

OLRA Board Meeting Tuesday, December 9th, 2014 at 7:30pm

MINUTES

O'Finn's Irish Pub

Attendance: Boyd Waites, Marcia Todd, Chris Coderre, George Niblock, Pierre Gagnon, Bob Laughlin, Amanda Holden, Caroline Glasbey

Regrets: Trudy Murray, Lisa Ebel, Clemens van Zeyl

Approval of November meeting:

Motion to approve: Marcia

Seconded: Bob

Treasurer's Report:

Current bank balance: remains the same as previous month

Only cheque to be issued for our contribution for the All Candidate's meeting \$301.90

Membership: 10 new members, total now 174 vs. 164 last year. This is approx 50% of residents. We have 249 email addresses on our distribution list, of which 160 are members.

Communication/Newsletter:

Caroline to send personal letter to members, will go out with Spring 2015 newsletter

ORLA to send residents an email informing them that the town is looking for their input on the downtown preferred options.

Greenspace:

Inputs from RAs regarding changes to the Private Tree ByLaw have been submitted to the town for review.

Town and provincial MP working on clarifying jurisdictional issue over removal of trees by way of development vs. tree by-law

Planning and Heritage:

63 First Street: owners have submitted an application to demolish and application for variances. The lot coverage is currently 23%, the by-law allows 25%, and the request is for 30.5%

A number of neighbours have objected to the coverage in that the massing is imposing to their properties. There is also a concern that any such approval would set a precedent for the neighbourhood. Motion for the Board to support the neighbours in their objection brought forward by Marcia and seconded by Chris.

86 First Street: proposal by developer to demo existing and build new. Initially they said with no variances required but it turned out they require a variance to reduce the rear yard set back from the required 7.5m to 9 feet. The developer approached Boyd, whose property abuts the subject property,

about removal of a 100 year old walnut tree which sits on the property line. At one point the developer stated that if the neighbours did not cooperate in there bid to remove the tree they would go ahead and take it down in the middle of the night.

Downtown Plan: Boyd attended town meeting in which they presented the preferred options for the streetscape. The plans for the town square have been placed on hold. The preferred option 2 includes removal of the centre lane except at stop light intersections where a left hand turn lane will be added. There was also the addition of sharrows for bicycles to use the car lanes. The board generally did not think this was a necessary. There would be ten less street parking spaces in total for the Lakeshore Road strip. There is a proposal to add a parking garage across from the old post office on Church Street. They discussed construction disruption mitigating strategies including temporarily relocating permit holders to the hospital lands. The project is at least 2.5 years away from starting. Block by block construction strategy has been eliminated as it would take estimated seven years. One side then the other would take an estimated two years.

Three street furniture styles were presented: modern, traditional and classic.

ORLA to send residents an email informing them that the town is looking for their input on these issues.

ORLA to give our input to the town. Generally the board prioritized getting the additional parking constructed ASAP to help with construction mitigation when the time comes. The preference is for underground where possible. Most board members felt that option 2 involving removal of the middle lane was acceptable.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, January 13

Tuesday, February 10

Tuesday, March 10

Tuesday, April 14

May – AGM

June - tbd