

**Meeting of the Carleton Heights and Area Residents Association (CHARA)
November 27, 2018, 6:30 p.m.**

Attendees: Mike Mack, President, Elizabeth Anderson, Vice President, Yvele Paquette, Secretary, Jody Sunstrum, Director, Darren Dicks, Director, Noel Sabbagh, Director, Kerri Keith, Councilor Riley Brockington. Regrets: Tim Patterson and Adam Martin (treasurer).

Congratulations to Councilor Brockington.

Minutes of October's meeting were approved, moved by Darren and second by Yvele.

NOTE: Prior to the closing of the meeting the following revisions were made.

CHARA requires three ~~employees~~ volunteers, 1) to coordinate the rink activities 2) to coordinate the volunteers and 3) a rink supervisor. Each position receives a \$500 stipend as payment.

Updates from Councilor Brockington

Boys and Girls Club – Mid to later winter opening. There was a tour of the facilities for major donors October 19. There will be an open house in the future.

Greek Festival organizers would like to request to use blade signs again (as in the past, a few years ago). These are advertisement signs posted along Prince of Wales regarding the festival. The request will go to a city of Ottawa committee for approval.

Debra Dynes Family House

Held their Annual General Meeting recently.

Major issue for them is the prevalence of rats over the last couple of years. Issues identified were; lack of space to store garbage and residents using their backyards for storage. The city will bait the sewers and Ottawa Public Health will create an informative brochure to help mitigate the problem

Prince of Wales/Dynes Construction is now complete. Landscaping is left to be carried out. There are new speed bumps but a concern is that they are white, which is not the best colour especially during winter.

Canoe Club

There have been problems stabilizing the docks as they are disintegrating. Temporary measures were taken but now the club is asking for funding from the city. (The city owns the building, Parks Canada owns the water and NCC owns the land).

Dragon Boat Festival wish to partner with the City of Ottawa and the Canoe Club in an effort to manage the parking during the practice period and the festival, roughly 3 months.

River Ward Christmas Party: will be held at the Carleton Heights Community Centre on December 13, 2018 from 6 pm to 8 pm. CHARA will have a welcome table and will try to build a list of email addresses of the ward's residents.

Woodroffe Avenue Housing: Councilor Brockington is a member of the City's Planning Committee. Although Woodroffe Avenue redevelopment is in another ward, CHARA wants to be up to date as to how 8 townhouses morphed into a 97-bedroom student housing. Would the process and weak justification from the planning committee be similar for the McGregor Eason School? Would there be better public consultation?

McGregor Eason Public School (details on the process for selling an asset by the school board and city can be found in the September minutes.)

Kerri Keith (a candidate in the recent city election) provided an informative presentation proposing the building be used / purchased by the City/Ottawa Public Library. Our ward is the only ward in the city that does not have a library. There is a book mobile in our area, but residents do not seem satisfied with it. OPL assesses needs/potential locations of new libraries. Kerri has already received support from some people in the community and after presenting to Ottawa Public Library. Perhaps the purchase of the school would eliminate the high costs of the Emerald Plaza location. Kerri is circulating a petition electronically and on paper seeking support from the community for this proposal.

Problems: Money is the number one concern. Does the library and/or city have money to purchase the building and/or surrounding area? This will be the stumbling block to moving forward. *Positive note:* Kerri also noted the fact that libraries contribute to the development of healthier communities. Would this library be better suited in the Carlington area?

By-law Conundrum

- Unlicensed (by the Province of Ontario) construction vehicles that also do not have a City of Ottawa permit, are being illegally driven and parked on public roads and private property in Courtland Park near a major infill project. By-law officers don't ticket them because there is no permit (to apply the ticket against). A phone call to 311 is unproductive, as the City of Ottawa seems to lack a workable enforcement protocol for unlicensed/unpermitted vehicles.
- Licensed contractor (commuter) vehicles are illegally parking on grass beside the street and damaging lawns in front of properties across and down the street from the construction zone. This practice is referred to as 'parking on the boulevard' in the City of Ottawa bylaws and is illegal. 311 may send a by-law officer to handle complaints, but there is poor enforcement. As a result, the problem has been intractable in Courtland Park for more than a year.
- Illegal 'parking on the boulevard' is creating a lot of dirt on the pavement because mud is dragged onto the pavement from the mud holes being created. Someone (city staff?, developers?) is mischaracterizing this problem to Councilor Brockington as unavoidable dirt in a construction zone.

- The owner/operator of the project has verbally expressed a willingness (to E Anderson) to install wooden pickets next to the road to forestall future problems, but Ottawa by-law will not allow him to do so.
- The 3-hour parking limit on the street undergoing construction is not enforced.

Elizabeth Anderson will send a detail letter to Councillor Brockington's office.

Rink: We now have a Maintenance Coordinator. We are still looking for a volunteer coordinator. Jody will fill in as one until a suitable candidate is found. Mike will continue to clean up snow and leaves but needs more bodies to help. Darren will try to do some work with him.

PD day activities: Jody spoke with Steward Grant, manager of the community centre who said only Friday afternoons are available. Stuart Grant is polling previous camp counsellors who are currently employed with the city of Ottawa to ask whether they would be interested in organizing a ½ day pd day camp. It is too late to plan something for January.

Winter Carnival: We need a coordinator. Is there anyone on the committee willing to do this?

Next meeting: December 13 with one agenda item, the rink.