

OLRA February 9<sup>th</sup> – Draft

**Present :** Anya Dunning , Boyd Waites, Simon Palmer, George Niblock, Clemens van Zeyl

**Regrets :**

Trudy Murray, Chris Coderre, Bob Laughlin, Amanda Holden, Tom Pugsley, Marcia Todd

**Approval of Minutes from last meeting:**

There were no amendments, Body moved they be accepted, George seconded, motion carried

**Treasurer's Report**

Trudy is away. No bills have been paid. No change since last meeting

**AGM**

Simon will connect with The Oakville Club and secure a date in May, we were targeting the 31st. Once we have a date we can invite the Mayor and local councilors and members.

**Membership, Newsletter, Web Site**

Amanda was absent

*Communications:*

Anya reports that setting up PayPal is simple, it means putting a button on your web site which is a standard widget, PayPal give you an activation code and clicking on the button redirects between PayPal and our site. It would make a difference to the fees if we are a charity. Money is collected by PayPal and we would transfer back. Fees are 2.9% + 30c flat fee, which amount to 90c for a \$20 annual subscription. It doesn't matter what payment type (CC, bank transfer etc.) the fees are the same.

To set up we would need a personal name and address, and we would need to check whether we can use the OLRA PO Box address. In any case it would need a named person on the account that we would have to track in the case where someone left or moved.

The consensus was that the fact that it would encourage membership payment, web site traffic and simplicity of banking, and that we could mention it in emails etc. makes it a good idea. Anya was asked to contact Amanda to get the ball rolling. It was unanimously carried.

**Greenspace**

Council passed a 1 year hiatus on the Glen Abbey development, which can be extended for a second year. The city have said they would do 3 (expensive) studies on the effects of the development. Glen Abbey has some history and status as a golf course which is making the city think again.

## **Planning & Heritage**

### *Cultural Hub & Streetscape:*

No update

### *474 Lakeshore:*

The proposal is to sever the lot to create a flag lot, which involves a heritage property, set to the rear of a very large lot. This incurs a number of significant variances. We have opposed the proposal on precedence at the CoA based on the recently added by-laws which protect the space between the houses and therefore the character of the neighborhood. The town report supported the proposal.

The developer appealed to the OMB. The town is saying that they cannot go against the planning staff, in spite of the CoA rejecting it.

We are involved with adjacent RAs regarding the town not supporting its own by-laws. Other RAs have similar issues. This was presented to the town in January and there is another one coming in March. There is a clear disconnect between the by-laws and the town's implementation of them.

Anya suggested we have legal presentation at the OMB in order to signal that we take this seriously. Boyd agreed that this is an important case because of the nature of precedence. Boyd has already contacted a lawyer and planning consultant this week. We were advised by the lawyer that we need a planning report to support our argument at the OMB relating to provincial and municipal guidelines. Boyd contacted a planning professional, who used to work for the town and seemed very experienced.

Boyd has asked the planner to review the documents around the case and he agreed to do that quickly to give us some direction on how to proceed.

Boyd suggests we represent ourselves at OMB along with a lawyer and planner. Rough costs are Planner \$175/hr, 1 day OMB + prep = 20 hours = \$3,500. We may need the lawyer too, which will become obvious as we proceed.

Anya asked whether it was worth getting a partition from neighbors. Boyd mentioned that attendance certainly helps and Anya lives directly in the vicinity. George said that it's worth contacting neighbors even just to raise awareness. The developer had two of the houses connected to the heritage home to sign a form in support of the development. Bob, an adjacent owner, has written a letter against the

proposal and there are other immediate neighbours who it is considered worth contacting about.

Boyd therefore proposed a motion that the board support representation at the OMB for 474 Lakeshore in order to try and uphold the by-law and to spend up to \$7,000 on professional fees in the pursuit of that. Between the current account and the GIC we have sufficient funds to cover these costs.

The motion was seconded by Simon and carried unanimously by the board.

### **Meeting Schedule**

March 8<sup>th</sup> – Simon cannot host (China)

Those being all the issues, the meeting was closed. Thanks go to George for his generous hospitality.