

Minutes of Meeting Riverview Park Community Association

Wednesday, November 12, 2008

Present

Cheryl Koury
Chris Mark
Brant Scott
Sue Vye
Orrin Clayton
Janina Nickus
Total 6

Absent

Kris Nanda

Total 1

Executive Meeting

Note: Norm Abraham, Carole Moulton & Robert Eve have resigned from the board.

Guests: François Allard, Marc Dostaler, Norman Nagy & Mary Anne Thompson (editor of OSCAR & currently working on our paper re layout)

1. Brant Scott called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
2. Approval of **Agenda** – we had a discussion about whether or not we had quorum for this meeting. Since we are now down to only 7 board members. We decided that we may not have quorum and agreed we will not make any motions or vote on anything tonight.
3. a) Approval of previous minutes re October 7/2008 meeting deferred.
- 3 b) **Treasurer's Report** – as we no longer have a treasurer due to Norm's resignation, we have no report today. We will need a new treasurer ASAP. Note: Norm has agreed to carry on as treasurer until December. Orrin had brought in some requests for reimbursement forms that Norm had given him. (Most for expenses relating to the paper- Riverviews.) As most/all of the expenses have been pre-approved by the board, Janina advised Orrin to tell Norm that cheques can be written for these amounts. We need two board members to have signing authority for RPCA cheques. Roger Piché and Norm are currently the only board members with signing authority. Now that both are no longer on the board, we need two more. Individuals have to go to the Bank of Montreal on Smyth/Russell Road to be added as signing authorities.
4. **Discuss status of new board**
 - (i) Relevance of RPCA & community representation
 - (ii) Need for increased membership & committee creation
 - (iii) RPCA president & VP positions- Brant is our new president; no VPs.
 - (iv) Attracting new board members – suggestion to have our meetings more hospitable- serve coffee/refreshments. Suggestion to have a community event to attract people and have gifts/prizes and free food similar to Peter's Corn Roast event (flea market/garage sale, plant sale, book sale, movie night in the park(s), Fall Social, skating party.) Cheryl suggested that we could provide information on planning and development issues, for example, at community meetings. We could get feedback/suggestions from residents at these meetings. For example we could hold topic-specific meetings such as for the Browning Avenue corridor and City budget cuts.

RPCA currently have about 25-30 members. Discussed that the City does not note how many members a community association has/represents. Mary Anne mentioned that the Old Ottawa South Community Association does not do hold membership drives/collect membership dues. They have a board of about 20 members that make the decisions.

Should we be politically motivated? This issue has come up because of Brant's association with Peter Hume's office since his wife, Susan, works for Peter.

We discussed being less biased/more objective in providing information to the community via Riverviews. Suggested that when we send a letter to politicians, etc. re community issues (ex: Peter Hume, the City, etc.) that we document the vote on the motion before the board; why some voted in favour/supported the motion & why dissensions/against the motion. We could include a section in the paper, perhaps under the President's Report, for this information. Discussion on who would be responsible for writing this; the secretary via taping meetings? (this would be very onerous), the planning & development committee? the president?

Action Item - each board member is to try to get one other person on the board.

5. Committee Reports and Membership Realignment

Planning & Development - François presented some information on behalf of Kris Nanda.

- 340 Industrial at Neighbourhood Way building – City has approved the zoning/plans. Many residents (about 30) are opposed to the development. Deadline for application to file appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) is due Nov. 26/08, including \$125 filing fee. We advised François that you need a lawyer to represent you when you go to the OMB and residents rarely win their cases. Appeal can't be frivolous, otherwise you risk being assessed court/appeal costs by the OMB. Our experience several years ago with our appeal to the OMB re sale of part of Balena Park to Garrand cost us about \$15,000 - \$17,000 in fees for our lawyer.

Parks, Recreation and Environment Committee

Brant mentioned again that Dale Park Rink will need funds for new boards for their rink – cost of about \$300-\$400.

Communications Committee

- Orrin/Mary Anne mentioned that the price list for ads in Riverviews would be going up by about 3% now & then again in Oct/09. Prices raised because of the colour in the paper, plus our prices were quite low compared to other community papers.

6. New Business – none

7. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Next meeting (special meeting to discuss memberships, how to attract new board members, events to draw members)

Tuesday, November 25, 2008

1534 Weyburn St. (Chris' house) at 7:15 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Janina Nickus

Nov. 21, 2008