



Old Ottawa East Community Association Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 13, 2022, 7:00 PM

Minutes

Attendees:

Bob Gordon, Catherine Pacella, Don Fugler, Kristine Houde, John Dance, Ron Rose, Jayson MacLean, Peter Tobin, Suzanne Johnston, Georgia Blondon, Tom Scott, Alexandra Gruca-Macaulay, Courtenay Beauregard, Councillor Shawn Menard, Regional - Evan Garfinkel, Ben Doyle, Brendan O'Kelly, Doug Macauley, Michal Samborski, Rebecca Grace

1. Call to Order

2. Approval of Agenda

- Agenda item 9 added - Request to update on All Candidates Debate and present motion.
- Approval of revised agenda moved by Alexandra Gruca-Macaulay and seconded by Georgia Blondon. Motion passed.

3. Approval of Minutes – May 10, 2022, and June 14, 2022

- Motion to approve minutes for May and June, with minor revisions put forward by Tom Scott and Ron Rose moved by Don Fugler and seconded by John Dance. Motion passed.

4. Chair's Report – Bob Gordon

- No report for September.

5. Treasurer's Report – Don Fugler

- Current balance is \$19,692.07, a decrease of \$118.22 from June to cover the 3 months' rental of the porta-potty for Springhurst/People's Park over the summer.

6. Councillor's Report – Capital Ward – Councillor Shawn Menard

- Brantwood Park tennis courts are currently under construction; Started in the fall and should be finished up this year, in time for play for next spring
- Greenfield Hawthorne Main project is out to tender. City staff are hoping to close before the end of the week. Supply chain issues and labor disruptions. City can't provide definitive timing until they talk to the selected contractor and determine what's feasible to get done this year. When Patrick Salmon comes back with those details, will share with group immediately.
- Panda games in October – plans to mitigate some issues that can sometimes occur before and after the game in partnership with Carleton University and University of Ottawa.
- Front entrance of the Deschâtelets building is not fully complete and had a good walk around with John Dance. Will be required to go back to the heritage subcommittee with the final proposal with opportunity for the community association to comment at that time on what they're proposing.

Q&A

Q: I was wondering if you knew had any updates on the dock for Springhurst Park.

A: I'm trying to recall what the very last message was on the dock. We had approved the funding for the dock, and they were going out to look at different options. Believe that there wasn't interest in one of the alternatives they had proposed, which was a walk-in model. Will get an update on the exact timing of it. Meeting was scheduled with consultant for August 11th, after which a model would be presented. For the dock, it would be on the Engage Ottawa page for preliminary comments until the concept is ready to be shared.

Comment – Kristine: Parks members, Rick, and Jamie, met with Warren this summer and did a walk-through of various park areas. Warren shared the accessibility criteria that are needed for dock - need a 5% allowable slope - but there was no answer as to dock designs, which was a first concern for our group, with Ariela presenting that to Warren. Neither dock is really favoring people with mobility issues.

Comment: Proposed Springhurst design is going to eat up a lot of that green space along the river front, so I don't think we got any definite answer.

Q - Alexandra: I was wondering whether you have heard or seen anything about negotiations between OSEG and the city, based on the financial plan that was approved.

A: Only thing that I've seen is they've got the consultation page up on Engage Ottawa as part of that motion that was passed the city manager. Negotiations on the waterfall and the business model were supposed to start with OSEG. They haven't updated us on that but told us that post-election is when they would be coming back with further engagement activities and consultation.

7. Regional Group Update – Evan Garfinkel

- Busy summer at Greystone.
- In terms of our general subdivision, some curb repairs that are expected in phase one and then there is final lift of asphalt plan for sanctuary private.
- In terms of the 30 meter corridor, there was some additional plantings added. There was some added fencing added, and then the signage should be installed in the next week. Walked it earlier in the year with Jayson and it's basically everything according to what we walked. Hopefully next year it will naturalize some of those areas that had always intended to be naturalized and eliminate some of that foot traffic through those planting areas.
- Grand Allée is slated for construction in Spring 2023 and Forecourt park is with the city.
- Spencer construction is well underway.
- 2A and 2B - 90 and 62 units leased, with positive news that commercial space has been leased to a restaurant and a cafe.
- Phase 3 - targeting site plan approval by the end of the year, no construction schedule at this time. No major changes from the last time we've presented - just some minor engineering tweaks. There's still the boardwalk and still 2 buildings. Updated plans are on the website, but really not much has changed other than small technical details.

Q&A

Q - John: Asking about removal of Manitoba Maples in the 30 metre corridor - Maples that have sprung up in the midst of the plantings and are going to overtake the good trees that are in the 30m corridor. Can we take down those small Manitoba maples that are going to take over?

A: You cannot. It is a slope stability issue, and we don't want to be cutting them down. Conservation authority has rules and regulations. we follow those rules and regulations.

Follow-up John: There were no trees there before, so how can you say now that new Manitoba maples can't be removed?

Q: About fence that you've installed all along the pathway, wondering have you had any feedback from the mountain bike community, because you closed off trail that goes down from the top of the S.

A: We haven't but I will state that there is a liability issue in there. It's not a safe and stable slope and we still are in control of that portion. That's always been meant to be naturalized, it's not meant to be a cut through it's not meant for mounting biking.¹

Q - Conservation authority actually has a naturalization program that they promote for boundaries along the lakes and rivers of the Rideau Valley watershed. I wonder if there's some way that either the community association, or with you together we could take advantage of that, because they do supply native species and professional advice and support to how to stabilize and reinvigorate those kinds of boundaries.

A: We looked into that. Intent was always to let that area re-naturalize.

Q: Have we gone back to the conservation? authority not so much from a regulatory point of view? But from conservation, promotion, point of view, and say, what can you do to help us in this area?

A: In answer your question, no we haven't gone back to them recently for that specific matter but the plan that was the landscape plan that we worked together with SLOE. RVCA reviews those plans, and they would have known what the intention was to let that area grow wild. If SLOE wants to engage the RVCA and talk about some of those programs, we're happy to listen.

Comment: I think we should take advantage of that collectively you and the conservation authority, or whatever it takes to get into that area and get some professional help - they can give us some very good help rather than just being a regulatory and enforcement Agency asked them to come in as a conservation, authority and tell them what they can do to help us

Comment: There are developers who are doing the same thing that you're trying to do, and for reasons I can't understand the conservation authority and the conservation foundation haven't been as active in participating with you as they've been with those with the same kinds of developments around Perth. So, we should ask those questions. What can you come to the table with and help?

A: Tom, if you want to flip me some information, I'm happy to look into it. John, send me an email and I can follow up with RVCA.

8. CAG (Community Activities Group) Report – Lee Jacobs

- No report for this month.

9. All Candidates Debate – Ron Rose

- Some background prior to putting forward the motion - Old Ottawa East was invited by the Glebe Community Association to be part of a consortium of ward 17 community associations to organize the All candidates debate for Ward 17. We agreed, and I was asked to be our representative.
- There are going to be 2 debates, with first on September 20th, which is for the ward counselors at 7pm at the Glebe Community Center, and it's being chaired by David Reevly. There will be a second debate for the mayoral candidates in October 17th and that will be held at the Horticulture building at Lansdown. Details on that will follow.
- The school board trustees for the 4 different school boards who are running to represent this ward or an amalgamation of wards that includes this one, will be introduced at the beginning, but will not be given an opportunity to speak, but can meet people at the end of the session.
- The debates are being held as a meet and greet session, where people can approach the candidates directly, and the school Board trustee candidates will be there as well.
- This debate is being sponsored by the Glebe Community Association, Old Ottawa South, OOECA, and others.
- Before reading in the motion, want to share Community Association Constitution, which says we endeavour to encourage citizen participation in the planning and development of the community, and also provide a vehicle through which the opinions and desires of the people of Old Ottawa East can be made to their elected representatives and government staff. I think that participating financially in this All Candidates debate is consistent with those objectives.
- In addition to motion, request for meeting attendees to send questions for candidates

Motion:

"Whereas the Old Ottawa East Community Association has accepted an invitation from the Glebe Community Association to participate in the planning of two All Candidates debates for Ward 17, and

Whereas the debate of the candidates for Ward Councillor has been set for September 22nd at the Glebe Community Centre, and

Whereas there will be costs involved in presenting the event, particularly the cost of renting an adequate sound system for the evening, and

Whereas both the Glebe Community Association and the Old Ottawa South Community Association have agreed to contribute to these costs,

Therefore, Be it resolved that the Old Ottawa East Community Association contribute \$200.00 to the cost of the All Candidates Debate on September 22nd, 2022."

Decision: Motion unanimously passed following the Q&A below.

Q&A

Comment – Tom: I think exactly what Ron said is very important that we followed some of the declarations that we made as an organization, and this is the time that community associations can be most effective in terms of their involvement. When we go to these all-candidate meetings and raise issues, we get many responses back from both elected officials and those who are running to say that's a good question. I think it really is important 1) that we go, and 2) that we financially support those meetings

Q: COVID is unfortunately far from over yet, and this would be an indoor event. Will there be an option for people to follow it via streaming service or other online way?

A: Contacted Rogers community 22 channel to see if they are willing to do it. No answer yet, but videographer engaged. Not a direct participation, but recording will be available if people want to see how candidates have answered the questions.

Q: Is there an option to make masks mandatory at the event?

A: Public health recommendations are not requiring masks in public spaces so it can't be enforced. People are welcome to wear masks.

10. Committee Reports

Membership – Suzanne Johnston

- Getting membership drive under way and seeking volunteers to canvas residences and condos.
- Asking about AGM – will it be in person or virtual? If in person, need to promote this in the membership flyer.
 - Following a discussion citing safety issues, inability to mandate mask wearing, and other considerations, a vote was taken, and the Board agree to continue with Zoom for upcoming meetings and AGM.
- Regarding canvassing, each canvasser has done their own thing over last few years. Some drop off flyers, other will knock on doors and encourage people to join. Memberships can be dropped off at OOE businesses, or people can sign up and pay for membership online.

Q&A

Q – Ron: Do we have email list we can use to promote All Candidates debate or ask for questions for candidates?

A: Not actively collecting emails over the last few years. Previously, we requested email addresses to sign up for eUpdates which we stopped providing.

Comment – For this year’s drive, we may want to ask for emails, with explicit statement saying we will use the email to contact member about meetings, events, and opportunities to weigh in on OOE issues.

Transportation and Infrastructure – Tom Scott

- Received same email as counselor from Patrick Salmon, project manager for Greenfield Main, Hawthorne Project. They are under a log address with both supply chain and labor contract issues, and they're way behind on schedule, and cannot commit to a new schedule update. He asked us for support and understanding that he can't go forward any faster than the industry is going forward, at this point in time, meaning Hawthorne is likely not going to be under major construction this fall.
- They put the tenders out They haven't received replies back, and anybody in the construction industry knows the cut the asphalt laying season is coming to a rapid end.
- Asked Patrick Salmon if Hawthorne and Lower Echo out to the areas around Immaculata are the first priority, and he said, Yes
- Also asked him to reconsider the no left turn at North Concord and Colonel By. If you can't get to Pretoria bridge from the north part of Old Ottawa East, where do you go?

Q&A

Q: Has the pedestrian crossing at Concord and Greenfield been fixed?

A: The city made it an error in requesting a repaired expansion, rather than order a new one which would have been faster than getting them to rebuild the old broken one.

Comment: Given the increase in traffic that I have seen over the last couple of weeks, I Certainly hope that there's no incident at that area.

Comment – Tom: You want to cross the road, you take a hockey stick out of the barrel and you point it across the road, and you walk over. Put the stick back in the barrel on the other side.

Comments from Bob and Don: It might be worth a try. Plan to follow up on it later this week.

Planning – John Dance

- Sister's development - The application has now been submitted, but it hasn't yet been posted on Dev Apps. Will let everybody know including those in Corners when it is posted.
- Minor variances at 121 Evelyn Avenue – CoA hearing on that last week. OOECA changed our position from not objecting to objecting to it and that hat caused a little difficulty.
- Learned some things along the way with this - Should not previously had taken a position until such time as we saw the city position, should wait to hear from neighbors, and should let applicants know when OOECA changes our opinion.
- Applicants met with us, but they then asked for almost 3 times as much allowable driveway in their particular lot than is permitted by current zoning.
- Committee of Adjustment did not decide, and reserved judgment. Decision expected in a few days.
- Correction from June report - Said that 100 Riverdale was going to be one of the 3 new properties from Ottawa East on the Heritage Registry. It did not go forward - It was taken off because it

turned out as I spoke with the new owners of the property that a floor had been added to this building. Something Heritage didn't realize so it was not approved for the Heritage Registry.

- Thanks to Board for supporting the continuation of the 4 reps for the non-disclosure agreement, and the pre application consultation. But, looking forward to getting some new people from the community that on the planning committee, and being willing to take part in this difficult, difficult but useful process.
- We have a bunch of issues we've got to meet City staff with. The list continues to grow. Variety of issues, some stemming from the new secondary plan, some stemming from interpretation of existing zoning, and so on that we will have to meet for them over the next 1-2 months to try to get these things favorably resolved.
- Lastly, I want to report on rather more positive thing – Deschâtelets building and its restoration. It is such an incredibly mammoth project, for example, 32 piles 100 feet down to the bedrock and 10 feet into the bedrock with special machinery in the middle of the building to create these new piles and then the shear wall that goes on top of them. It's stripped down to their bones but the classrooms, and the school part will look really neat with really high ceilings huge windows the area for the community center. We're also that much closer to actually having affordable seniors housing on the top 2 floors of the building. And coupled with what Councillor Menard said about the entrance, we'll see what changes really are being proposed but by and large, what we'll end up with is quite remarkable.

Q&A

Q: Bob, in the letter that you sent to Smart Living property for 15 Oblates, did you get a response?

A: No response yet.

Q – Kristine: City has posted summary of April consultations for community centre, Forecourt park and fire lane to Engage Ottawa site. Parks committee will discuss at next meeting. Question for Planning and OOECA – What position or role should OOECA or committees take to influence future decisions for these spaces, support CAG role in managing programs, etc.

A – John: Had not seen new postings on Engage Ottawa site but did follow up with City for Mainstreeter article. Waiting on response. Agree to joint meeting with Planning and Parks to discuss and will bring recommendations to Board at October meeting.

Q: Did you see anything from 67 Springhurst?

A: Waiting on drawings.

FCA (Federation of Citizens Associations) – Ron Rose

- FCA is planning a follow up workshop on the workings of the Committee of Adjustment (CoA).
- Most of us know nothing about CoA until a notice appears in our mailbox, saying that our neighbor is planning to do something that's a little out of the ordinary, and suddenly we become involved in a very complicated process. The purpose of this workshop is to develop a series of proposals to present to the Committee of Adjustment as it starts its new term in the New Year.
- Anyone Who's had any interest in the workings of the Committee of Adjustment or has had any problems with the processes of the Committee of Adjustment is certainly welcome to attend the virtual workshop near the end of October.

- One further point on the all candidates debate – The proposal and motion presented today is for the September 20 All Candidates debate and the Mayoral debate that we are also sponsoring is going to be held in the or the Cultural Hall October 17. Expenses for Mayoral debate will be presented at October meeting for Board approval.

Corners on Main, Greystone Village, Lees – Peter Tobin

- Only thing I wanted to comment that they did start working on that trench today, as they said they would.

Q&A

Q - Bob: Request for information about Bottle works program at TCOM, and if there is opportunity for residents to contribute who don't live in the building.

A: TCOM and Terraces each take part in Bottle Works. Kristine offered to meet home owners to drop off their bottles at Terraces I, but understands that this is extra effort for home owners. Residential pick-up is available: [Residential Pick-Up | Bottle Works | Empty Donation Charity](#)

Comment - Tom: Have support for program like Bottle Works, but disappointed that province is not making it easier for community to recycle and is closing down all stores in area where recycling/bottle drop-off could be done easily. Very few places in downtown Ottawa to drop off bottles. Thinks this should be raised with member of parliament.

Parks and Greenspace – Kristine Houde for Jamie Brougham

- Some Parks updates have already been shared during Q&A with Councillor Menard, and Planning discussion.
- Parks Committee will have monthly planning meetings (TBC – last Wednesday of each month).
- We are looking to strengthen community and social gathering opportunities in each park, ensure that the parks are include features that are right for the neighbourhoods they serve.
- We also want to have a better connection with Councillor's office and City to be kept up to date on Parks improvements. This is not being done on a regular basis.
- For the more immediate concern of the community centre, fire lane, and Forecourt park, we look forward to meeting with Planning members to discuss next steps and put forward recommendations for the Board at October meeting.

Q&A

Q: Jamie's report mentions the September 20 meeting. How well publicized is this? Farmer's market representatives may be interested.

A: This will be a virtual meeting. All are welcome. Email me if interested in attending and I will supply meeting and Zoom details.

SLOE (Sustainable Living Ottawa East) Jayson MacLean

- Expressions of gratitude to Community members have been working on their own on their own scheme on a lot of stuff starting with the turtles. They've been hatching past week.
- Check out Facebook page for Turtle Group of Old Ottawa East to see videos and photos and Google Earth map with all the different nests for people who want to take a look.
- Thanks to **??? and his family** for their work to support the Turtle area.

- Summer weeding group has been doing great work through summer meeting regularly on Sundays, with a bit of a break over July. If anyone's interested in volunteering, it's always a nice way to spend a couple of hours on Sunday morning.
- Thank you so much to the meeting group for their efforts on to trees. Tree group has done a lot of work over the past few months promoting our tree giveaway and our tree canopy – door knocking, flyers, and planting. Will report on that over the next couple of months.
- Another tree related project is being constructed on Evelyn Street, working on reforestation or creating density in some backyards.
- Lastly, climate group has started a project on their Facebook page, plus email notices of a weekly task that people who are interested in taking action on climate change can do in small snippets.

Q&A

Comment – Bob: Looking forward to being one of the upcoming neighbourhood location for canopy rebuild.

Comment – Tom: Neighbourhood north of the 417 has lost a number of trees following spring derecho/storm. One positive is that this included Manitoba maples, but there were significant impacts to the full canopy. Looking to do coordinated pitch to NCC, with Jay's help, for NCC to address this issue.

A – Jayson?: Meaning to get in touch with ????. Will email her to try to give that conversation going and look at getting some trees that we have that you could use in your neighborhood.

Communications – Bob Gordon

- Kristine and I met to discuss next steps to build new website, and create procedures for sending monthly reports, format, and procedures to cut down on everyone's effort, and ensure that website has up-to-date information in time for each meeting. Will aim for full report on next steps for next meeting.
- Suzanne - Main Farmer's market – volunteers attending each week as part of membership drive. Volunteers welcome.
- People also have the option to enrol using the online membership form on OttawaEast.ca.

Lansdowne – Alexandra Gruca-Macaulay

- Sounding Board meeting this summer. Main focus was to ask OSEG to share their plans to replant trees on the street properties leased to OSEG. 14 of 74 trees had to be removed.
- Issues caused by poor drainage, low volume of soil, and the effects of road salt, which frankly should have all been foreseen before.
- Second item is getting information on when the waterfall renegotiation will take place. Writing a to the city manager to see when those negotiations are starting.

Q&A

- **Various comments from group:** Frustrated that all the effort seems to be going to Lansdowne 2.0 proposal, with little to no attention or investment being applied to the pavilion, bandstand that was proposed, or other public spaces.

Health and Safety – Courtenay Beauregard

- No report this month

11. New Business

- Tom shared that he went on the Art Walk in OOE and was impressed by the quality of the art, in particular a 4x8 piece on plywood entitled Drummond Lights that depicted a local streetscape. Would like to see OOECA contributing local artwork to the future community centre.

Action: Tom to share a photo of this artwork with other board members and follow up with artist for more information. Will report back to the board at the next meeting for discussion, and any next steps.

- Catherine spoke with Lorne, Mainstreeter, who suggested OOECA could consider a fundraising initiative with the calendar Mainstreeter is producing – Illustration by Tim Hunt who is a frequent contributor to the newspaper. First run's profits would go to a charity? Mainstreeter could do a second print run, with percentage of the net profits being directed to OOECA. Information shared with eh board today, no need to decide, and will bring item for discussion at future meeting.

12. Next meeting and Adjournment - Zoom meeting, Tuesday October 11, 2022, 7pm.