

MEETING MINUTES

Riverside Park Community Association

Wednesday, November 3, 2021

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Kate with the following Directors in attendance:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kate Cathrae, President• Dave Coyle, Director• Travis Croken, Vice-President• Katerina Drescher, Director• Gabriel Gonzalez, Secretary	<p>Michael Simms Director Róisín West, Director Kevin Wolfe, Director Terry Wood, Director</p>
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2. Land Acknowledgement and Introductory Statement

Kate acknowledged the uncaded land on which the meeting took place.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

*amendment to include item 8.4 Planning and Development Report

Travis moved to adopt the agenda and was seconded by Ro.

Motion carried.

4. Receipt of [Minutes of the October 6, 2021 Board Meeting](#)

Mike moved to accept the minutes of the October 6, 2021 Board Meeting. It was seconded by Ro.

Motion carried

5. Presentation: Southmore Drive East traffic calming plan

Councillor Brockington introduced Ms. Kim Pearce, Senior Project Engineer, in charge of Neighbourhood Traffic Calming for the City of Ottawa's Transportation Services Department.

5.1.1.Kim gave a presentation explaining the types of calming measures she recommends, the concept designs that were submitted and next steps.

5.1.2.On background, Ms. Pearce indicated that while they are connected, the neighbourhood traffic calming study is independent from other planning projects for Walkley. The purpose of this plan is to recommend permanent roadway modifications to improve road safety, primarily by reducing speeds further than what was achieved with the 2016 speed limit change to 40km/h and the introduction of temporary traffic calming measures that are already in place.

5.1.3.Road geometry (road width) is another factor looked at, as well as considerations on stakeholders feedback, budget and the fact that this street is a key fire response route.

5.1.4.Proposed measures: a. speed cushions; b. reducing the width of the road by painting some edge lines. Kim indicated that the plan includes four sets of speed cushions as well as edge lines for the entire street, with the goal to reduce traffic speeds by making the road slower and less comfortable for people who want to go fast, which could also help deter cut through traffic.

5.1.5.Next steps: Kim indicated that feedback from this meeting will be compiled with a larger community consultation (online survey), and changes might be introduced based on the feedback. Constructions would take place in 2023/2024, with a monitoring and evaluation phase a couple of years later.

Kim's presentation was followed by a lengthy exchange with the community.

5.2.1.Terry indicated that the transportation subcommittee has looked at the proposed measures and supports them.

5.2.2.There were a number of questions on the possibility of introducing other measures, such as the construction of sidewalks, intersection protrusions or speed tables. Kim indicated that her department has a limited budget that could not afford such changes. Councillor Brockington added that the association can formally request a sidewalk and he will discuss this with the department in charge of sidewalks.

5.2.3.The issue of accessibility was raised, especially as the speed cushions could be an issue for people using wheelchairs and walkers. Kim said she would get back to the association with more data on accessibility.

5.2.4.When asked about the effectiveness of the proposed measures, Kim indicated that the city has found them very effective. Councillor Brockington added that such physical modifications are more effective than painted messages.

5.2.5.Kim highlighted that the proposed measures would be permanent, as opposed to other seasonal measures already in place.

5.2.6.When asked, Kim noted that her study did not reveal a particular issue with stop sign compliance on Southmore but was open to reassess this based on public consultations.

5.2.7.The discussion then moved on to the airport parkway, Springland and Walkley Road. Councillor Brockington indicated that the planned southbound exit at Walkley road would likely reduce traffic on Springland although that is not its main objective. He added that a median on Walkley could help prevent drivers from cutting through Southmore.

5.2.8.Speed enforcement on Walkley was also discussed.

5.2.9.In the interest of time, Ro asked that further questions be directed to Terry and the transportation subcommittee.

5.2.10.Kate thanked Kim for her presentation. In response to Councillor Brockington's request for RPCA input, it was agreed that Terry, in consultation with the Transportation, Traffic Safety and Transit Subcommittee, would prepare a letter to him on the traffic calming initiative for Southmore Dr East and some of the related concerns raised during the discussion, including the need for more sidewalks.

6. Presentation: River Ward Councillor Report

Councillor Brockington presented a summary of his [Councillor's report](#) (click to download).

6.1.1.The Councillor reported on local developments, including The Revalie, which opened at 50% capacity on 16 October and will be up to 90% capacity in January. He added that phase two of construction will start soon, as well as businesses. The Councillor indicated there is progress on phase 2 of the St Pat's Home development. The new building is on a good location and no trees will be cut. This will be independent living apartments for older adults. Finally, he noted that the Mooney's Bay Childcare Centre is scheduled to open on 4 January 2022.

6.1.2.Regarding infrastructure developments, the Councillor informed that the repaving of Riverside Drive has been delayed to 2022. The repairs to the Trilium Line Bridge concluded in September, and the Rideau River MUP in Vincent Massey Park is closed until April 2022. A segregated lane for cyclists and pedestrian has been installed on Riverside Drive for the duration of the closure. Walkley Road bridge construction will continue into 2022. The Councillor also informed of the closure of the Hog's Back Swing Bridge for "end of season" shutdown work. Hydro One infrastructure upgrades will continue for most of next year and the Councillor invited residents to contact Hydro One for additional information.

6.1.3.On parks and recreation, the Councillor informed that the Hunt Club Riverside Park Community Centre will return to business as usual as of January with a full slate of programming. He also indicated that the Mooney's Bay toboggan hill will reopen this winter with new signage on the risks of tobogganing.

6.1.4.Moving on to the official plan, the Councillor thanked the association for its work. He informed that the official plan was approved by Council and warned that while this first phase was challenging, the next one will be just as intense. The OP will be submitted to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and housing who will have an opportunity to comment. The city will then have to complete a comprehensive zoning bylaw review to detail how intensification will go. This process is expected to take three years, with key phase in 2023-24.

6.1.5.The Councillor then informed that he hopes Parks and Recreation will be available to update the association in January or February on plans for Mooney's Bay.

6.1.6.Finally, the Councillor introduced a new member of his team, Andrew Sutton.

7. Board Elections:

Kate confirmed Gabriel as Secretary. Katerina volunteered to be the alternate secretary for the next meeting.

7.1.1.Terry moved a motion proposing and welcoming Gabriel as the new Secretary. It was seconded by Ro.

Motion carried

7.1.2.Kate then formally introduced the new board: Kate Cathrae as President, Travis Croken as Vice-President, Kevin Wolfe as Treasurer, Dave Coyle as IT support, Katerina Drescher as member at large, Róisín West in planning and development, Terry Wood on transportation, Andrew Wintonic on rinks, Michael Simms as bookkeeper and Gabriel Gonzalez as Secretary.

8. Presentations:

President's Report

8.1.1.Kate informed that she and several other Board members attended the Revalie opening and was excited for the opening and the commercial opening and hoped we can make that community part of this group. She noted that they run activities and have expressed interest in getting involved with the RPCA. Contact info@revelieottawa.ca

8.1.2.Kate indicated that Halloween was a huge success. 300 treat bags were prepared for neighbourhood kids and there were volunteers to distribute them. The Association spent about \$1500.

8.1.3. Kate highlighted the success of this year's pumpkin alley. Intact pumpkins were used by Food for Thought Café and food banks, while the rest was distributed to pig farms. The alley was featured on radio and CTV.

Financial Update

8.2.1. Mike delivered the financial update, indicating an uptick in RPCA memberships for the current reporting period (69 members who have renewed or are new, compared to 87 memberships for the last full year, with 25 new members who have joined from August 1 to October 31).

8.2.2. Mike also indicated that more money was spent than received, meaning there will be less equity build-up than in the previous year.

8.2.3. Kevin will take on the financial reporting duty in future meetings.

Gardening Committee Update

8.3.1. Kate indicated that the Mooney's Bay Community Garden is now closed for the season and that gardeners have already expressed interest in returning next year. Registration will start in February. She highlighted donations to the Debra Dynes House and neighbours' personal contributions. She also added that the pilot project to grow worms in the garden was a success and will return in the spring, and that it could potentially become a source of revenue.

8.3.2. Kate then informed that the city did not approve the Walkley Road pollinator project, as it was not clear who had the power to approve it. It will therefore be discontinued. The city is looking at ways to make it easier for community groups to be able to complete projects like this and have stewardship in the parks.

8.3.2.1. A number of members voiced their disappointment. Some nevertheless noted that the flower boxes were delivered and will be available for use next year.

Planning updates

8.4.1. Ro reiterated that the OP is a done deal and highlighted that a motion accounting for some sub-targets for urban tree canopy was included with the goal of identifying residential areas that do not meet the tree canopy goals.

8.4.2. Ro then summarised the AMM discussions noting that the main themes raised were housing and infrastructure; walkability; bike and transit; amenities and hubs; connections and culture.

8.4.2.1. Ro is preparing a community survey that will hopefully be ready in December. Ro indicated the board could approve some incentives to fill the survey.

8.4.2.2. George Brown hoped it would be possible to include questions on recreation and services for seniors in the survey, while Craig and Carolyn highlighted the importance of recognizing the community's history, perhaps with interviews of original owners. Kate suggested that all committees prepare recommendations on what could be included. Finally, a community member suggested including some of these questions in the membership renewal form.

9. Other Business:

9.1.1. Volunteers

Kate put out a call for volunteers, including a communications specialist (1-2h per week), a graphic designer (1-2h per month), and photo submissions from the neighbourhood. Kate stressed the objective of providing a platform that reflects people's experience of the community.

9.2.1. Ottawa Wildflower Library Seed Exchange

Kate informed that the gardening community and OSEAN will co-host a seed exchange at 918 Rand Avenue on November 14th 9-12pm. Experts will be available to explain what to do with the seeds.

9.3.1. Mooney's Bay Village

George Brown indicated that many seniors who have been here 50+ years want to stay in their homes as long as possible. There are groups in Riverside Park that are mobilising to support seniors in their homes. As people age in place and want to stay in their homes, there is a need to support them, and a steering committee has been formed under the Mooney's Bay Village banner. George indicated his interest in working with the community association, notably using resources such as the newsletter. George added that MP McGuinty has been supportive. Contact email will be included in the newsletter article.

9.4.1 Make the Right Call

- To report a dog bite, dog at large or dog being held please call 3-1-1
- After the fact: online form: [Report a problem with dogs](#)
- Threatening, intimidating or aggressive behaviour- 9-1-1

9.5.1. Board Retreat

Kate suggested holding a board retreat before the New Year. Date to be suggested by email. This will likely be a hybrid meeting as not all board directors were keen on meeting in person.

10. Announcements:

10.1. Kate reminded the attendants of the opportunity to volunteer with Foret Capitale Forest on November 5th and 6th

11. Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 1st, 2021 – 7:00 p.m.

12. Adjournment:

12.1. Terry moved a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Ro.

END.