

OLRA Board Meeting – March 19, 2015 FINAL Caroline's 7:30pm

ATTENDANCE

Boyd, Lisa, Caroline, Amanda, Bob, Marcia, Clemens

REGRETS

Chris, Trudy, Pierre, George

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY MINUTES

Motion to approve: Caroline

Seconded: Amanda

MEMBERSHIP

Caroline sent out 4 different emails to residents depending on their membership status to encourage membership renewal and new memberships. Caroline included in the emails requests for AGM topics and any submissions for the events section in the newsletter.

GREENSPACE

No update

TREASURER'S REPORT

\$194.36 mailbox renewal

\$203.39 website domain registration renewal

PLANNING

Heritage

Currently the town is reviewing the 1st and 2nd Streets heritage district

Please see the February minutes for more details re this initiative

Focus group met March 3 and about 20 people attended

The town will be looking at houses in this area and will inventory them to decide if each house contributes to the heritage aspect of the neighbourhood

Each house will be designated as contributing or non contributing

Contributing = house has historical significance and therefore will have more restrictions placed on it for renovations etc

Non contributing = no historic significance therefore less restrictions will be placed on the house

The town has sent out a questionnaire for the members of the focus group to fill in. Final date to submit the questionnaire is Mon Mar 23

ACTION: Caroline to send questionnaire to residents of 1st and 2nd Street s DONE! Yay Caroline!

April 21 is the next focus group meeting, and several focus grps will take place before October when the recommendations go to council

Downtown

Discussion of the Downtown Streetscape Study did not happen at the latest council meeting and will be discussed at the April council meeting. Boyd will attend the next council meeting April 13 and will represent the OLRA board and our residents at this meeting and present the following:

1. Parking and Development

New parking structure needed before construction begins - During construction of Lakeshore Road there will be lost parking spaces limiting access to downtown and it is important to take all measures be taken in order to ensure that both the existing parking situation and the worsened parking situation during construction are mitigated to the greatest extent. In view of this, we believe that the town should be looking at ways that the new parking structure study can be expedited to the extent that we believe it is important that a new parking structure be available ahead of the construction of the streetscape in downtown.

Suggestions to improve the "feel" of Church St - Planning of the Church St on-ground parking areas owned by the Town should also be considered in an overall plan for parking in downtown. We suggest that there is an opportunity to plan development of these parking areas so as to boost the use of Church St. Currently, Church St feels like the "backside" of Lakeshore and we suggest that the improvement of commercial and residential structures in downtown will attract more people into the downtown area. We also suggest that parking considerations be underground rather than above ground in these areas.

Parking signage needs improvement - Additionally we would urge that the inadequate signage and way finding measures in downtown are improved to facilitate optimal use of the parking that would be available in the same timeframe.

2. Timing

OLRA believes that the project timing should be expedited in order that the disruption be contained to as short a period as possible and also at this stage as quickly to start as possible while allowing for access to the businesses in downtown. We strongly encourage the town to plan construction so that the overall duration of construction is minimized.

3. Design and Materials

With consideration to materials and detailed design, OLRA strongly believes that the process for resident input should continue in an on-going manner for this project. We believe the public input thus far on the project has been well received and urge continuation of this effort through to completion.

Motion to approve this presentation: Clemens

Seconded: Bob

NEWSLETTER

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES:

Submission deadline – Friday April 10 send to Lisa for editing who will then send on to Amanda

To printer – Monday May 4

To delivery volunteers – Thursday May 7

Delivery – Friday May 8 to Sunday May 10

TOPICS:

Caroline – membership, AGM info, request for new board members

Clemens – downtown streetscape plan and cultural hub, hospital grounds and community centre update

Boyd – update on 1st and 2nd street

Marcia – museum events, gallery information

Bob – greenspace

Amanda – events

Events page to be emailed ahead of the newsletter distribution for ample notice to residents

AGM

Tuesday May 26

Dining room at Oakville Club booked from 6:15 to 10:00pm at a cost of \$200

Coffee and tea station, assorted cookies, cash bar

6:15pm board arrives, 7pm guests arrives, 7:30pm meeting starts, 9:30 departure

Caroline and Trudy at door

Caroline to ask John Viera to do AV

Boyd to invite Mayor and Dave Gittings, Nick Hutchins, Sharlene and BIA

Proposed Panel Presentation re Cultural Hub

Opening Comments: Mayor Rob Burton

Overview of cultural hub plans status: Mina Devall from the town

Panel Discussion with representatives from the gallery, theatre arts, symphony, library

Proposed panelists are: Robin Howarth, Don Pangman, Matthew, Charlotte Meissner

Neil Lester – moderator

ACTION: BOYD to contact the above persons and invite them to participate

Bob and Caroline – collect questions

Clemens – sort thru questions as they are collected and feed to Neil

Bob, Trudy and Caroline – at door to greet and do memberships

DATES

Mon Mar 23 – last date to submit questionnaire re 1st and 2nd Streets to town

Fri Apr 10 – Town economic update with the Mayor, Holiday Inn on Argus at 7:30 am

Fri Apr 10 – newsletter submission deadline

Mon Apr 13 – town council meeting re Downtown Plan 7pm Town Hall, Council Chamber

Tues Apr 14 - OLRA Board meeting at Amanda's

Tues Apr 21 at 7pm- First and Second Street Heritage Conservation District Plan focus group meeting will be to review the first draft of the new Plan and Guidelines.

RSVP to susan.schappert@oakville.ca before Apr 17

Tues May 26 – OLRA AGM