

# Minutes of Meeting

## Riverview Park Community Association

Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2009  
1548 Caledon (Brant's house) (7-9 p.m.)

**Present:** Orrin Clayton, Chris Mark, Kris Nanda, Janina Nickus, Brant Scott, Sue Vye, Sami Rehman, Bruce Aho, and Karin Keyes Endemann (Total 9)

**Absent:** Cheryl Khoury (Total 1)

### Executive Meeting

1. Brant Scott called the meeting to order at about 7:15 p.m.
2. Approved agenda; moved by Sue, seconded by Chris.
3. Approved previous minutes June /09 meeting with some minor revisions; moved by Chris, seconded by Kris.
4. **President's Update** (see details in Brant's notes/attachment at the bottom)

Action Item - Orrin to place an ad/note in Riverview Park Review re upcoming RPCA priority setting meeting (Oct. 14) and AGM (Oct. 21). There was some discussion re bicycle safety. Sue suggested the City start a bicycle licensing system.

**Note:** Advise Brant by mid-October of your intentions to run for the board or not. Orrin & Sami are resigning; Michelle McLellan may be joining.

5. Presentation briefing on new tree-cutting bylaw: Stephen Moss, Program Manager, Forestry Services, City of Ottawa (tentative) – postponed as more time needed for presentation

### 6. Committee reports

(i) Parks, Recreation and Environment – Final number for Fall Social tickets needed by Sept. 20/09. Also need values/minimum bid for Silent Auction items- Email this info to Chris.

(ii) Planning & Development (P & D) – Kris advised that he has written an article for the Riverview Park Review updating P & D issues

- Knox/Acton intersections- some fast drivers there (dog killed there recently). About 2 years ago, residents tried unsuccessfully to get stop sign(s) put up. Since there were no incidents/accidents there, City refused. Residents again trying to have something done - have contacted Peter Hume's office. City will do traffic study.
- Kris has written a report/update on planning & development issues for the website and for the paper
- Trainyards Phase II should include bus stops/shelters (at their cost)
- 100 Roger Guindon Dr. site – building application has been approved by the City
- a traffic light will be installed at Belfast & Trainyards
- an application to expand the St. Laurent Shopping Centre (cost of about \$200 million) has been filed with the City

(iii) Communications Committee – Karin advised our site is up & running; has about 438 hits a month. There was surge when the 1,500 some flyers advertising the site were issued. Karin needs fresh content for the site from us; she has some volunteer organizations that will submit information. She also requires more people to update/maintain the website. We also need policy/guidelines on what to include on the web and what not to.

(iv) Financial business – Bruce Aho has agreed to be our new treasurer. We need a rudimentary balance sheet/financial report for an auditor to review before the AGM. Sue Vye needs a cheque for reimbursement of her expenses re mailing the flyer advertising our new website. The following cheque was issued:  
#010- cheque for \$490.60 to Sue Vye re mailing web-site flyers

7. New Business: **AGM** (check if this is in right spot)- Kris has arranged for the guest speaker, Christopher Stoney, Public Policy Professor at Carleton University. He talks about community involvement in neighbourhood. Committee chairs need to present committee reports at the AGM- verbally; usually done via reports in Riverviews.

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

**Next board meeting, includes priority setting meeting - Wednesday, October 14, 2009 (7 p.m. at Dempsey)**

*Minutes prepared by Janina Nickus*  
Oct. 2009

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**Riverview Park Community Association  
Meeting of the Board of Directors**

Wednesday, September 9, 2009  
7 p.m. – 9 p.m.  
Dempsey Community Centre  
**President's update**

***Browning Corridor***

Announced at the City of Ottawa's open house on June 23/09, this option is no longer being considered for the high-speed bus transit route. The sub-committee affiliated with the RPCA – Against Browning Corridor (ABC) – can take some credit for the City of Ottawa's change of heart.

The consultants and city staff note that they prefer a route along Terminal Avenue, with a separate spur from Riverside Drive to the Hospital lands. Planners will continue to examine the spur option to decide how it will reconcile with the previously approved Alta Vista Transportation Corridor (AVTC). Phase I of the AVTC from Riverside to the hospital is currently being designed and it could someday be extended to Nicholas in the west and Conroy in the east.

Residents who opposed the AVTC may choose to oppose the Hospital spur proposal, as well. The spur is proposed to avoid adding greater traffic pressure on Smyth and Alta Vista as the hospital complex expands. The form and function of the spur are under discussion, and the RPCA Planning and Development Committee will continue to monitor the situation.

***Balena Park Corn Roast is Sunday, September 13 at 3 – 6 p.m.***

The RPCA is a co-sponsor of this annual event with councillor Peter Hume. We will have a table set up with board members to sell \$5 memberships. We need RPCA directors to come out and volunteer as we have done in years gone by.

Set up occurs at 1 p.m. and clean-up at 6 p.m. You have received an email from Susan Scott in Councillor Hume's office asking for volunteers. Please respond to her email and let her know when you are available.

***RPCA Fall Social and fundraiser at The Boofs is Sunday, September 27***

All RPCA directors should try to attend this event. All unsold tickets need to be sold, so please ask Janina Nickus for extras if you can help to move them. Details on the Fall Social will be provided during the Parks, Recreation and Environment Committee report at the September board meeting.

## ***RPCA Annual General Meeting is Wednesday, October 21***

The RPCA board will use its October 14 board meeting to set out priorities for the subsequent board that will be elected at the October 21 AGM. Please think about which priorities you would like to suggest to the next board and be ready to submit them orally at the October board meeting. It would be good to have up to six priorities to pass along to the next board.

At or before the October 14 meeting, directors should report their intentions to remain as a board member next year to the president.

### ***Residents at 710 Coronation at Russell Road***

I met with condominium co-op representatives David Hamel and David Flewelling last week regarding ongoing concern over the new OC Transpo bus garage on Industrial at Russell. Residents in these townhouses are pleased that OC Transpo is going the “extra mile” with plans to muffle the buildings and add sound attenuation walls around the perimeter. They are, however, concerned about the noise buses will make if they are allowed to exit and enter the site at the Russell Road intersection.

For this reason, the residents are asking councillor Peter Hume for support on a proposal to build access routes to the east and west of the Russell intersection. This would prevent buses from using the Russell intersection and reduce noise for the people who live nearby. Councillor Hume is asking city staff if these two-way access routes are plausible.

### ***Proposed Cancer Survivorship Centre on Caledon Street***

*Ottawa Citizen* coverage on Saturday, September 7 echoed many of the original plans put forth at a public meeting held last year by the Ottawa Regional Cancer Foundation (ORCF). I met with the president Linda Eagen in the spring and was asked for suggestions on how to make the building appealing to the neighbourhood.

Local residents voiced loud disapproval at the first public meeting and criticized the original concept for being too large for the double lot adjacent to the Cancer Survivors’ Park. Caledon Street residents are especially concerned about increased traffic.

The RPCA may be approached to get involved in this file in the near future. It could be difficult to “chase sides” because the new centre is poised to help cancer victims from across the region, but some local residents do not want a large commercial endeavour on a street that is currently all residential. The entire site plan approval process and open houses lie ahead, so stay tuned.

### ***City of Ottawa Green Bin composting pilot project***

I wrote a letter to the editor that was published in the *Ottawa Citizen* on July 28. My letter refuted a column by Randall Denley that said the Green Bin program is no different than composting biodegradable items in one’s backyard. I suggested the Green Bin incorporates waste that backyard composters do not. My letter noted that I would be recommending the program be supported by the RPCA, so please consider this as notification.

Green Bins will be distributed throughout the city this fall and the program will begin in January. I asked the following questions via email and received these answers from the City of Ottawa:

- Where is the compost dump?

The Compost facility is under construction by Orgaworld Canada Ltd. It is located at Hawthorne and Rideau Road in an industrial park area. The facility will process organics and yard waste completely indoors at this facility.

- Is it segregated from the land fill?

The facility is not located near a landfill. There will be some material that may not compost and require disposal, but the City expects this residual waste will be less than 5% as the Ottawa program does not support the use of plastics nor will diapers be allowed to be included in the collection.

- What are the proposed uses of the compost and the revenue that can be generated from it?

Under the agreement the city has formed with Orgaworld 90 % of the compost will belong to Orgaworld to market, while the City will retain 10% for tree planting and other public uses. Orgaworld intends to market the compost to the local agricultural community. In terms of revenue, the revenue for finished compost meeting unrestricted use guidelines is fairly low, but is nonetheless revenue for the processor to offset some of their costs. In turn this helps to reduce the tipping fee that Ottawa pays at the facility for the processing of the organics.

- Is the labour sub-contracted or does city staff need to be used?

The Orgaworld facility is completely private sector. The city has an agreement to supply organics to the facility for conversion into unrestricted use compost.

- What percentage of the land fill use is currently going to recyclable waste?

Through waste characterization studies, the compostable organics waste represents 45% (by weight) of what is currently landfilled (set out as garbage) by residents in Ottawa.

- How long will the capacity of the land fill be extended by segregating the compost waste?

The extended life of the landfill is dependent on how well, and how many people participate in the Green Bin Program. In Ottawa, in 2008, residents with curbside collection, disposed of 182,200 tonnes of garbage, about 715 kg of residual garbage per household per year. If we took 45% of this as compostable organics, each household could divert 322 kg per household per year. However, until the program is running city-wide, it's difficult to predict the full tonnage as it will depend on participation and how much organic material each participant captures in their green bin.

The City is committed to providing 80,000 tonnes to Orgaworld and we anticipate meeting this commitment when the Green Bin Program is fully implemented in 2012. In the interim we are working with the Industrial, Commercial Institutional sector to encourage them to send their organics to Orgaworld and not the landfill.

- When the cost recovery plus the savings of extending the life of the landfill are calculated against the cost of the program?

The cost of replacing landfill capacity in Ottawa has been estimated at roughly \$200-\$300 Million. This assumes that we would be able to site a landfill in Ottawa. Given resident reluctance on this type of facility it is completely possible that a facility outside the city may be necessary. If that was the case, the cost to build and operate a transfer station, as well as transport the waste to a remote landfill would be added to this estimate. Landfills are not a renewable facility, meaning that they fill up and require permanent care and monitoring, which is a permanent cost. By contrast a composting facility creates a resource from a waste, provides employment and the generation of compost is a net greenhouse gas reducer. Landfills are the largest man-made generators of methane which is at least 21 times more volatile as a greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide. Re-use of land that has been landfilled is extremely limited.

- What is the net cost/benefit?

Attached is a study which compares the Life cycles of various methods of dealing with organics (landfilling, incineration and composting). The study speaks for itself. (Available upon request)

### *Safe cycling program proposal for Ottawa*

I contacted City of Ottawa Medical Officer of Health Dr. Isra Levy in the wake of the escalating controversy over cyclists being injured by cars. I advocated promoting rear-view mirrors on bicycles, as well as a city-wide safe cycling promotion. He appears to support the notion of studying the efficacy of mirrors to reduce collisions. I also contacted an

acquaintance with one of Canada's largest bicycle parts manufacturers who wants to discuss a possible partnership to mount a public education campaign for cyclists and drivers in Ottawa. Dr. Levy supports the suggestions to study public health initiatives and form partnerships.

Dr. Levy wrote in his letter: *"Thanks for your ongoing interest. I agree completely that a strong and robust research undertaking is an important underpinning of public health, and that the societal investment in public health research, including injury prevention, yields important information to help resolve disagreements in public health recommendations and policies. The enhancement of investment in public health research activities by all levels of government and other partners is an area for which I think it is very appropriate to advocate."*

I will be looking into the partnership potential for a safety campaign with the City of Ottawa in the future. I have submitted an op-ed "From my backyard" column on this topic to the *Riverview Park Review* and *EMC Ottawa South* for publication next month.

### ***Hydro One foliage clearing between Chomley Cres. And Caverley St.***

Hydro One plans to significantly clear the foliage on its right-of-way behind the church on Chomley along a two-tower stretch for safety purposes. I spoke at length with Terry Forrest, East Technician Supervisor for Hydro One, who assures me there are no residents adjacent to this area who oppose the work. Some residents are pleased that they will have better visual access to the area where there could be illicit activities taking place.

Mr. Forrest says this right-of-way is used by bordering residents to extend their own backyards to include the right-of-way land at no cost. Hydro One is concerned that some foliage is growing high enough to become problematic and unsafe. The three 115,000 volt hydro lines droop between the towers and can droop up to an additional 10-20 feet when heated in the summer. Any foliage touching the lines would be considered unsafe, and during wet, humid weather, the electricity can "jump to ground" from the wire to foliage and result in a widespread power outage.

Hydro One is planting cedar hedges in several areas to help preserve homeowners' privacy. The utility has told specific homeowners they will receive up to \$400 from the company to purchase a tree of their own choice to replace the foliage being removed. These are strictly goodwill gestures by Hydro One, which wants to remain a good neighbour.

The work will take place around about the third week of September and last about 3.5 days. It will require a bulldozer and large mulching machine to chew up the wood. Residents are aware there will be some disruption and the area will ultimately look quite different. Mr. Forrest said conversations have taken place with each resident that lasted from 10 to 30 minutes apiece, and he believes the residents support this initiative.

Mr. Forrest said he is more than willing to meet with the board if we have any questions or comments.

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