

OOECA Board Meeting Minutes – May 9, 2023 (Hybrid)

Attendees

- **Board:** Phyllis Odenbach-Sutton, Catherine Pacella, Don Fugler, Kristine Houde, Alexanrda Gruca Macaulay, John Dance, Jayson Maclean, Tom Scott, Georgia Blondon,
- **Invited guests:** Councillor Shawn Menard and Ariela Summit (Capital Ward), Lee Jacobs (CAG), Meg Arbuthnot Ottawa Police – Community Liaison), Evan Garfinkel (Regional)
- **Other attendees:** Ben Doyle, Michal Samborski, Mitch Vlad, Greg (Zoom - no last name provided)

1. Welcome and land acknowledgement

2. Approval of agenda

- Approval of agenda not done – procedural oversight.

3. Approval of minutes - March 21, 2023

- Motion to approve March 2023 minutes moved by Alexandra Gruca-Macaulay, and seconded by Jamie Brougham.

4. Chair's Report – Bob Gordon

- No chair's report for May.

5. Treasurer's Report – Don Fugler

- Current balance is \$21,247.26, decrease of \$300 from April as Rideau Winter Trail cheque now cashed.

6. Councillor's Report – Capital Ward – Ariela for Councillor Menard

High Performance Development Standard:

- A new set of voluntary and mandatory standards for new buildings with environmental performance measures.
- The proposal has passed through the Environment Committee and is now going to council.
- There is a motion to delay the proposal to align it with provisional measures.
- The mayor is reportedly supportive of the delay. Councillor opposes it as it impacts city's environmental goals.

Bag Tags for Garbage:

- A proposal to limit the amount of trash residents can put out. Main motivation is that landfill is quickly approaching capacity, necessitating measures to reduce waste.
- Each household would receive 55 bag tags; additional garbage bags for a fee.
- Approximately 75% of residents already comply with guidelines, and 80% support the proposal.

Councillor hosting consultation on Lansdowne tomorrow May 10

- Recent city consultations on Lansdowne 2.0 were “pro-private” in tone. Councillor’s office decided to host their own public discussion on Lansowne focusing on public interest over private interests.
- Recommendations include increasing park and green space and exploring affordable housing options.
- A survey is available on the office's website for public input.
- The meeting will be recorded, and participation is encouraged.

Active files

- Hawthorne - Lane reductions and sidewalk blocked, May 8 to June 9 – Can provide details for those interested.
- Upcoming meeting on the secondary plan with city staff and Miles Krauter from the office participating, along with many OOECA members. The meeting aims to clarify various issues, and notes will be shared afterward.
- Brewer Park Renewal is a long-term priority. Larger public consultations are planned for this project in the future, and details will be shared as they develop.

Accessibility Committee reviewing the dock for Springhurst/Brantwood

- Discussions ongoing on design of Springhurst dock.
- Concerns exist about the height of the base relative to the river and compliance with accessibility rules.

Q&A

- Question - Phyllis: 3 ongoing issues that we are asking Ariela to follow up on with office and city: 1) Left turn signal trigger from Main still does not appear to turn on as it should – left turn on when no cars in turn lane, does not turn on when 2 or more cars waiting to turn. 2) Bus shelter arrived, 3) still waiting for garbage cans to return.
 - A: Will follow up with team.
- Q: What is justification for bag tags?
 - A: Don't know but will ask project leads and get back to OOECA.
- Q: would bag tags apply to multi-res units?
 - A: Believe there is some leeway for these buildings.
- Q - Jay: Who is supporting of high performance standard delays and is there a way for community to voice our concerns?

- A: Councillor David Hill brought forward request to delay. Would recommend contacting the mayor with your concerns.
- Comment: City should ban single-use packaging - that's worse. Heard only 20% of blue bin contents gets recycled
 - A: City doing many things, including encouraging increased producer responsibility to produce less waste to start.

7. Regional Report – Evan Garfinkel

Phase 3 site plan approved

- Phase 3 site plan approved - going through conditions with staff.
- Reports no changes to floor plan and building envelope that we showed everyone.
- It's been the same platform for a couple of months now.
- So that's just in the final resolution stage of the delegated Authority report.

Concrete work on De Mazenod

- Large concrete pour on De Mazenod - east side - concrete curb and sidewalk replacement expected to take 4 weeks
- De Mazenod road closures in segments, and promise they will have signage directing roads.
- Says that anyone living in Greystone can expect door knocking in Phase 1, River Terraces 1 and 2 encouraged to enter and exit out of Clegg.

Other active files

- No new developments to report on Forecourt – Regional working through concept plans
- Spencer is slated for occupancy July 2024 - excited to see exterior

Q&A

- Q – Kristine: There continues to be cars parked across from Spencer construction, all along the corner and beyond, encroaching the street. There are no sidewalks on either side and people have to walk in the middle of the road. What is Regional's role in ensuring the safety of residents, for example, provide parking in the paid parking lot for your workers?
 - A: Would say that the parking is St-Paul's students, not workers. Our trades are out there trying to help people every day your best course of action, and the same that our site supers do every day call by law. If someone is parked illegally, our site supers often get that. Call Bylaw. If someone is parked illegally, if it's our trades, they'll get a ticket.
- Q: Can you provide update on retail going in?
 - A: French bakery, sushi shop, and dentist. Details released on our social media page as soon as we are allowed to share information.
- Q: Are condos near river aware of AVTC placement 60 metres from proposed condos?

- A: I don't quite think it's my job to notify residents of the city's projects.
- Q - Phyllis: Regarding Phase 3, our big concern is that doesn't become a private pathway.
 - A: It's the same message that I had given to the community at the beginning of the process, and both of the public meetings is the intention is to open it up. It is a private pathway that you know the city's not gonna take ownership of that, you know. Strategically, they don't want that, so it will be open to the public to use. The city will have an easement over it, but it is our intention to close it down in the winter, and hopefully in the evenings as well, and that is, that's the same message that we've had throughout.
- Q: So that is different than the other private pathways that are now within. Philosopher Private and around the Retirement Home, now hospital.
 - A: We can't regulate 2 private spaces butting up against each other – St. Paul and the condo board. I understand the city did like that pathway, but it was an informal pathway that was not regulated by anyone other than the 2 private land owners.
- Q – John: Surprised by announcement that you plan to close pathway through winter and in evenings. This was up in the air last time you spoke. When was decision made?
 - A: I don't think anything has changed. It's always been our intention. If you go back and review the minutes from that original call quite frankly that the city does not want to take over that pathway, and there's a lot of liability with the private pathway, and you know we reserve the right to close that pathway down during winter or evenings.
- Q: Is parking garage still designed to come out the side?
 - it is in the location that we had agreed on with the city from the last time we had presented. Nothing is really changed in terms of the design of the site. All that had changed since the last time we spoke is some technical engineering details that we were working through with the city.

8. Community Liaison - Meg Aburthnot

- Introduced herself, and shared that she has been a police officer for going on 18 years this year, I've worked in community policing before in the East End of Ottawa, and now in Ottawa South and Ottawa East since November.
- Community officer is a point of contact. They communicate regularly with the City councillor's office. We also promote crime prevention programs that are offered through Ottawa, and outreach activities like at the Glebe garage sale on preventing bike theft.
- While they can't speak to specifics on any file, they welcome any questions about her role.

Q&A

- Q – John: Can you provide reports of accidents that happened in our area?
 - A: We received and are responding to negative feedback in regards to current crime reporting online tool. Plans to update it in the Fall to provide a more fulsome overview of the crime in the area. I can check on the app updates, and send a link to this group. With

respect to accidents, anything that's affecting our road closures will be reported through our social media site.

- Q – Jayson: How do residents get in touch with you
 - A: Will send her email to Bob. Can be a point of contact for ongoing issues, but reminds group to call 311 or go online to report issues, and call 911 when immediate assistance is required.
- Q – Alexandra: Who has oversight for stations like Lees – Is it the police or transit authority?
 - A: Transit authority – special constables – have authorities that mirror police officers and allow them to lay different charges and enforce different criminal codes. Police work in conjunction with special constables, and are in regular contact.

9. SWOOS - Catherine, Georgia

- Email from Bob - Senior Watch Old Ottawa South - SWOOS - received grant to hire a researcher to customize resources to OOE. Guide would include walkability, home care, housing walkability. Looking for OOECA endorsement.
- Georgia - SWOOS mandate is to help seniors age in place in their communities. Seniors help initiative provides geriatric care and support services.
- Diane, Breton, OOE resident, has graciously volunteered to work with the Guides project manager, and researcher to make guide relevant to OOE, so ask is basically that we join the other communities to endorse the project.
- Floor opened for comments and questions, with some for the proposal, while others wanting to have more information in advance to be able to make an informed decision about this request.
- Motion put forward, “That OOECA join Old Ottawa South, Glebe, Alta Vista, and Heron Park associations to endorse SWOOS and researcher grant” with objective to customize guide to Old Ottawa East.
 - Motion moved by John Dance, and seconded by Alexandra Gruca Macaulay
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10. CAG (Community Activities Group) Report – Lee Jacobs

- Event with Atelier at Children’s garden last Saturday was a huge success. Good turn-out and met some new residents.
- Plans to move forward with Main event on June 16-17 starting with movie in the park. Volunteer meeting tomorrow with brainstorming of activities that can be done.
- In hiring phase for summer staff, looking to hire around 20 new staff.

Q&A

- Q: Will OOECA be invited to run the barbecue for Main Event?
 - A: Yes, would be happy to have OOECA run this activity.

11. Committee Reports (with links to submitted written reports)

11.1 SLOE (Sustainable Living Ottawa East) – Jayson MacLean - [Report](#)

- Held successful Earth Day event, with a good turn-out and lots of fun.
- Climate resiliency dialogue coming up this Friday at Old Town Hall.
- River clean-up scheduled for May 27th – anyone with canoe welcome to join.
- SLOE also engaged with CAFES, and would like to put motion forward for CAFES membership at \$100.
 - A number of OOE residents are a part of this group. It is an umbrella group for all the community associations and their environmental groups across the city, one of the most connected environment-wise.
 - CAFES mission, as they stated, is to advocate for environmental sustainability and promote climate, action and leadership in Ottawa through network of resident associations.
- Motion moved by Jayson Maclean, and seconded by Jamie Brougham, “That OOECA board approve institutional membership to CAFES, at \$100 per year.”
 - All board members in favour, none opposed, none abstained. Motion carried.

11.2 Lansdowne – Alexandra Gruca-Macaulay - [Report](#)

- Alexandra’s written report contains detailed information on project to date. Link above and posted to OOECA website.
- A crucial consultation session regarding the Lansdowne project is scheduled for tomorrow. Attendees are encouraged to participate; the session will begin at 6 PM.
- This project is substantial and could have significant financial implications for the city, with costs potentially reaching half a billion dollars.
 - Concerns include the construction of high-rise buildings, loss of public green space, and a lack of time for the public to fully understand the project.
 - Any opportunity to provide input is strongly recommended.
- Financial and Corporate Services Committee - Some committee members have made presentations regarding the annual reports for Lansdowne Partnership.
 - The reports indicate that the partnership has not been profitable since 2014. These financial losses do not seem to be influencing the decision to proceed with the project.
- A consultation process has started regarding traffic issues in the city. Tom and Alexandra, will be involved in discussions.
 - The draft plan has initially focused on events like CFL games, but residential growth also needs attention.
 - Concerns include the impact of 1,200 new residential units on traffic congestion in the area.
- Auditor General's Involvement:
 - The Auditor General is assisting with the Lansdowne project, but her authority to investigate further is constrained by her mandate.

- She can conduct specific audits as requested by the council, but it's not a comprehensive audit of the entire project.
- She is particularly interested in the financial analysis being conducted by community members.

11.3 Transportation and Infrastructure – Tom Scott - [Report](#)

- Tom Scott not available on Zoom to provide verbal report.
- Attendees encouraged to consult his written report.

11.4 Planning – John Dance – [Report](#)

Meetings with Planning Staff

- Committee members will meet with the planning staff of the city on Thursday, discussing key issues related to ongoing developments in the area.
- Appreciation is expressed to Miles and Councilor Menard for facilitating these discussions.

18 Hawthorne Development:

- Despite some improvements and changes, there are still fundamental concerns with the proposed 6-story development on Hawthorne.
- A letter of objection will be written, specifically opposing the lack of a 2-meter setback on Hawthorne and the incomplete use of the 45-degree angular plane for a four-story building.
- The community strongly feels that adjustments should be made to ensure that the fifth and sixth floors do not dominate the neighboring residences.
- The underground parking garage extending to the property line remains a concern, limiting space for real trees.

15 des Oblats Development:

- There have been some changes in this development, but fundamental concerns persist.
- There is a need for the project to respect density targets outlined in the O'Reilly Secondary Plan.
- The absence of parking spaces for residents is a concern, as well as the potential need for an official plan amendment regarding the fifth-floor portion on the Springhurst side.

Zoning Bylaw Amendment Analysis:

- Committee volunteers and members continue to analyze various discussion papers related to critical zoning bylaw amendments.
- Analysis and work on these issues are ongoing, with the intention of presenting a full report to the board at the June meeting.
- The goal is to ensure that community can respond effectively to these critical zoning issues.

11.5 The Corners on Main/Greystone Village – Peter Tobin – Report

- Met with resident representatives in Greystone and raised concerns about snow cleaning and removal in the area.
- Clarified that the city is responsible for snow cleaning and removal on the streets, while the responsibility for road and sidewalk maintenance lies with the property owners.
- Discussions between the city and property owners regarding sidewalk maintenance, especially in front of schools.
- Mention of a school sign that he has not seen yet but has heard about. Expresses surprise that Regional did not provide a more detailed report on this matter.
- Andrew Jones Investment has moved into retail space beside bakery.

11.6 FCA (Federation of Citizens' Associations) – Ron Rose

- No report for May.

11.7 Parks and Greenspace – Jamie Brougham - Report

- Adirondack chairs installed at Brantwood.
- Discussed desire for city to dump dirt or mulch in Brantwood to address major water and mud puddles from flooding and rainfall.

Q&A

- Comments from board members about motion that was passed last month to fund Adirondack chairs, sharing concerns about not following procedures for proposals involving public land that may require city approval, and disappointment that motion was presented with little to no advance notice or research to back up request.
- Q: Is Parks and Greenspace participating in Clean the Capital? Board member reiterated that OOECA is steward of these spaces and is responsible for clean up efforts.
 - A: Not aware of procedure to participate. No plans to register or organize clean-up in May.

11.8 Health and Safety – Courtenay Beauregard

- No report for May.

11.9 Membership – Suzanne Johnston

- Suzanne would like to step down. Door-to-door membership drive take effort and volunteers. Will also look to drive membership online. Hopefully Bob, can provide more information on next steps at June meeting.

11.10 Communications – Bob Gordon

- No report for May.

11. New Business

- Phyllis wanted to raise awareness about Safe Wings Ottawa and their campaign to reduce bird collisions with glass for residential homes, raise awareness about the causes of window strikes, and to encourage effective solutions, like window dots.
- Link to Safe Wigs Ottawa and their campaign is posted to OOECA website in News section.

12. Adjournment

- Last meeting before summer break - June 13, 2023, 7pm ET