

**CHARA Board Meeting
November 23, 2021
6:30 pm
Zoom Meeting**

Attendance:

Board Members: Yvele Paquette (President), Elizabeth Anderson (Vice-President), Elizabeth Costello (Treasurer), Rachel Vincent (Secretary), Tim Patterson, Lorraine Neville, Kurt West and Mike Mack.

Members and Guests: Andrew Hickey (City Councillor staff) and Peter Organ.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Yvele Paquette (President) called to order the meeting at 6:35 and declared there was quorum.
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Yvele called to accept the agenda, approved by Elizabeth A. and seconded by Lorraine and approved by consensus.
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Yvele reminded Board members to read AGM minutes. Lorraine moved to approve the minutes of October 26, seconded by Elizabeth A., and approved by consensus.
4. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:** Application for FCA in progress. Yvele delivered thank you notes & gifts to Debra Dynes and Boys & Girls Club. Yvele attended Debra Dynes AGM; they are partners in the community. Yvele thanks Elizabeth C. and the Board for all the work done on the New Official Plan (NOP).
5. **REPORT FROM THE CITY COUNCILLOR:** Andrew Hickey reports on Riley Brockington's behalf.

Older Adult Summit: On November 26 I will be hosting a virtual Older Adult Summit. Speakers from the Ottawa Police Services, Ottawa Public Health and the Council on Aging will be making presentations. Everyone is welcome to attend. To register for the event, please visit: <https://tinyurl.com/OlderAdultSummit>

River Ward Festive Holiday Event: On December 11, from 1-3pm, I will be hosting an outdoor Festive Holiday event for families at the Hunt Club Riverside Park Community Centre. It is still in the planning stage, but I can confirm a horse-drawn wagon/sleigh ride will be offered, along with games, and hot chocolate. Everyone is welcome, the event is free of charge.

6. **NEW OFFICIAL PLAN (NOP) COMMITTEE REPORT:** Elizabeth C.
Clarifying question on the new draft policy on ditch alterations to be sent from our subcommittee to the City via Councillor Brockington. Moving forward, subcommittee decided to engage residents impacted by ditches/culvert system for stormwater to start advocating with the city in light of the new policy (and promote participation at upcoming consultations). We have some concern about the new policy changes, and how they impact the responsibility of residents for the ditches/culverts in front of their homes. Elizabeth A. raises safety & functionality concerns of existing ditches and asks for clarification of City of Ottawa obligations.

- Darren recommends that we put the draft policy under discussion on the CHARA website. Watch for the upcoming consultation in February. Kurt recommends that we get clarification before we post anything on the website to avoid any confusion.
- **Actions:** 1) Clarification on the draft ditch alteration policy via Councillor Brockington; 2) Post the draft policy on the CHARA website & promote consultations in February.

7. Municipal Affairs Update (MFIPPA):

Elizabeth C. received an answer from city staff in response to her Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA) access to information requests for water, sewage, stormwater systems data and reports that supported Joint Committee and Council decisions on the approval of the New Official Plan (NOP). The response indicates no information is available. Next step: meet with Councillor Brockington to discuss implications – possibly next Wednesday – before the 60-day period for filing an appeal to the NOP ends. Discussion of sharing this update with other community associations.

8. FINANCIAL REPORT: Elizabeth C. All Directors are now official, and our incorporation is updated. To complete the federal incorporation documents, need to retire former directors. Who might know when these people left the Board? Next: Elizabeth will call Mike Mack to gather these dates and file these documents. [Undecided: Directors need to set date at the bank to transfer financial authorities]

9. RINK UPDATE: Mike M. Activity period for the skating rink is December 15 to February 28. Need to wrangle volunteers to clean up leaves. Yvele reports that Jody is no longer coordinating the volunteers. We need a new volunteer coordinator for the rink. Everyone on the Board must talk to neighbours to find a new coordinator. **Action:** Darren will send email to everyone on the volunteer list to ask someone to step up. Mike will get guidance from Jody.

10. NEW BUSINESS: Yvele sent out a typical schedule for the CHARA Board. BBQ planning starts in January. Yvele asks for volunteer to pick up CHARA signs from Adam. **Action:** Rachel volunteers to pick up signs. Other business: Yvele requests more discernment for sending out emails to the group; change subject line and all send email to those who are necessary. Kurt raises issue of getting more people involved in the CHARA Board meetings. Tree planting, ditches. In the absence of in-person meetings, wants ideas of how to get people involved. [Yvele and Elizabeth A. have mailing lists; some privacy concerns.] We have a stronger position with the City if we are more representative of the community. Need to get more people at the meetings—some discussion on how ensued.

11. NEXT MEETING: Lorraine moves that our next meeting is December 14, and Yvele seconds it.

Meeting adjourned at 7:46 pm

Next Board Meeting: December 14, 2021 @ 6:30 pm