



Meeting of the Old Ottawa East Community Association Board

Tuesday, 11 September, 7p.m.

Old Town Hall, 61 Main Street

Draft MINUTES (revised 18273)

Attendees

Board Members (7)

Ron Rose
John Dance
Jaime Girard
Heather Jarrett
Mark Seebaran
Tom Scott
Cam Vidler

Melanie Buchanan
Camrose Burrdon (sp?)
Rick Burrows
Jeanie Cassidy
David Chernushenko
(Councillor)
Michelle Coyne
Vicki Davis
Joanna Donovan
Lori Fraser
Alexandra Gruca-Macaulay
Monica Helm
Chris Iles
Lorna Kingston
Denise Inglis
Rose LaBrèche (candidate
OCDSB)

Joanne Lostracco
Doug Macaulay
Nancy MacDonald
Taylor Marquis (Regional)
Ryan Power
Andrew Powers
Caitlyn Prevost (Main
Audit)
Kenn Rankine
Gord Scobie (Main Audit)
Don Stephenson (CAG)
Peter Tobin
Vicki Davis
Paul Goodkey
Bonnie Weppler

Others Present (32)

Tom Allen
Bill Baldwin
Jamie Brougham

1. **Call to Order** – Ron Rose – 7:00pm

2. **Chair's Report** – Ron Rose

Phyllis Odenbach Sutton's Report attached as Appendix A. Highlights:

- *Greenfield at Concord N pedestrian cross-over (PXO)*: Flashing beacons were installed on July 3 at the northeast & northwest corner of Greenfield at Concord N. Hopefully this will help to make this a much safer intersection.
- *Rideau River Bridge Multi-use Pathway (MUP)*: The multi-use pathway on the west side of the Rideau River Transit Bridge re-opened to pedestrians and cyclists on July 6th
- *Rideau Canal dock in OOE*: paddling access to the canal was restored when a dock was installed at Hazel in mid-July; the dock was not re-installed at Clegg due to city concerns of safety due to the bridge construction. Thanks to Parks Canada and MP Catherine McKenna.

- *LED street light retrofit initiative:* If residents are finding the lights too bright on their street, they can contact the Councillor's office or 3-1-1 so that the retrofit contractor can be contacted to adjust the brightness
- *Main Street:* Presentation of road safety audit done and presentation at September Board meeting. Main Street mural repaired after damage by the Ministry of Transportation. Main Street trees - the City has now replaced a number of the dead / dying trees on Main Street. Forestry has now taken over the watering of the trees in the silva cells north of Clegg; pruning has also been done. The City has also removed the dead sod in the boulevards south of Clegg and replaced it by hydro-seeding drought and salt tolerant grasses and other ground cover; hopefully this will be more successful!
- *Community Activism in Action - Save our trees:* This campaign focused on the preservation of the two very large sugar maples on the NW corner of Phase 2 of Greystone Village; Regional has agreed to consider alternative construction plans to allow these trees to continue to prosper; they have withdrawn their request for tree removal permits until (at least) September 30.
- *Community Activism in Action: Neighbours for community fields:* The press interviewed a number of residents who live close to Immaculata field in late August, just prior to (& then after) the August 28 discussion at the City's Planning Committee which approved a recommendation to limit lighting to 9:00pm Sunday-Thursday and 10:00pm on Friday and Saturday
- *Community Activism in Action - 173 Glenora / A case for better infill development:* A rally on August 30 turned out to be just days before the developer indicated he would not be appealing the Committee of Adjustment denial of the minor variance requests for this site, on which he had intended to build a triplex
- *Ottawa Canal Walls Replacement – Echo Drive section:* "Beginning this fall, 262 metres of Ottawa Canal Walls along Echo Drive will undergo replacement. Work will include reconstruction of the wall and the multi-use pathway. Safety features such as the railings will also be replaced. During construction, a pedestrian detour will be in place. Further details will be communicated as we draw nearer to the start of construction. Repairs to this section of the Ottawa Canal Walls are expected to complete in fall 2019."
- *Interesting commentary on OOE cycling:*
<http://hansonthebike.com/2018/07/31/hurdman-bridge-new-pathway/#comment-179>
- *West Nile Virus - Van Patrolling Old Ottawa East:* The truck seen patrolling in August was one owned by the contractors hired by the City to conduct the work commissioned by Ottawa Public Health,
- *OOE in the news:* The following article appeared in the Real Estate section of the Globe and Mail
<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/real-estate/article-old-ottawa-east-new-again/>

- *Dogs in parks:* The consultative process contemplated for the spring of this year was delayed by unexpected staff vacancies; given the current election period, the earliest that consultation will now be possible is late October.
- *Derelict buildings in OOE:* A resident of the Archville Triangle area raised concerns about two derelict buildings at the corner of Concord North and Greenfield. Neighbours of the properties are rightly concerned about health and safety issues as the properties continue to deteriorate
- *Springhurst Park:* Finally the incredibly well-used basketball court has had its final resurfacing. And watch for info re Vision Springhurst 2019; this is an attempt by local residents to make a very good park into a perfect park by augmenting the existing equipment with a variety of new equipment that will appeal to youth, adults and seniors. The Facebook page will be going live soon.
- *Capital Ward All-Candidates Debate:* Thursday, September 27 for a municipal councillors' debate at the Glebe Community Centre, 175 Third Avenue from 7:00-9:00 p.m.
- *Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the OOECA and CAG:* Tuesday, November. Membership drive begins soon: a great deal at \$3 per household.

3. Treasurer's Report – none

4. Main Street Safety Audit

- Caitlyn Prevost, the City's cycling and pedestrian safety coordinator, and Gord Scobie of CIMA (contractor) presented key findings and recommendations of the Main Street Safety Audit, commissioned by the City.
- Tom Scott will organize a Transportation Committee walk along Main to provide a comprehensive response to the various recommendations (tentative 6:00 p.m., October 2, 2018)
- Key issues identified in the audit include: pedestrian safety at Main-Hawthorne corners (especially southwest); pedestrian and cyclist safety at Main-Riverdale, particularly arising from vehicles turning; Main-Lees pedestrian safety (right-turning cars not stopping on red and cars turning and not giving right-of-way to pedestrians); need for public education regarding the new features of Main (e.g., use of "bike boxes")
- The presentation was on the small TV at the front of the room so that attendees had a hard time actually seeing what the specific problems were.
- The City also wants the community's perspectives on "lessons learned" from the complete street design of Main.

5. Approval of Agenda

- Moved: Tom Scott; Second: Jaime Girard; Carried

6. Approval of April 2018 Minutes

- Moved: Jaime Girard; Second: Tom Scott; Carried

7. Councillor's Report – David Chernushenko

- LRT will be a “couple of months further delayed.” Rideau Transit Group (consortium building the LRT) will be required to pay the extra costs that the City incurs because of the delay
- Immaculata Field: Planning committee approved restrictions on the use of lights at the renovated field but the Ottawa Catholic School Board has appealed this decision and will be allowed to continue to use the lights until 11:00 p.m. until the appeal is heard and should the appeal be denied. MPAC will determine if the field should be taxed now that it is being operated as a commercial concern for much of the time. The Councillor was asked why the field is not being treated as “minor Institutional” which is the actual zoning
- 115 Echo (Old Portuguese Community Centre / Holy Trinity Church) - the site plan proposal will be considered by the City's Planning Committee September 25
- Main Street Grass - being re-seeded where grass has died. “If re-seeding doesn't work then it may be hardened.”
- Rick Burrows noted that some of the replanted grass at Springhurst Park needs replacement.
- Archville Soil Contamination testing: No update had been provided [since the meeting there was word that the results would soon be available].

8. Corners on Main / Greystone Update

- Heather Jarrett noted that the university has turned off the major light bothering Corners on Main, but one remains which is still a concern for some residents.
- Taylor Marquis of The Regional Group reported that the paving of the multi-use pathway parallel to the river has been delayed because of construction, particularly because of the retirement building. Originally this was to have been completed by the fall.

9. All-Candidates Meeting (Capital Ward Councillor)

- Sponsored by OOECA and other community associations
- 7:00 p.m., Thursday, September 27, 2018 at Glebe Community Centre with David Reevely moderating.
- Jaime Girard and Ron Rose are the OOECA reps on organizing committee.

10. Community Activities Group - Don Stephenson

- Fall Festival and Pumpkin Sale, Monday, October 8, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Brantwood Park
- Fall registration for CAG programs is underway
- No news on City - Regional discussions on community centre.

10. Committee Reports

Health and Safety -Jaime Girard

- “Keep vehicles locked and report crimes on-line,” was the key message

SLOE (Appendix B) - John Dance

- *Future of SLOE*: For the past year or so Sustainable Living Ottawa East, the environment arm of OOECA, has been semi-active and without a chair. Efforts to find a replacement for the inestimable Rebecca Aird have been, to date, unsuccessful. To this end Rebecca will be speaking at the next (October) Board meeting to outline how SLOE could be put in a state of dormancy until such time as a new chair is found.
- *Children’s Garden (Sue McKee)*: The Children's Garden has had a very successful and active summer with three playgroups running each week and three events each week.
- *Save the Tree Campaign (Richard Deadman)*: The campaign that Richard and his family led - with the support of others in the City and OOE - was a remarkable effort that resulted in the city cancelling permits (to September 30 anyway) to cut the two large sugar maples that Regional had previously been given permission to remove, although such removal was contrary to pledges made to neighbours and the approved tree plan for the Greystone site.

Membership

- No report

Transportation – Tom Scott

- No report aside from Main Safety Audit (above)

Planning – Ron Rose

- No report

Federation of Citizens' Associations – Mark Seebaran

- Did not meet.

Lees Apartments Outreach

- No report (Anne-Raphael Audouin has resigned from the Board: replacement required)

11. Election Candidates

- Rose LaBrèche, candidate for the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board introduced herself.

12. New Business

- a) "*Community Watch for Dogs:*" Tom Scott spoke of one dog in his neighbourhood that had gone missing and another that was struck by a vehicle on Greenfield. To this end he proposed running an informal pilot project whereby he and other dog owners would collaborate and keep an eye out for the well-being of the neighbourhood dogs. He will report on this informal project at a subsequent OOECA meeting.

- b) *Civic Engagement:* Jamie Brougham recommended that the Board endorse a particular candidate for councillor but there was no consensus that this would be desirable. As Chair Ron Rose noted, "The community association must work with whoever gets elected."

13. Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday, 9 October 2018

14. Adjournment

- Moved: Heather Jarrett.

Appendix A - Chair's Report

Greenfield at Concord N pedestrian cross-over (PXO) update

- Flashing beacons were installed on July 3 at the northeast & northwest corner of Greenfield at Concord N. Hopefully this will help to make this a much safer intersection.

Rideau River Bridge Multi-use Pathway (MUP)

- some good news! The multi-use pathway on the west side of the Rideau River Transit Bridge re-opened to pedestrians and cyclists on Friday July 6th
- we were told some sealing work remained to be completed along the bridge, and this could require an additional closure of 1-3 days. This was anticipated to occur in August or September (not sure if this has already happened or not)

Meeting with President of Glebe Community Association

- I met with Sarah Viehbeck in early July to discuss issues and concerns of our 2 communities, compare Board and committee structures, and consider how we can better work together
- Sarah hopes to join us at our October Board meeting and I plan to attend the Glebe meeting that month as well

Rideau Canal dock in OOE

- I am very happy to report that paddling access to the canal was restored when a dock was installed at Hazel in mid-July; the dock was not re-installed at Clegg due to city concerns of safety due to the bridge construction
- thank you very much to Parks Canada, our MP Catherine McKenna and the local residents who advocated passionately for access

LED retrofit initiative

- in response to several e-mails from residents of OOE, the Councillor's office supplied the following information on July 30:
"As part of the LED retrofit initiative, the City is also installing a control system, which will communicate with the new LED street lights to monitor their operation and dim them to the appropriate light levels. Dimming capability will allow the City to more precisely set light levels and manage the intensity of the light produced by LED fixtures in order to provide a healthier and safer environment. This controls system should actually make a major improvement to light pollution.
At first, however, the new LED fixtures operate brighter than required until the smart node can communicate with the controls system to receive its dimming instructions."

- if residents are finding the lights too bright on their street, they can contact the Councillor's office or 3-1-1 so that the retrofit contractor can be contacted to adjust the brightness

Main Street:

Main Street road safety audit

- A presentation is planned for the September 11 monthly Board meeting to highlight the results of the Road Safety Audit. The City's Senior Engineer for Road Safety along with the consultant for the Audit will be at our meeting; note there will also be an opportunity for questions and discussion.

Main Street mural

- following from the work of the Ministry of Transportation, the artists returned to Ottawa to repair the mural on Main St. They worked through the weekend of July 13-15 to restore the flowers and stained glass panels.

Main Street trees

- the City has now replaced a number of the dead / dying trees on Main Street (in front of Montessori, a couple of trees just north of Springhurst, all the dead trees south of Clegg on the east side and the tree in the centre of the Rideau River Drive cul-de-sac)

- Forestry has now taken over the watering of the trees in the silva cells north of Clegg; pruning has also been done

- the City has also removed the dead sod in the boulevards south of Clegg and replaced it by hydro-seeding drought and salt tolerant grasses and other ground cover; hopefully this will be more successful!

Community Activism in Action:

- There were a number of rallies / gatherings over the summer to highlight issues of concern to local residents:

Save our trees

- This campaign focused on the preservation of the 2 very large sugar maples on the NW corner of Phase 2 of Greystone Village; Regional has agreed to consider alternative construction plans to allow these trees to continue to prosper; they have withdrawn their request for tree removal permits until (at least) September 30

Neighbours for community fields

- the press interviewed a number of residents who live close to Immaculata field in late August, just prior to (& then after) the August 28 discussion at the City's Planning Committee

- the discussion at the August 28 meeting was to consider the City staff report which included a recommendation to limit lighting to 9:00pm Sunday-Thursday and 10:00pm on

Friday and Saturday; this was accepted by the majority of the City Planning Committee members

173 Glenora - a case for better infill development

- a rally on August 30 turned out to be just days before the developer indicated he would not be appealing the Committee of Adjustment denial of the minor variance requests for this site, on which he had intended to build a triplex

Ottawa Canal Walls Replacement – Echo Drive section

- I received the following information from Parks Canada in the form of a Community Update on August 3:

"Beginning this fall, 262 metres of Ottawa Canal Walls along Echo Drive will undergo replacement. Work will include reconstruction of the wall and the multi-use pathway. Safety features such as the railings will also be replaced. During construction, a pedestrian detour will be in place. Further details will be communicated as we draw nearer to the start of construction. Repairs to this section of the Ottawa Canal Walls are expected to complete in fall 2019."

Interesting commentary on OOE cycling

- John passed along a link to commentary and pictures of pathways in our neighbourhood in early August:

<http://hansonthebike.com/2018/07/31/hurdman-bridge-new-pathway/#comment-179>

West Nile Virus - Van Patrolling Old Ottawa East

- in response to an e-mail from a local resident to the Councillor's office, we were told on August 9 that the truck seen patrolling would be one owned by the contractors hired by the City to conduct the work commissioned by Ottawa Public Health, i.e.,

"Ottawa Public Health has a control plan to reduce the risk of the West Nile virus (WNV) and eastern equine encephalitis (EEE). It includes:

- Public education on personal protection against mosquitoes;
- Surveillance in the mosquito and human population;
- Mosquito traps are placed around the City to determine species and densities of mosquitoes. Subsequent tests are carried out on a weekly basis for WNV and EEE;
- Mosquito larvae surveillance of natural and manmade standing water sites located on City property is ongoing;
- A biological larvicide ([Bacillus thuringiensis subspecies israelensis - Bti](#)) is used on surface waters (e.g., ditches, storm water management ponds) throughout the season and applied as needed.

- A chemical larvicide ([methoprene](#)) is used to treat non-surface waters. Every City owned roadside catch basin is treated a minimum of three times per season. If you have a backyard catch basin on your property and would like to have it appropriately treated for WNV, please contact [OPH](#).
- Source reduction of mosquito breeding sites on City-owned property;
- Mosquito control using adulticide (malathion) would only be used in circumstances deemed absolutely necessary. Evidence of intense transmission in birds, and/or mosquitoes as well as human disease would be used to take this decision. While malathion has never been used in Ottawa, the decision to adulticide rests with the Medical Officer of Health and would depend on updated risk assessments."

OOE in the news

- on Friday, August 17, the following article appeared in the Real Estate section of the Globe and Mail

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/real-estate/article-old-ottawa-east-new-again/>

Dogs in parks

- the consultative process contemplated for the spring of this year was delayed by unexpected staff vacancies; given the current election period, the earliest that consultation will now be possible is late October

- the Councillor's latest newsletter of August 17 provides a link to the plans that will be presented during the consultation:

<http://capitalward.ca/index.php/ward-newsletter/latest#anchor10>

Derelict buildings in OOE

- a resident of the Archville Triangle area cc'ed me in his message to the Councillor on August 21 in which he raised concerns about 2 derelict buildings at the corner of Concord North and Greenfield, i.e., the semi-detached dwellings at #24 and #26 Concord North which were vacated after a serious fire in the building 2 years ago and the old Royal Canadian Legion Building on the other side of Concord North at 99 Greenfield which has been vacant for almost 10 years

- similar issues have arisen in other parts of our community in the past, and seem to me to highlight a problem with the difficulty of structures being maintained in the period between:

1. when a decision is taken that the current structure will not be retained and a demolition will be necessary and
2. the actual issuing of a new building permit for the site

- this leaves the neighbours of the properties rightly concerned about health and safety issues as the properties continue to deteriorate

Springhurst Park

- finally the incredibly well used basketball court has had its final resurfacing
- this was quite a saga, but thanks to CAG, the Sandy Hill Community Health Centre and finally the City for agreeing to fix the pooling problem; hopefully the latest construction efforts will work
- and watch for info re Vision Springhurst 2019; this is an attempt by local residents to make a very good park into a perfect park by augmenting the existing equipment with a variety of new equipment that will appeal to youth, adults and seniors. The Facebook page will be going live soon.

Capital Ward All Candidates Debate

- hold the date of Thursday, September 27 for a municipal councillors' debate at the Glebe Community Centre, 175 Third Avenue from 7:00-9:00pm
- this event is organized by Capital Ward community associations; thank you Ron and Jaime for being the OOE representatives
- FYI I am including a link to the CBC Ottawa site which provides the results of their survey of candidates for Capital Ward:

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/ottawa/ottawa-municipal-election-2018-councillor-mayor-candidates-1.4801476>

Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the OOECA and CAG

- and hold the date of Tuesday, November 13 for our AGM in conjunction with the Community Activities Group
- we will once again be meeting at the Church of the Ascension; registration / memberships available starting at 7:00pm with the formal meeting from 7:15-9:00pm and a chance to meet after this in the parish basement hall for a social hour, including beverages and goodies
- also watch for members of our community knocking on doors to sell memberships in the coming weeks; a great deal at \$3 per household

Appendix B: Sustainable Living Ottawa East (SLOE) Report

Future of SLOE

For the past year or so Sustainable Living Ottawa East, the environment arm of OOECA, has been semi-active and without a chair. Efforts to find a replacement for the inestimable Rebecca Aird have been, to date, unsuccessful. To this end Rebecca will be speaking at the next (October) Board meeting to outline how SLOE could be put in a state of dormancy until such time as a new chair is found.

Children's Garden (*Sue McKee*)

The Children's Garden has had a very successful and active summer with three playgroups running each week and three events each week. There was also a Saturday event in August. Sam (Samantha Brady), our education consultant (thanks to the Ottawa Community Foundation and in partnership with Sandy Hill Community Centre) developed more than 50 activities (I don't have the exact numbers yet) that were used for playgroup and the events. Meg Collins, our summer student (thanks to Canada Summer Jobs and in partnership with CAG) did a super job of running playgroup and keeping the garden watered and weeded. Sam developed an information pamphlet with a planting activity to be done at home to extend the learning, and Ritchie's Feed and Seed donated bean seeds to go with the pamphlet.

There is a postcard being developed by a local graphic artist, Steph Beaudreau, which will have an activity that can be done in the garden for visitors who visit when there isn't a coordinator in the garden. These will be brought door-to-door once completed. There have been over 20 volunteers this summer helping with maintenance of the gardens, events, etc. The children's play panels developed by Gary at Page Graphics and funded by TD Friends of the Environment have been used by the children all August and will be permanently installed in the next week.

Cynthia, on the volunteer board, has been getting quotes for shrubs, vines, and perennials for the periphery of the garden and we'll put in a funding request for those soon and/or put out a request for plants in the fall or spring from the community. The comments from parents and children have been super (e.g. "This garden just keeps getting better and better!" in response to the free little library being installed). We will have thousands of cherry tomatoes soon and we will definitely have to have a salsa making event or at least a tomato harvest event! The last we heard, the City is still going to reduce the height of some of the beds.

Save the Tree Campaign (*Richard Deadman*)

Not much of an update on the tree campaign. We did find out that the city had been willing to issue the tree permits based on a weak legal document, a landscaping design and a verbal request. No arborist report. No site visit. No survey. No formal application.

We are waiting to find out what Regional's updated plan is. In addition, Regional has been

doing some heavy equipment work near the trees. I have asked the city what the guidelines are for such work, and if the city is monitoring it.

NB: The campaign that Richard and his family led - with the support of others in the City and OOE - was a remarkable effort that resulted in the city cancelling permits to cut the two large sugar maples that Regional had previously been given permission to remove, although such removal was contrary to pledges made to neighbours and the approved tree plan for the Greystone site.



Riverdale-Main Perennial Garden (*Margaret Vant Erve*)

I'm glad that all the overgrown weeds were removed along Main Street. Nothing was done about the dead grass surrounding the perennial garden, which is doing very well. Perhaps the city thought that the grass might renew itself next year. I have written to the city about the lack of maintenance of this area, wondering if it was turned into a small park if that would generate more care and frequent grass cutting. Did not receive a response. I am prepared to continue to follow up with it and be more persistent in my emails to get them to better maintain the grass as when it isn't, the weeds flourish and it's much more work for us to keep the weeds out of the garden. It does look beautiful though as you can see.



N.B.: Councillor Chernushenko's August report notes:

Sod and tree replacement south of Clegg

"As many of you will likely have noticed, the sod and some of the trees planted along Main St. south of Clegg have failed. I have been working with City staff on an appropriate approach to maintain and support the continued "green" along this corridor.

"The agreed option is to proceed with hydro-seeding in the dead areas with a mix of drought- and salt-tolerant grasses and other groundcover at the end of this month. This mix will offer greater resiliency and, City staff believe, thrive in upcoming years.

"As for trees, it would appear that many we had feared dead have since recovered from the infestation of caterpillars in the spring.

"In fact, caterpillars rarely cause permanent damage to healthy trees. The trees that did die couldn't tolerate the difficult growing conditions between the cycle track and the roadway. Prospector Elm, identified as a resilient replacement, will be planted shortly."

Main Farmers' Market

- Last weekend: October 27.
- This year has, so far, been better than last.