

Riverview Park Community Association Sept. 12, 2012 Meeting minutes

Present: Carole Moul, Nadine Chamorel, Sherry McPhail, Paul Puritt, Karin Endemann, Marian O'Connor, Kris Nanda, Stefan Dubowski, Alan Landsberg

Absent: Nazish Ahmad, Patrick Meagher

Next meeting: Oct. 10, 2012, 6:45pm Cancer Wellspring House

Actions from meeting:

- **Board** to consider candidates for volunteer of the year
- **Board** to identify priorities for next year and present ideas at the next meeting
- **Committee chairs** to provide reports to Karin for inclusion in her president's report
- **Karin** to contact David Chernushenko re: Community Associations meeting
- **Karin** to sign and send letter Kris drafted to city re: baseball stadium
- **Karin** to contact councillors, MPPs et al. to participate in AGM
- **Karin** to update email address with Kevin
- **Patrick** to research neighbourhood decline in areas surrounding casinos
- **Sherry** to publish advertisement on RPCA website and send email message to members to promote Street Rep program
- **Paul** to continue organizing AGM for Oct. 24

1. **Called to order at 6:55 p.m.**
2. **Agenda approved with changes**
3. **Approval of June Board meeting minutes and review of action items**
4. **Committee reports:**

Communications: Marian O'Connor

Website:

Home page announcements:

- Corn Roast at Balena Park - Sunday, September 9th
- Clegg-Fifth Canal Footbridge - Open House # 3 - Sept. 27th
- Perley Rideau Village News Construction update - August 2012
- Ottawa Police investigates shots fired on Blair Street - July 19th

Other Communication:

- Email - Corn Roast at Balena Park

Email List:

- 246 addresses as of September 2012

Statistics - Web Site Visits:

	2009	Avg per day	2010	Avg per day	Var.	2011	Avg per day	Var.	2012	Avg per day	Var.
Jan			724	23.4		649	20.9	-10%	816	26.3	26%
Feb			502	17.9		1452	51.9	189%	1250	43.1	-14%
Mar	58		538	17.4		1838	59.3	242%	961	32.0	-48%
Apr	166	5.5	509	17.0	207%	872	29.1	71%	810	27.0	-7%
May	216	7.0	394	12.7	82%	1084	35.0	175%	952	30.7	-12%
Jun	388	12.9	373	12.4	-4%	976	32.5	162%	787	26.2	-19%
Jul	489	15.8	344	11.1	-30%	425	13.7	24%	755	24.4	78%
Aug	288	9.3	313	10.1	9%	457	14.7	46%	513	16.5	12%
Sep	263	8.8	536	17.9	104%	690	23.0	29%			
Oct	209	6.7	812	26.2	289%	897	28.9	10%			
Nov	170	5.7	387	12.9	128%	802	25.9	107%			
Dec	197	6.4	356	11.5	81%	710	22.9	99%			
Total	2444	11.2	5788	15.9	42%	10852	29.7	87%	6844	28.0	

Planning and Development: Kris Nanda:

- a. *Alta Vista Transportation Corridor (AVTC)/National Defence Medical Centre (NDMC).*

Peter Hume has indicated that design process for AVTC will most likely now be publicly shared in 2013. There are some issues related to contaminated sites near Riverside/Hurdman.

For NDMC Canada Lands and DND are still working through their internal obligations necessary to advance the disposition. The transfer still anticipated to occur in late 2012 and land use planning after that most likely in 2013.

- b. *Proposal involving the Ottawa Carleton District School Board (OCDSB), Riverview Alternative School and Andrew Fleck Child Care Services (AFCCS).*

No changes since last RPCA meeting. OCDSB senior staff are preparing a report that will go to the Trustees in early Fall while AFFCS is working towards developing a business plan. AFFCS Executive Director Kim Hiscott has said she will keep RPCA posted

RPCA re-sent email and phoned OCDSB Trustee Bronwyn Funicello re any additional information on future of the site – she responded last week that she is looking into our request

c. Perley Hospital Seniors Complex

Construction continues on both buildings -- the Russell Road 45-unit seniors' housing residence is scheduled to be ready for occupancy by early January 2013. The other residence is slated for opening later in 2013.

d. Redevelopment of 1757 Russell Road /1740 St. Laurent Blvd (Alta Vista Ridge)

The City has issued a demolition permit for the commercial buildings on the site (the former bingo facility/store hall set back from Russell Road and construction is likely to get started later in the Fall on this parcel between Russell Road and St. Laurent (across from the Perley and down to St. Laurent towards St. Hubert and Petro Canada gas station) to allow mixed residential/and commercial uses. (Total of 320 residential units consisting of townhouses). Still waiting to hear back from City on these suggestions for addressing issues of vehicular congestion and pedestrian safety given the proximity of the Alta Vista Ridge entrance to that of the Perley Veterans Complex across the street and the Haig Road intersection.

e.. Trainyards

Construction on an 8-storey federal office building for the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) at **395 Terminal Avenue** is nearly complete and is expected to be ready for occupancy this fall.

Expected to be completed by fall 2012 with substantially occupancy by 2013. Site work continues on the parcel of land (**641-663 Industrial**) between the Pioneer Gas Station and the new bus garage facility where Farm Boy will be. Both are expected to be open by February 2013.

Increased traffic congestion at Trainyards continues to be a problem. No response yet from RPCA request to the City to ensure that the complex is adequately serviced by public transit and that there is sufficient infrastructure for safe pedestrians and cyclist access to the site – this would help encourage customers and staff to choose options besides their own vehicles. Still awaiting response from OC Transpo for rationale about reduced bus service on Industrial (and elimination of service on Lancaster).

f. 700 Coronation

Site plan approval is imminent on proposal to construct a new 3 storey condominium building on the west side of the site with 31 units and two levels of underground parking (one level completely underground while the other is half below grade). The proposal also involves some interior renovations to the existing 3.5 storey rental apartment building (30 units) including new cladding and windows to the exterior and a central landscaped courtyard between the two buildings. The existing building's parking will be relocated underground beneath the new condominium.

g. New bus entrance/traffic light proposed 200 Metres East of Russell Road

This was not envisioned when Bus Garage consultations took place – it was opposed at the time due to concerns about traffic flow. No further information as to next steps

h. Ottawa Neighbourhood Connection Office (NCO)

The City's [Neighbourhood Connection Office Report](#) was received this summer and the NCO was launched in an effort to “make Ottawa neighbourhoods more liveable, healthy, beautiful and complete.” The City is piloting the [‘Better Neighbourhoods’ Program](#) with the Woodpark neighbourhood in late summer and through the fall. Applications will be accepted for new neighbourhoods – details still forthcoming.

i. Proposal for apartment or seniors residence at 340 Industrial:

Work is ongoing. We may want to follow up with Councillor Hume and the project managers regarding constructing of sidewalks fronting the Industrial Avenue and Neighbourhood Way public right-of-ways

j. Other Items

Baseball Stadium, the City has reached an agreement in principle with Beacon Sports Capital Partners for a lease and renovation plan for the Ottawa Stadium. The new lease would take effect on January 1, 2013. Beacon Sports Capital Partners has reached an agreement in principle with the Eastern League to bring a double A team to Ottawa for the 2014 season. Note that the deal has not yet been finalized.

Sept 19 Breakfast Conference: Creating Winning Projects for Walkable Communities

The goal of the free conference (at City Hall) is to engage residents interested in making their community more pedestrian friendly. Register at transport@envirocentre.ca

Federation of Citizens Associations (FCA). Meeting is Sept 12 (conflicts with RPCA meeting) FCA has written to the Mayor expressing concerns about decision to abolish most of the Citizens Advisory Committees, which was different from discussions that the City Clerk had held with Advisory committees over the past two years.

RPCA will host CAFES meeting in November at the Maplesoft Centre (likely date is November 24 as Nov 17 is the date one of the City's Free Urban Design workshops)

The City of Ottawa fired a senior planner. Kris said he would look into learning what this could mean for city development.

Kris wrote a letter to the city as thanks for Ottawa's continued support for the baseball stadium. Karin is to sign and send the letter.

In light of provincial interest in situating a government-run casino in Ottawa, Kris wrote a letter to the city expressing the community association's opposition to the development. He noted a recent report indicating the majority of Ottawans object to our hosting a casino.

Kris suggested sending a letter to Mayor Jim Watson indicating that the process by which the city decided to reduce community involvement in public advisory committees was inadequate. Kris pointed out that the city collected the input and made the decision during the summer, when many people were on vacation and unable to participate in the public consultation.

Parks, Rec & Environment: Carole Moul

- The committee held its meeting the week of Sept. 10. Members discussed progress on the Balena field house, noting results from the neighbourhood survey on the development have still not arrived.
- The committee is working to learn what the city plans to do about ash trees killed by the emerald ash borer in parks. Members have heard that the municipality's tree budget is already over burdened.
- Despite earlier discussions with Wal-Mart indicating that the retailer will do a better job of collecting shopping carts and preventing people from abandoning them in Riverview Park, the committee finds that people still take the carts from the retailer's location and leave them in our neighbourhood. Committee members plan to discuss this issue again with the manager of the store, with an eye towards publicizing the phone number that Riverview Park residents can call to have someone from the store come to collect shopping carts.
- The fall park cleanup is scheduled for Sept. 29. Riverview hopes to incorporate the Russell Heights neighbourhood.
- Although no action has been taken to remove the graffiti from the Balena field house, no new "tags" have appeared.
- The committee is undertaking efforts to ensure a toboggan hill is available near the Perley Rideau complex, despite ongoing construction at the facility. Members discussed building a hill from snow, perhaps using snow cleared for the skating rink at Balena Park.
- The committee discussed formulating a budget for next year.
- The committee discussed a new fall social format, one that could allow residents with children participate. Parks & rec members seek input from the RPCA board on potential venues and times to make the event more inclusive. In discussion, board members expressed concern that by making the event family friendly, the committee risks losing interest from attendees who view the social as a night out, away from the kids. However, the discussion included mention of a hay ride or something similar that would keep children occupied and interested while the

Alta Vista Planning Group: Marian attended the June 26 meeting. She reported that the discussion included mention of 700 Coronation Ave. and the property owner's application to develop a condominium complex on the property, where the parking lot is situated now. The owner is also re-facing the existing building. No update on development plans for the NDMC lands.

Community Associations meeting: No meeting was held. However, the board noted that it had received no word from city councillor David Chernushenko's office about the next meeting. Karin said she would follow up with the councillor on that.

- **Perley Hospital Consultation: Paul:** no meeting
- **East of Rideau group: Alan:** no meeting
- **CAFES:** Kris said the next meeting will be held in Riverview Park, specifically at the Maplesoft centre where the RPCA usually holds its board meetings.

6. Annual General Meeting

- Paul reported that Riverview Park gym is booked for Oct. 24.
- All board members must indicate whether they are willing to run again – and help find new board members as well.
- Anna Nitoslawska (Paul's partner) will preside over the board elections.
- Board members will consider nominations for volunteer of the year.
- Karin said she would like to receive summaries from committee chairs to put in her president's report.
- The board discussed potential speakers for the AGM, including plant and tree experts to detail emerald ash borer management, and possibly a police representative to discuss neighbourhood security issues such as suspicious activity on Riverview school property, problems on Montessori school property and break-ins. Perhaps someone from the city's Neighbourhood Community Office could come to speak about community development planning.
- The board discussed creating an ad about the AGM to run in the Riverview Park Review newspaper.
- Karin said she would contact councillors, MPPs et al. to participate in the annual general meeting.
- Board members agreed to identify priorities for next year and present ideas at the next meeting.

7. Riverview Park Review update

- Carole said the next issue is scheduled for Oct. 1.
- The city is no longer advertising in community newspapers. It's only using EMC, published by for-profit Metroland, instead of non-profit papers like Riverview Park Review.
- Material has already started to arrive for the next issue, including a story and pictures of councillor Peter Hume's annual corn roast at Balena Park.
- Ottawa Police will take responsibility for delivering the newspaper to community centres and such. The police department appreciates the support of the neighbourhood watch.

8. New business: Scarecrow contest – Oct. 27 judging

Logo creative – new design options presented – board identified two of five options, Sherry to ask designer to tweak (we'd like to see in black and white) – Karin to update email address with Kevin

9. Adjournment: 8:40 p.m.

Date of next board meeting: 10 October 2012: Starting at 6:45

Board of Directors: Carole Moulton, Marian O'Connor, Kris Nanda, Nadine Chamorel, Karin Keyes Endemann, Sherry McPhail, Nazish Ahmad, Stefan Dubowski, Patrick Meagher, Paul Puritt, Alan Landsberg