - Looking to increase virtual presence, also through businesses like Singing Pebble
    - New brochures are also available
  - Planning – Ron Rose (interim chair)
    - See report attached
  - SLOE – Jayson MacLean
    - See report attached
    - Q – any other trees designated as heritage trees in OOE?
    - A – not that he's aware of

- Q – what is a heritage tree?
- A – Jayson to follow up

#### 11. New Business

- Phyllis – article in Mainstreeter about OOE birding group, initiatives to make our community more bird friendly
- Phyllis – next Mainstreeter social issues panel on advocacy is coming up in May
- Don – river clean up planned for Saturday morning, need a boat and collecting trash
- John – Holy Trinity church slated to be torn down soon, securing the windows so they can be preserved
- Phyllis – invasive species work – was told by city that they needed a permit, so pursuing that with city staff

#### 12. Date of Next Meeting – May 11, 2021

#### 13. Adjournment – moved by Tom Scott, seconded by Ron Rose

Attachments:

#### **Committee reports:**

#### **Lansdowne – John Dance**

Three updates: one pertaining to proposed improvements of Aberdeen Square, the second to the review of Lansdowne’s future, and the third on Lansdowne and the draft Official Plan.

#### ***1. Aberdeen Square:***

OSEG is, according to Jonathan McLeod of Councillor Menard’s office, holding off on proceeding with changes “While the city starts ramping up the two council sponsor groups and the stakeholder group.”

Mark Goudie, OSEG CEO said in a letter to the City, “This will allow the City working group and Councilor Sponsor Group the opportunity to include the Plaza’s ‘best use’ forward in the scope of the ongoing work. We look forward to continuing to work with the City, and your department, on innovative and creative ways to evolve Lansdowne into an active gathering space what works for our neighbourhood, our region and for visitors to our City.”

#### **2. Lansdowne Review:**

Jonathan McLeod: “Currently, we’re making sure that there is proper community representation on the stakeholder group, and we want to establish the roles of

each group, since there's a risk of overlap. I'll do my best to keep you updated as more info comes.

There is nothing on either the OSEG or City's website about the review and there has been no meeting of the Lansdowne Community Consultation Group since November.

The review was approved by Council in December and the report is to be considered by Council by the end of June yet there are no available terms of reference and no community groups have been involved in the review even though four months have passed since the review was announced and only three months remain before Council is to consider it.

It appears to be following the same poor path of consultation that led to the original approvals.

### 3. **Official Plan and Lansdowne:**

**OOECA Comments:** "The idea of a "Special District" for Lansdowne is sound, however, the current wording emphasizing the professional sports and entertainment aspect is wrong. : Lansdowne Park is the City's major park for playing, gathering and socializing, not just watching professional sports and expensive entertainment."

**Glebe Community Association comments:** "We also welcome the designation of Lansdowne Park, and encourage the City to consider the opportunities presented by the urban park in meeting tree canopy and climate change goals. The urban park plays a key role in supporting NH and City livability goals and was a foundational element of the redevelopment of the site. Commercial/sporting elements are clearly important parts of this site but should not take precedence."

#### **Corners on Main and Greystone Village – Peter Tobin**

In an email reply, Taylor Marquis indicated she would provide the CA with an update at Tuesday's meeting, on the shore bank remediation that Regional will be doing near the foot of des Oblats Ave.

The site is a bit of a mess right now. Regional with City approval removed four trees last week to allow for preparatory construction work on the Spencer.

Corners on Main residents have noticed increased activity around the convent area recently. Security personnel are much more in evidence and are now on site 24/7. There is an unconfirmed report that the building has been sold.

#### **Lees Apartments**

The renovation work on apartment units at 190 Lees continues as the workers are not bound by the latest Provincial lockdown. The Covid pandemic has severely affected occupancy rates at 190 Lees and neighbouring buildings as many units are normally occupied by out-of-town uO students. The superintendent at 190 has called the City about garbage along the MUP that parallels the LRT

line from the river to Lees Avenue. The upper half of the path way was relatively neat as of April 9

but the lower half towards the river is a complete litter bed.

#### **Parks and Greenspace – Brendan O’Kelly**

##### **Springhurst Park Amenities**

The upcoming amenities, including the much anticipated beach volleyball court and outdoor ping pong table, are set to be installed this spring/summer. The contract for both the children’s park and recreational amenities has been awarded to TLC Landscaping with a final construction deadline of December 31, 2021. A ‘commence work order’ was issued on March 23, 2021.

Total cost of the project will be around \$225,000. The city has undertaken the costs for the replacement of the children’s play structure as part of its lifecycle renewal. The other recreational amenities - costing roughly \$122,000 - are being paid for by cash-in-lieu of parkland funds.

##### **Cleaning the Capital - Adopt-a-Park**

In line with the city’s ‘cleaning the capital’ campaign, which has been put on hold under the new Ontario-wide shutdown, we are postponing the neighbourhood parks clean up until further notice.

#### **Planning Committee – Ron Rose**

The next meeting of the Planning Committee will be held on April 27th, at which time the Regional Group will be presenting their tentative plans for Phase III of Greystone Village, I.e., the undeveloped part between the Deschâtelets Building and the Rideau River. Following feedback from the members of the Planning Committee, Regional would like to consult with the community at large at the May meeting of the Association. The City has been working on by-laws to regulate the provision of short-term rentals, I.e., Airbnb and VRBO in Ottawa. A special meeting of the City’s Planning Committee and the Community and Protective Services Committee will be held on April 22nd to consider a set of by-laws to regulate the use of short-term rentals.

Any member of the community who has had experience, either positive or negative with short-term rentals in their area is invited to contact Ron Rose.

#### **SLOE – Jayson MacLean**

(1) Gypsy Moth Infestation - a resident of OOE North has brought to our attention that there are trees at the east end of Montcalm Street that last summer were infested with Gypsy Moths, an invasive species.

Last year, local residents did some work in scraping off egg sacs to try to stem the tide, as it were, but were hoping for more help this year.

Discussions were had with the City and with the provincial Ministry of Transportation, as the trees are actually on MTO land (by the on-ramp to the highway).

In response, MTO has cut back some of the overhanging branches but won't do any further work as far as the moths go. In our more recent discussions with the City, they've said they're in the midst of reevaluating their approach to the gypsy moth and will have further direction out in the next couple of weeks. In the meantime, as for this particular infestation, Jason Pollard with Forestry said residents can keep at it with the scraping. SLOE will update the CA further on.

(2) Energy Evolution Event - Thursday, April 15, 7:30 pm

Old Ottawa South's environment committee is hosting a discussion on the City's Energy Evolution, the action plan to meet Ottawa's emissions targets over the next three decades. Members of the OOE and Glebe CA Boards as well as the general public are welcome to attend. There'll be two reps from the City's Climate Unit to speak on it, followed by a Q&A period. See the Environment Crew of Old Ottawa South's [facebook page](#) for details on registration and the zoom link.

(3) Just an FYI, Ecology Ottawa's Tree Giveaway, planned for April and May has been cancelled due to the recent COVID restrictions.

#### LPAT Appeal Update – John Dance

OOECA's appeal was submitted March 11, 2021. The appeal requested that the City reverse its decision to transfer the University of Ottawa's Lees Avenue campus from Capital Ward to Rideau-Vanier Ward.

On March 31, 2021 City lawyer Tim Marc emailed:

*City staff are prepared to seek instructions from Council to seek modifications to the above by-law by the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal to reinstate the boundary between W6-17 and W6-19 to the 417 (together with a resolution to the other appeal [Overbrook Community*

*Association]). In the event that such instructions are given, the City will seek the earliest possible settlement hearing date from the Tribunal.*

*I trust that the Old Ottawa East Community Association will find this satisfactory.*

The proposed modifications (i.e., what we requested) are scheduled to go to Council on April 14, 2021.

If Council approves, then our appeal will have been successful and Capital Ward and Old Ottawa East will remain whole for electoral purposes. It certainly appears that the City wants to get resolution of the issue in a hurry. Normally an LPAT appeal takes many months to be resolved.

Many thanks to Jeff Brown, Lorne Abugov, Ainslie Benedict and many Board members who ensured a high quality case for the appeal.

The total cost of the appeal was \$400 (for filing it with LPAT), an amount approved by the Board. Not meaning to be petty, but I wish the City would reimburse the association for this expense that resulted from attempting to correct the City's poor process, inadequate consultation, lousy analysis, disrespect for the Supreme Court decision on electoral boundaries, and abysmal lack of transparency. I doubt my wish will be granted.