

**Overbrook Community Association**  
**Board Meeting – 30 August 2018**  
**MINUTES**

Attendance: Board members: Joanne Lockyer, Patrick Venier, Wendy Dennys, Rawlson King, Heather Amys, David Behn, Sheila Perry; regrets Jo Stinson; Committee member: Stephen McNamee; Residents: Maureen Parker, Nora Benamra, Satiya and Samuel Benoit, Marilyn Read.

1. Joanne welcomed everyone.
2. **Moved by Wendy Dennys, seconded by Heather Amys, that the minutes of the May and June Board meetings be approved. Carried.**
3. **Revision of Board Members & positions:** Rawlson has stepped down as president to run as public school trustee in Zone 12. He will remain as director-at-large and as chair of the Transportation and Safety committee. The board thanked him for his leadership. Joanne will act as interim president until the AGM. Joanne announced that the positions of Communications, Newspaper Editor, Website, Secretary and Treasurer are needing to be filled. It was clarified that Wendy and Patrick would continue in their positions of Secretary and Treasurer respectively until the AGM. **Action: Wendy agreed to clarify the work done by the Communications Committee.** Marilyn Read offered to take on the website. Wendy and Marilyn will meet to go over the job. Joanne offered to take on the newspaper. Since more than one person is needed to produce the paper, a bilingual ad for a new editor will run in the September issue.
4. **Date for AGM and planning & media:** Joanne announced the date (15 November) and has booked the Workshops. Wendy asked for suggestions for a theme, so she can design an ad for the paper. Sheila suggested “Neighbourhoods Matter,” a theme that could encompass a lot of topics. It was not decided who would organize this program. Joanne and Heather volunteered to be a Nominating Committee to seek out board candidates to present at the AGM.
5. **Municipal All candidates meeting:** Joanne announced the meeting will take place on Thursday, 27 September at the Overbrook Community Centre. Lauren Touchant at Rideau Rockcliffe Community Resource Centre is organizing. Discussion took place on who to invite and what questions to ask the candidates. Joanne said volunteers are needed; Heather and Nora said they would help on the day. Sheila mentioned an FCA meeting on how to set up candidates’ meetings.
6. **Federation of Citizens’ Associations (FCA):** Sheila reported that the City is committed to focus on and to rethink the importance neighbourhoods. Mapping neighbourhood boundaries becomes an important task. This issue would be a good question to ask candidates.
7. **Update on BBRN:** (The City website at <https://ottawa.ca/en/city-hall/public-engagement/projects/building-better-revitalized-neighbourhoods> describes this initiative: Building Better Revitalized Neighbourhoods (BBRN) is a Strategic Initiative of Council. The objective of BBRN initiative is to improve the health, vibrancy and liveability of priority neighbourhoods in Ottawa. The initiative focused on revitalization through new and existing program and service initiatives, infrastructure as well as redevelopment. BBRN is structured to help the communities continue to grow

as a place where children, youth and adults can meet their everyday needs, participate in community life and succeed.)

Stephen McNamee mentioned the email he sent to all board members listing the BBRN short, medium and long-term items. He had hoped board members would express an interest and follow up on these projects; so far, no one has done so. He stressed how important it is for the board to track and monitor progress of implementation, to meet with city officials and follow-up to ensure they are carried out. The medium-term projects are especially significant, and he urge action. It was agreed that he would arrange a meeting with head of BBRN Nathalie Persaud. Joanne, Nora and Sheila expressed an interest in attending.

8. **Revitalization of Queen Mary/Lola:** Stephen will send an email update to board members on the revitalization of Queen Mary/Lola. (A copy of his email is attached.)

9. **Community Survey:** A copy of the survey was provided. Heather put it together, formatted it and has arranged for translation. Joanne announced it will be inserted in the September newspaper. Wendy suggested that return address envelopes be included. Joanne will get it and envelopes printed. 4000 copies needed; some will be placed at Centre; English and French versions of the survey will be created on Survey Monkey and the links will be posted conspicuously on the OCA website, and subscribers will be notified by email.

10. **Summary on Bunker Project:** Sheila reported on the success of the Crime Prevention Ottawa Paint-It-Up project (now installed on the Sens rink “bunker” in Overbrook Park) involving local youth from Inuit Children’s Centre and the Boys & Girls Club and passed around photos. Participating youth will be paid minimum wage for their time and a framed photo will be given to the OCC. **Action: Sheila will provide a copy of the financial report.**

11. **Adopt-A-Park: Motion: It was moved by Sheila Perry, seconded by Wendy Dennys that OCA renew its Adopt-A-Park agreement with the City of Ottawa to look after Overbrook Park. Carried**

12. **Safety and Traffic Issues:** Complaints have been received on speeding along North River Road between Montreal Road and Donald. Sheila will call Danika at RRCRC to find out the results of their safety audit of our community.

13. **Overbrook Community Gardens:** Sheila reported a busy year with a wait list for their 32 boxes. They’ve held workshops, field trips, donated to food cupboard, and had the support of a master gardener.

14. **Update on Community Hub:** Sheila reported that things are moving ahead well with the plans to create a Community Hub in Rideau High School facility. The Ministry, the school board and the City are all in agreement; Odawa and RRCRC are developing a governance plan and finding tenants. Ministry funding until April 2019 when new governance takes over.

15. **Financial Report:** Patrick reported our bank balance is down slightly from last month due to payment of expenses for the musical. Balance: \$17,979.92. Sheila’s bunker project will need to refund unused funds. Patrick mentioned that some of the Urban Lanes refund cheques have yet to be cashed. **Motion: It was moved by Joanne, seconded by Sheila that \$100 be provided to the Centre for their**

**Halloween festivity.** Joanne would like a copy of our insurance certificates. Patrick will email copies to her.

16. **Update on Overbrook Diary:** Wendy reported that Eleanor Crowder has received a grant to mentor potential theatre arts leaders and is now working with about 20 *Overbrook the Musical* cast members on a smaller performance. Rehearsals start on 12 September; performances on 31 November and 1 December. They are looking at Vinci School as a venue.

17. Next Board meeting: **Thursday, 20 September 2018, 7 pm**

18. ***Secretary's note: Deadline to post notice of meeting and circulate agenda to board members: Thursday, 13 September 2018.***

W.Dennys/7 September 2018

## Email to Board Members from Stephen McNamee, Planning & Development Committee

31 August 2018

Good day, OCA Board members.

Last night, you asked for an update on the Lola-Queen Mary (“4-Corners”) revival project.

This project is one of the 14 Medium Term Actions included in the BBRN Neighbourhood Revitalization Plan (#5 in the list I sent you on Monday). It was supposed to commence next year. Because OCA stressed its importance for the community, Councillor Nussbaum expedited it and kicked it off with a meeting on May 22. His assistant Liz Whyte is supposed to be leading the project on his behalf. Kim Campbell of the *Right of Way, Heritage & Urban Design Service* has the lead for City. For OCA, Marie-Caroline Badjeck, Joanne, Wendy, Diewke de Haen, Sheila and myself attended the May 22 meeting and constituted an OCA *ad hoc* Committee afterward.

We have made note of these lines, lifted from a 2017 book entitled *Within Walking Distance*:

A sense of community develops when you walk through a place and casually collide with neighbours – a sense of attachment to shops, eating and drinking places, their owners and employees that you and your neighbours patronize.

Having casual and convenient places to meet is important, neighbourhood places where near-strangers can get acquainted face-to-face – casual gathering places that host the easy and informal, yet socially binding, association that is the *bedrock of community life*.

Here is our “Mission Statement”:

We want to make 4-Corners pretty, verdant and attractive.

We want to make it a meeting place, something like a ‘village square,’ that will draw people in – to enjoy the environment, to meet others, and to support local businesses they can be proud of.

We want a revitalized 4-Corners to serve a social function – integrating the community and contributing to a vibrant, healthy community and an open, democratic society.

Here is a brief list I drew up of proposed Project Components:

- A “place-making” approach
- Lighting
- Greenery: trees and planting
- Pav(er)ing: sidewalks (widened) and plaza
- Façade improvements
- Seating
- A distinctive theme or landmark feature
- Enhanced bus stops
- Bike racks
- Lola a “complete street”:

improvements inviting cycling and walking all along Lola, (from Coventry to Donald

- Events and activities on site
- Lorenzo’s outside terrace/patio.

Back in June, at Kim Campbell's request, OCA submitted its top priorities for 4-Corners. (See the letter Joanne sent after your Board meeting that month.)

Diewke and Marie-Caroline have met with the Ottawa Art Gallery and are working on holding workshops, art displays, and a Parent-T(w)een Documentary-Making event on site. And Wendy is hoping to stage an Overbrook-themed musical event at 4-Corners in the fall.

Diewke and Wendy have undertaken to meet and introduce the owner of the plaza, Mr. Sharbel Alsarhan, to OCA.

Presently, Liz Whyte is attempting to contact and establish communications with all the property owners and business operators.

Kim Campbell is investigating what programs, "tools" and resources City can make available to achieve our objectives.

Steve  
(613-749-7006)