

OLRA Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 4, 2014

7:30pm

Attendance

Boyd, Chris, Laura, Pierre, Lisa, Caroline, Bob

Regrets: Neil, Kelsey, Marcia, Trudy

Meeting call to order – Boyd Waites

January Minutes

Motion to approve: Bob Laughlin

Seconded: Caroline Glasbey

Motion carried

Treasurer's Report – Boyd Waites (for Trudy Murray)

No new cheques received

Invoice received from Nathan Ebel for extra work on website and approved

Bank Balance at \$4315.60 - \$160 for website work

****Action follow up item:*** *Boyd to issue cheque to Nathan Ebel*

Membership – Caroline Glasbey

Caroline provided a membership update:

- 320 members in our database dating back to 1999
- membership was at its highest in January 2011 at 191
- currently we have 173 members
 - 33 expired in 2013
 - 14 expired in 2012
 - 14 expired in 2011
 - 20 expired in 2010
- 240 email addresses in database of which 16 are incorrect

****Action follow up items:***

Caroline will follow up by phone to update incorrect email addresses

Caroline will send email to all members with new website announcement

Caroline will send separate messages to residents whose memberships have expired

Newsletter – Caroline Glasbey and Lisa Ebel

Plan to send out Spring newsletter before the May AGM.

Initial ideas for spring newsletter:

Include community interest articles

Pierre – new hospital blurb

Caroline – re Food for Life – turkey drive report and promotion of World Hunger Day

Content heavy on Downtown Streetscape/Transportation and Cultural Hub Plans

Spring newsletter to be discussed at March meeting

Website – Laura VanZeyl

Everyone seems pleased with the website with the following suggestions:

****Action follow up items:***

Laura will ask Nathan to provide a tutorial to allow us to update the website using WordPress

Laura will look into a change which will allow website viewers to open a new tab/window and return to the main website without getting "kicked out"

Caroline will look into creating an area where she can put the emails she sends out to residents on current issues

Boyd to contact Jane Hawkrigg to find missing paragraphs for Neighbourhoods section on website

Once all is done, Caroline will send out email to residents announcing new website

Transportation – Chris Coderre

Chris expressed concerns re snow clearing by on streets and sidewalks in the downtown residential areas.

****Action follow up item:***

Chris to draft a letter to the town on behalf of the OLRA residents re snow clearing concerns

Parks and Greenspace – Bob Laughlin

No update at this time

****Action follow up item:*** *Bob to follow up with Oakville Green re draft Tree Bylaw Resolution*

MPAC – Caroline Glasbey

Caroline presented letter from Winsor Pepall who would like to meet with members of the board re his finding of anomalies re MPAC assessments.

****Action follow up item:***

Boyd and Chris to meet with Winsor to discuss an overview of his findings

Planning and Heritage – Boyd Waites

(including Downtown Cultural Hub and Streetscape/Transportation Plans)

The OLRA and the TCRA each have a representative on the plans' focus groups and are responsible for getting the info out to the residents. Boyd is our representative.

Updates:

This is a huge opportunity to create vision for the entire downtown re retail, entertainment, activities, dining, and housing. The town has offered and continues to offer opportunities for residents to be involved in the process.

- **Streetscape and Transportation Plan**

Lakeshore Rd is in need of serious repair and has been for some time. This is an opportunity to make some awesome major changes to enhance the use of the downtown area for all ages and to blend it with the plan to maintain downtown as the cultural hub.

Ideas at the focus group have included:

- minimize thru traffic, maximize foot traffic, making the downtown a destination not a drive through
- work alongside the downtown businesses thru the BIA and the Chamber of Commerce

- Downtown Cultural Hub

The goal is to have plans in place to benefit from government funding which will be available in 2017 in celebration of Canada's sesquicentennial.

- Other Updates and Ideas that have been circulating

- Oakville Arena – to remain on current site with renovation at some point in time
- Current (old) Hospital site – will include a Community Center and some housing
- Art Gallery – to be moved to old Post Office site
- Centennial Library – to remain on current site
- Centennial Pool – to be moved to new Community Center (at old hospital site)
- Town Square, Centennial Square and the Performing Arts Centre to be revamped/rebuilt

****Action follow up item:*** as an organization the OLRA board needs to be of one voice re our desires for the changes to the downtown, for Boyd to take to the focus group meetings

AGM Subcommittee – Boyd Waites

To be discussed at March meeting

Other Issues/Updates – Boyd Waites, Chris Coderre

Discussed 2 homes where applications for variances have been submitted to the town

Next Meeting: Tuesday March 4 at 7:30 pm at Caroline Glasbey's home 68 George St

Motion to adjourn: Boyd

Seconded: Bob

