

OLRA Meeting Notes

Wednesday December 4, 2013, 7:30 PM
O'Finn's Irish Temper

Attendance (9 Directors) QUORUM

Marcia, Laura, Chris, Bob, Caroline, Boyd, Neil, Kelsey, Trudy
Regrets: Pierre, Lisa

Meeting call to order – Boyd

Minutes from last meeting

Motion to approve: Bob
Seconded: Laura
Motion carried

Treasurer's report – Trudy Murray

Bank balance of November 14, 2013 is \$3,990.60

*Trudy will be away until April 2014. Checkbook and Treasurer responsibility assumed by Boyd

Membership – Caroline Glasbey

Total # members up to date = 164 (last year =174)

\$880 in revenue

Continued slippage from same point last year with expiring memberships not being renewed. (40 this year versus 29 last year)

Action Follow Up Item:* **Caroline will attempt to see why not renewing with an email request. Email follow ups and personal letter reminders have not been effective.

Communications and website – Laura Van Zeyl

Nathan's progress has been delayed with work on the website. Board wants to see work completed by no later than January 2, 2014.

Action Follow Up Item:* **Laura will meet with Nathan and see if that's possible for him and if not, we will explore other options.

Chris made the suggestion we should add simple community information such as leaf pick-up dates, what garbage goes out when etc. This will encourage residents to go the website for functional information and then hopefully browse while they are there.

Parks and Green space – Kelsey Mason and Bob Laughlin

Kelsey provided an update on the large tree that was cut down in Erchless Park. Letter to Oakville Green supporting their tree bylaw efforts was acknowledged and appreciated

Transportation – Chris Coderre

Transportation will be a key outcome of the work now being undertaken as part of the cultural hub, downtown streetscape studies etc.

It is anticipated there will be multiple stakeholders and opinions on what, how and when to do. The official launch is December 5, 2013 at Centennial Square and all Directors and residents are encouraged to attend and get involved due to the importance and urgency of this.

OLRA currently has a seat at the table and Boyd is on the focus group. The consensus is this needs to get done quickly and correctly as the outcomes could impact the downtown area for many years to come.

Action Follow Up Item:* **Caroline to send out an email reminder to all residents the morning of December 5th as a reminder.

Planning and Heritage – Boyd Waites

Boyd is meeting with Sharlene Plewman, Executive Director of the BIA December 5th at 3:30PM to discuss common issues and explore opportunities with the BIA and OLRA.

Other issues

Member Survey – Neil Lester

Survey reminder was sent out December 3, 2013 by email.
Initial results were forwarded to board on December 2, 2013.
Responses are now up to 66 as of December 5, 2013.
A review of each of the questions and responses was shared with the board.

The garden party was discussed and it was decided that a decision would be postponed until the January 2014 meeting.

Other options were discussed such as another social event, no garden tour, holding it every 2 or 3 years instead of annually etc. Survey results indicated the garden tour and party had mixed and passive support by residents.

**Action Follow Up Item:* Neil to provide email addresses to Lisa for residents who were interested in being an elf

AGM Discussion

It was agreed a sub-committee would be struck composed of a few board members and non board members at our January meeting. The sub committee's mandate would be to provide recommendations back to the full board on content, location and date for our upcoming AGM.

Non board members for this committee could be recruited from the survey resident responses who indicated they would be interested in working on specific projects on behalf of the OLRA.

**Action Follow Up Item:* Neil to see if we can identify which respondents replied to which item so we can narrow our focus.

Boyd suggested we have a flyer go out to all residents about the key issues to encourage AGM attendance. Mention of the website update and survey results could be part of that. Encourage non members to sign up and have your voice heard in these important discussions that affect the community.

Next meeting, 7:30 PM, January 7, 2014, location TBD.

Motion to adjourn: Marcia

Seconded: Trudy