



CARLETON HEIGHTS AND AREA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION (CHARA)
Monthly Meeting

6:30 pm, Tuesday, January 23, 2024

Zoom meeting (For an invitation e-mail: info@ourchara.ca)

1. Call to Order. Elizabeth Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm.

2. Establish Quorum.

Attendees.

Board members: Tim Patterson, Peter Organ, Yanick Charles, Bianca Vodden, Elizabeth Anderson, Lorraine Neville, Elizabeth Costello, and Mike Mack. **Regrets:** Patrick Diotte.

Community Members: Serge Drouin, Elaine Vininsky, Jane Lund, Liz Cooke, Yvele Paquette, Terry Barber, Marco.

Councillor's office: Riley Brockington, Mary Young.

3. Approve agenda for this meeting.

The agenda was approved by Tim Patterson and seconded by Lorraine Neville, followed by the remaining members of the Board.

4. Approve minutes from last meeting.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved by Lorraine Neville and seconded by Elizabeth Costello.

5. Councillor's Report.

Tower 1 of the 780 Baseline development was approved in December. The Planning and Housing Committee review of Tower 2 and Tower 3 at 780 Baseline will be in January; the status is not yet decided. The Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAGC) did not yet meet with the City of Ottawa planners. The Planning and Housing Committee agreed to the end of January timeline for them to meet and report on their progress.

Two water projects will soon be underway in River Ward. The City of Ottawa will replace water mains in two parts of Carleton Heights on Prince of Wales in front of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. A water pipe will be replaced here, and repairs will be made to overcome a number of pipe breaches that have occurred.

City of Ottawa staff will host a public session on Tuesday March 5th to review the work that will happen this year to maintain infrastructure Peridot Private, the condo behind the Church and nearby. Members of the association are welcome to attend.

A major project has been postponed on Arnon and Apeldoorn between Meadowlands and Normandy. Staff have committed to meet in June with homeowners and the public at the Community Centre. There are ramifications for the extensive intensification project with private property, interlock, trees, and brick among other concerns.

The Rideau Canoe Club (RCC) has an outstanding and concerning issue. The underpinnings of the docks are deteriorating, and the City has proposed a band aid solution that will not fully rectify the ongoing issue. The RCC Has shared that the shoreline slope to the board walk is a mix of stone and other components that has deteriorated to the point it is not safe. This area is on land owned by the National Capital Commission (NCC), but the RCC building is owned by the City of Ottawa. Parks Canada is also involved.



The docks and the RCC can't be closed for safety reasons. Also, the facilities, the area, the docks are needed for the Dragon Boat festival scheduled in 100 days, Olympic training and summer camps. Mary Young is working with RCC to see how it might work with the City to get work done without funds in place. The current RCC contract is not clear where the responsibilities for maintenance lie. Also, support grants may be helpful.

Shannon has joined the Councillor's office to complement Mary Young's work on big projects. Mary will continue to be the main contact. New River Ward staff Shannon Desormeaux available at shanon.desormeaux@ottawa.ca and the CHARA main contact is Mary Young at Mary.Young6@Ottawa.ca.

Questions and comments from attendees for the Councillor

Idea: Community member suggested, "Do a 'Case the Ace' fundraiser to support the RCC and its dock repairs".

Request: Community member asked Councillor to formalize Planning and Housing Committee behaviours. Councillors informally referenced "Joey" in the recent meeting for the 780 Baseline Road development. It is unprofessional. These are big issues. Address attendees and staff by title, not first name.

Councillor: Yes, we will mention that.

Question: This fall, a man on Lexington Avenue was attacked by a coyote. He was in his own yard. He got between a coyote and his cat. The City responded that this was "his problem because he was between coyote and cat". The coyote was likely looking for food, and the homeowner defended his cat by leaning down to pick up his cat and was attacked. This is not habituation, and the coyote was not put down. What is the City of Ottawa position with this past coyote behaviour as others are possibly at risk and will need to watch their pets are not carried away. It is breeding season too.

Councillor: We need a refreshed wildlife study initiative – consultation is not sufficient. We need to go further to the Ministry of Natural Resources and the City of Ottawa to acknowledge coyotes are part of the eastern Ontario ecosystem. There have been no moves to remove this invasive species. These animals prevent garbage maintenance. We warn the community do not provoke, follow, or feed coyotes.

Community member: The Ontario government has information on what to do if met by a coyote.

Question: We have also noticed an increase in the local rat population.

Councillor: There is a working group asking folks to email rats@ottawa.ca when larger congregations of rats occur. Further work is being done.

Question: What happened to the Final report of the Courtland Park/Carleton Heights water study. When will this be released? Also, we have not received a reply to our lawyer's letter re 154 Sanford from the City. When will we receive it.

Councillor: We will look into the water study to send along. Yes, you can forward the letter. We find legal responses take a long time.

Question: The individual coyote/animal is known to be a threat - why is it not taken out and terminated to avoid other situations in the neighbourhood?

Councillor: There are issues with taking out a species versus taking out a specimen



6. Residential and Municipal Affairs Report.

The Planning & Housing Committee decision in December approved Tower 1 of the 780 Baseline Road development. CHARA will present a new presentation Jan 31 for the discussion re Tower 2 and Tower 3. CHARA has two legal opinions (CHARA and Fisher Heights) indicating CHARA has a strong argument that the plans do not follow policy, the interpretation of the consulting firm is incorrect. The developer, Joey Theberge, met in person with CHARA and the FHACA in March 2023 and understood we opposed the development as it does not adhere to the Carleton Heights Secondary Plan and the Official Plan. The development is worrisome because it negates the Carleton Heights Secondary Plan. An appeal introduces too much risk to the CHARA Board as the Hunt Club Association is currently fighting a legal battle post a lost appeal; the developer is seeking damages from the Board.

We have not yet received a City of Ottawa response to the CHARA letter sent December 10 regarding the 157 Sanford Avenue, 155 Sanford Avenue, and 153 Sanford Avenue development.

There is a broken window at 222 Baseline which could cause damage, squatting or looting. How do we communicate to the owner.

The Hydro post at Lexington and Wilshire Avenue remains damaged and broken. How do we resolve this?

Community Partner Insurance Program (CPIP) continuity came into question last year. Community associations are working with the FCA to support standardized eligibility for CPIP. CHARA remains eligible under the new standards with its City of Ottawa contract for the rink. CHARA may need to include rigour in advertising for positions to uphold a “democratic election” of the Board representation (e.g., Councillor newsletter). Other eligibility requirements may be required (e.g., not endorsing candidates/platforms). Specific requirements will soon pass at City Council.

7. Annual Barbeque Event

The Annual Barbeque Event Spring BBQ 2024 needs a leader. Without a leader it will not continue. A member suggested no leader required. Another suggested no lead is necessary because there is documentation. The Rink proceeds need to support the rink, so we must apply for grants to fund the event, apply for insurance, and contact the vendors. Documentation is there, and application sample is there. Someone needs to do the work. Whoever is interested can divvy up tasks see where feasible.

Decided June 24 is a possible date. Peter will contact suppliers. Elizabeth Anderson will start the grant civic events application process. Councillor Brockington indicated funding is available and insurance. Riley will call Grill Masters tomorrow. Peter will call Junk Yard Symphony. Franco Ippolito is in Aruba.

Tim will organize a meeting of people interested in the BBQ and contact organizers for fire trucks at the event. Tim will organize a meeting. Peter will Chair the organizing committee. Many hands make light work.

Lorraine Neville put forward a motion that CHARA will entertain a BBQ in June/July 2024 and a Committee will report back at the next Board meeting on the results of their inquires and results of their attempts to complete the funding application. Motion Elizabeth Anderson approves the motion. Peter Organ seconded the motion.



The Board agreed the event will not go forward if all funding collapses. A Board member asked, “what if vendors want a table”. Response: this is possible. More urgently, we need funding and sponsors to go forward. Four people agreed to participate in the initial inquiries including Tim Patterson, Elizabeth Anderson, Peter Organ, and Bianca Staltari.

8. Rink Update

The rink is up and running. The Councillor will support \$500 for volunteers. The rink is running and a ½ dozen were skating there last night and a dozen tonight. The rink has been skateable since last Friday. Terry Barber, Terry’s son, Ian Burrows all helped. With the snow blizzard, it was skateable. A rink puddle was difficult to overcome but we did it. There are only five weeks left. The season for the rink ends Feb 28. The sun and warmth of March kills the ice after March 1st. Sometimes, we can extend a week, depending on the weather. Mike works at the rink Monday to Friday 7-930 p.m. and Sat/Sun 1-5 pm supervision. Volunteers are welcome. The rink closes with weather above zero; it would need remediation. If its cool, we can skate and we try not to stop people from skating. Did the water supply get upgraded? Not sure. The water is still in the same place. The City of Ottawa may have changed the source to ¾ inch. Not sure if it is done. Its hard to tell if its better. The rink really needs regrading so the real challenge on this rink is that there are no volunteers. Need to recruit volunteers in the summer.

9. Presentation, Proposal for a tree canopy inventory project (Aileen Duncan).

Aileen is a registered professional forester in training. More can be found out about this volunteer project at www.ottawa.ca/urbanforest. Questions followed.

Who owns information when its gathered and what database and who has access? The files are in GIS format made available on and downloadable from the CHARA website (note to the Board, this will add to CHARA expenses). The intention is to identify areas where there is a loss of canopy and trees at end of life to be replanted. It provides the City of Ottawa recommendations to add trees or better maintain those already there.

Is this responding to a specific requirement from the city? There is some work to develop this data. As an urban forester I see trees, notice trees, notice trees at risk of failing, being removed. Its good to track canopy data. My goal is to address the need for data before action with the intention to increase canopy and protect these trees.

Is anyone asking for this data? What about privacy? Will people want to publish this data? How will you reflect confidentiality? Contact the Ottawa South Community Association; this association has taken on the project. Its important to emphasize that this initiative is optional. Each resident/residence has the option to give permission to inventory street trees and backyard trees. The project will bring forward different options to participate.

What is your intention in leading the project? I am a professional forester running the project and learning form the data – generally I work in policy, not on ground. I have a personal interest to develop these competencies.

Where would you like the data go? Is the data available on the web, is it shared or promoted with residents? Older trees are at risk in the area we live in and planting in the area is important. A large tree you may enjoy you also know in 5-10 years it won’t live. Need to take action to ensure there will continue to be trees in the area.

Is this for the City of Ottawa? Is this an enforcement tool? The City of Ottawa will have access but generally staff gather their data and the percentage of the canopy from satellite inventory or remotely sensed Lidar.

From Aileen Duncan's presentation:

TREE INVENTORY

Know your resources

- The majority of urban trees are on privately owned lands and municipalities do not have detailed information about these trees
- Old Ottawa South & Centretown residents associations are completing similar inventories
- GIS-based analysis using existing and new data

“Neighbourwoods” © protocol

- Inventory, methods and training
- Data analysis
- Stewardship and management planning

Trees in municipal database

Satellite imagery

NEXT STEPS

Endorsement <i>by CHARA</i>	Project team <i>& inventory volunteers</i>	Data collection <i>& analysis</i>	Stewardship <i>events</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This project would be best placed to be led through the community association • Seeking feedback and assurance that this knowledge would be of benefit • Seeking permission to engage with residents to gather feedback on the project, advise volunteer opportunities, and provide options for landowners to self-report their trees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train people on tree inventory and to conduct the data analysis • Collecting data for the neighbourhood is a large project that would require assistance from volunteers to realize. • Best practice is to count backyard trees, but this is not required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data analysis can be tailored to questions or concerns sourced from the community • Geographic & quantitative analysis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting juvenile trees to reach maturity (e.g., water, care) • Invasive species control • Clean-ups events • Planting events (trees, shrubs, grasses, and wildflowers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Opportunities for flood risk mitigation • Trail building in remnant forests along Rideau river

10. Close. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. Next meeting date: February 27, 2024