



# MINUTES

## Riverside Park Community Association RPCA December Meeting of the Board of Directors

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Wednesday, December 2, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.  
Meeting Location: Zoom

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### 1. Call to Order

1.1 The meeting was called to order by Joel at 7:01p.m. The following directors were in attendance (7)

- Joel Duff, President
- Kate Cathrae, Director
- Ethila Palit Parna, Director
- Katie Raso, Director
- Mark Staz, Secretary
- Andrew Wintonic, Director
- Terry Wood, Director

1.2 The following directors were absent with regrets (3):

- Travis Croken, Vice-President
- Barbara Haines, Treasurer
- Paul Willetts, Director

1.3 The following community members were in attendance (16)

- Sandra Boyko
- Donna Bueckert
- Céline Carron
- Marvin Kaplansky
- Bob Laird
- Marika Magro
- Kay Marshall
- Sarah Mitchell
- Cynthia Nuzzi
- Paul Penna
- Carolyn Percy-Searle
- Craig Searle
- Michael Simms
- Don Squire
- Barb Squire
- Teresa van den Boogaard

1.4 The following guests were in attendance (1):

- Riley Brockington, River Ward Councillor

## 2. Agenda

2.1 It was moved by Andrew and seconded by Terry to accept the agenda: <https://riversidepark.ca/wp/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/2020.12.02-RPCA-BoardAgenda.pdf>

2.1.1 Rinks and Recreation Committee Report moved up.

2.1.2 Riley Brockington will be arriving at approximately 7:45 and will present his report upon arrival.

**Motion Carried**

## 3. Minutes of the November 4, 2020 Board Meeting

3.1 It was moved by Kate and seconded by Andrew to accept the minutes of the November 4, 2020 Board Meeting: <https://riversidepark.ca/wp/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/2020.11.04-RPCA-BOD-Minutes.pdf>

**Motion Carried**

## 4. Report: Riley Brockington, River Ward Councillor

4.1 Councillor Riley Brockington gave an oral presentation of his Councillor's Report: <https://riversidepark.ca/wp/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/2020.12.02-RPT-RiverWardCouncillor.pdf>

4.1.1 Councillor Brockington was asked about the rationale for completing the LRT line before the Airport Parkway expansion and responded that the expansion was initially supposed to take place before LRT was open, but that the LRT line will now be completed first. This will hopefully encourage greater ridership on the LRT prior to the Airport Parkway expansion, but the demand for a widened parkway will still remain even with the LRT being extended south and additional ridership.

4.1.2 There was a question about whether paving on Riverside Drive, North of Walkley will coincide with the beginning of construction on Canoe Bay. Councillor Brockington noted the importance of coordination if paving and construction coincide, but anticipates that Riverside Drive

will be paved prior to construction beginning on Canoe Bay.

- 4.1.3 Katie thanked the Councillor for the overview of the Bank Street redevelopment plans, noting a recent meeting she had with members of the Ottawa Black Community regarding the Fall Fiscal Update where a desire was expressed for politicians to stop making decisions that affect the Black Community without involving people of colour.

There are a lot of small businesses on this stretch of Bank Street that are owned by people of colour and serve diaspora communities. Kate expressed worry about the effects of raised rents on the ability of businesses to survive. She asked the Councillor for information about the city's plan for small businesses in this area, for involving them in planning discussions, and providing support to those who need it.

Councillor Brockington noted that there was outreach well before now with the commercial properties that did not receive much of a response. Current efforts have been focused on providing updates on the status of the redevelopment project and staff have been directed to continue to engage all commercial properties since they will inevitably be impacted.

Katie offered to share information about a small business mitigation plan that she completed for a different community. The Councillor accepted.

- 4.1.4 Terry asked whether the pole replacement along Walkley Road would involve lane closures and, if so, whether it could be used as a test for, or even coordinated with, the forthcoming traffic calming pilot project which also involves lane closures? Riley agreed to supply more information to the RPCA on plans and timelines for pole replacement.
- 4.1.5 Mark requested an update on timelines for completing work on the Hog's Back Bridge and reopening access to Colonel By from Riverside Drive. The Councillor expects this to be completed before the end of December 2020.

## 5. Report: RPCA Board of Directors

- 5.1 The December Board of Directors Report was presented for adoption:  
<https://riversidepark.ca/wp/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/2020.12.02-RPT-BOARD.pdf>
- 5.2 President's Report:

5.2.1 Joel presented the President's Report.

5.2.2 It was moved by Andrew and seconded by Terry to accept the President's Report.

**Motion Carried**

### 5.3. Gardening Committee Report

5.3.1 Kate presented the Gardening Committee Report.

5.3.1.1 Céline asked whether the flyer can be shared by community members. Joel said that sharing would be permissible but asked that the association be given some time to consider final revisions.

5.3.1.2 Kate was asked whether other community associations could provide advice for navigating dealings with the city. She responded that because the RPCA is already categorized as a community garden, we receive support through Just Food in the form of a coordinator who provides advice. Our association was also in contact with the Hunt Club Community Association about gardening.

5.3.1.3 Joel suggested promoting the fact that a portion of the yield from community gardens goes to local food banks.

5.3.1.4 Cynthia asked whether the beds will go to local residents or will be gardened by volunteers. Kate responded that both will occur. We currently have a manager who plants and tends for local food banks.

Cynthia asked whether the high school students could be involved. Kate responded that we are hoping to get them involved with both the building as well as the maintenance. We have made contact with one teacher and will continue to explore opportunities.

Joel suggested that we could write to the school principal.

5.3.1.5 Carolyn asked whether the garden will be in the same location within Paget Park as the rink. Kate responded

that yes, this will be the case. The rationale for this is because both the rink and the garden require access to water which is available in one section of the park. Neither the rink nor the garden will affect the playground.

5.3.1.6 Cynthia asked and was assured that the metal boxes in Paget Park will be reused.

5.3.2 It was moved by Mark and seconded by Katie to accept the Gardening Committee Report.

### **Motion Carried**

5.4. Land Use, Development and Transportation Committee (LUDTC) Report

5.4.1 Terry presented the LUDTC Report.

5.4.1.2 Craig asked about the basis for categorizing Walkley Road as a major corridor and Riverside Drive a minor corridor. Terry responded that this is a historical categorization based on both roads being considered arterial, noting that the plan is still in draft form, so it would be helpful to have the city attend a future RPCA meeting to provide information and respond to questions.

5.4.1.3 Craig asked whether there is a possibility of expropriation when or before people sell their properties given the intensification along Walkley Road. Terry responded that while he has yet to finish reviewing the entire plan, he has not seen a mention of expropriation.

5.4.1.4 Katie expressed concern about Riverside Park being cut down the middle and asked whether there are updates about the proposed development at Riverside Drive and Hunt Club Road and whether we know our current density rates north and south of Walkley Road compared to the 40 to 80 units per hectare being proposed by the city.

Terry responded that the city is envisaging Walkley as a main street in a 15-minute community, but that this probably fits better East of Bank Street, whereas west of Bank would likely remain in a suburban context without

that portion of Walkley being arterial.

Joel also noted that intensification north of Walkley will likely be dealt with completely by 707 Brookfield, Brigil Construction, and Canoe Bay. As we will be seeing approximately 2000 new units all North of Walkley, it is less likely the case that several more multi-unit dwellings will be built over existing properties.

5.4.1.5 Carolyn expressed her ongoing concern that aside from Riverside and Hunt Club, all developments are north of Walkley. Allowing trucks on Walkley will represent a major shift.

5.4.1.6 Terry moved and Joel seconded a motion to invite city planners to attend the January meeting to present on the plan and receive comments.

**Motion Carried**

Discussion:

5.4.1.6.1 Kate asked whether we could find ways to engage people in the process of planning and providing feedback.

It was suggested that the Communications and Outreach Committee share information via social media or by other means.

LUDTC will first generate a list of highlights from the plan.

5.4.2 It was moved by Katie and seconded by Kate to accept the LUDTC Report.

**Motion Carried**

5.5. Rinks and Recreation Committee Report

5.5.1 Andrew presented the Rinks and Recreation Committee Report.

5.5.1.1 Joel noted that while the intent was to manage the rink

entirely on a volunteer basis, Councillor Brockington was able to secure city funding to support the rink at Paget Park.

5.5.1.2 Joel described the flyer introducing public skating at Paget Park, noting that it will be provided in English, French, Spanish, and Arabic.

5.5.1.3 In order to support the required contact tracing, a contract-free web-based sign-in system will be established allowing scanning of a QR-code that will provide access to a form that all skaters can complete, providing contact information and the number of skaters in their group. The form will also have a safety statement that participants will be required to review and confirm agreement with safety rules.

5.5.2 It was moved by Katie and seconded by Mark to accept the Rinks and Recreation Committee Report.

**Motion Carried**

## 6. Old Business

### 6.1. Halloween Wrap-Up

6.1.1 The following motion was tabled from the previous meeting:

*Whereas the RPCA's Halloween Activities for 2020 were an unqualified success, despite the precarious nature of the pandemic; and*

*Whereas community fundraising efforts greatly exceeded expectations, generating a surplus that is expected to be over \$1,000 when the account is settled; therefore*

*Be it resolved that the RPCA recognize the generous support of the community and the tireless efforts of all the volunteers who organized and promoted the events, bought and delivered candy and toys, assembled and distributed treat bags, wrote and read spooky stories, collected and donated pumpkins, paid or reimbursed bills, researched city bylaws and public health restrictions, shared their costumes online, and otherwise helped to retain the magic of Halloween for local children; and*

*Be it further resolved that 50% of the fundraising surplus be donated to the Ottawa Food Bank in the name of the RPCA and Riverside Park residents,*

*and the remaining 50% be used to subsidize future community events.  
(Moved: Joel Duff/Barbara Haines)*

Proposed Amendment:

*Whereas Riverside Park resident Bob Laird recommended making our donation to the Debra Dynes Family House, which services our local community, among others; therefore*

*Be it resolved the motion be amended to replace "Ottawa Food Bank" with "Debra Dynes Family House Food Bank."*

*(Moved: Joel Duff/Barbara Haines)*

### **Motion Carried**

6.1.2 Joel extended thanks to Bob Laird on behalf of the RPCA for raising this possibility and expressed hope that the association can begin a relationship with the Debra Dynes Family House.

Bob thanked the RPCA Board for considering this amendment.

### 6.2. Photo Radar

6.2.1 As resolved at the November 2020 meeting, the RPCA sent letters to Ontario Transportation Minister Caroline Mulroney and Ottawa South MPP John Fraser in support of greater municipal authority for the use of photo radar.

## **7. New Business**

### 7.1 City of Ottawa Ward Boundary Review

7.1.1 Joel noted that while the association has discussed the City of Ottawa Ward Boundary Review, we have not made our own formal submission.

There were five original options presented which Riley detailed for our association previously. Some options would have divided Riverside Park and split parts of our community into other wards.

The review committee was ultimately encouraged to come up with a sixth option which is now being recommended. This is ideal from the perspective of our community as River Ward is entirely protected. Despite some minor issues with the review, we are largely



unimpacted. Riley encouraged the RPCA to submit a response about the review in support of the recommendation.

7.1.2 The following motion was moved by Joel and seconded by Terry:

*Be it resolved that the RPCA submit a response about the City of Ottawa Ward Boundary Review, supporting the recommended sixth option which maintains River Ward in its current form.*

**Motion Carried**

7.2 Land Use, Development and Transportation Committee

7.2.1 The following motion was moved by Terry and seconded by Katie:

*Taking into account development and transportation trends in Riverside Park, their close interrelationship and how each is affecting the other in terms of current and future growth,*

*The Board decides to:*

*Maintain a Land Use, Development and Transportation Committee (LUDTC), but to restructure it by establishing two sub-committees, one focused on land use and development, and the other on transportation, traffic safety and transit;*

*The restructured LUDTC would be co-chaired, with each co-chair heading one of the sub-committees;*

*Each LUDTC Co-chair is to be a Board member;*

*The sub-committees will have the lead responsibility to develop their respective priorities and programs of work, to be approved by the full LUDTC, and also by the Board of Directors as appropriate; and,*

*The LUDTC is to meet in plenary as necessary, which may include parallel meetings of the two sub-committees.*

Discussion:

7.2.1.1 Joel asked whether any board members wished to volunteer to chair either of the new subcommittees.

7.2.1.2 Terry volunteered to chair the Transit, Transportation, and Traffic Safety Subcommittee.

7.2.1.3 Katie volunteered to chair the Land Use and Development Subcommittee

**Motion Carried**

7.2.1.3.1 It was moved by Joel and seconded by Mark to appoint Terry as co-chair for Transit, Transportation and Traffic Safety, and Katie for Land Use and Development.

**Motion Carried**

7.2.1.4 Joel extended thanks to Terry for all his work as LUDTC chair, which required significant time and effort and provided great benefit to the RPCA and the Community.

7.2.1.5 Celine commended the RPCA on the amazing work the Directors and volunteers are doing on behalf of the community.

### 7.3 Holiday Events and Activities

7.3.1 Kate introduced possibilities for holiday events and activities, noting that given the already busy nature of the holiday season, we are aiming for low-intensity options.

#### 7.3.1.1 **Christmas Tree Collection**

This would be similar to the pumpkin collection we did after Halloween. Last year Ottawa South Eco Action Network (OSEAN) collected trees for goats. Pine trees are a natural de-wormer and contain vitamin C. We could do a two-pronged approach: trees can be stuck into the snow around the puddle rinks

#### 7.3.1.2 **Caroling**

We could publish a list with lyrics of holiday songs that could be sung at the same date/time throughout the community.

Donna suggested organizing a neighbourhood singing montage where videos are sent in and pieced together.

#### 7.3.1.3 **Virtual Events**

The Stewart family has offered to dress up as elves and read Christmas stories online. We could talk to them about modifying stories to include local features.

The Stewart family has a friend who looks like Santa Claus who may be available to record messages and perhaps read out names of children that are submitted in advance.

7.3.1.4 **Pairing Children with Elderly Residents**

Councillor Brockington suggested engaging schools and local residents in an activity that provides students at local schools with the names of residents at St. Patrick's to whom they can write holiday themed letters.

Kate will reach out to St Patrick's and local schools. Councillor Brockington will provide contact information for school principals.

7.3.2 It was moved by Kate and seconded by Joel to adopt the list of proposed holiday activities.

**Motion Carried**

7.4 Promoting Play and Safe Outdoor Activities at Local Parks

7.4.1 Kate expressed a desire to encourage more people to play in parks and spend time outdoors, especially in open spaces. She proposed organizing local parks by themes, challenges, or both, such as creating a snow hill or establishing a competition amongst parks to build the most snowmen.

7.4.2 Kate also proposed purchasing toy bins for parks that could receive donated toys which would remain in the parks for local children to use.

7.4.2.1 It was moved by Kate and seconded by Joel to allocate \$750 for the purchase of toy bins for local parks.

Discussion:

7.4.2.1.1 Carolyn noted that toys are available on the Mooney's Bay Buy Nothing website.

7.4.2.1.2 While supportive of the idea, Marika also expressed safety concerns related to toy sharing

due to COVID-19.

Councillor Brockington will provide an outline of the proposal to Ottawa Public Health to obtain feedback. He will follow up with RPCA.

**Motion Carried**

## 7.5 Board Retreat

- 7.5.1 It was moved by Joel and seconded by Mark to hold a Board of Directors Retreat via Zoom on January 9<sup>th</sup>, from 9am to 12pm.

**Motion Carried**

## 7.6 Request for support for Conroy Pit Safety campaign

- 7.6.1 Céline explained that many residents in our ward use Conroy Pit Park and with the pandemic there has been an increase in users. The Conroy Pit Park Facebook group has seen a 40% increase in membership. However, parking has become an issue due to increased traffic and the small size of the parking lot, and a dog was recently hit by a car.

A petition has been started which will be taken to the NCC requesting that the lot be enlarged the speed limit at the entrance of the pit be reduced and traffic calming measures implemented.

Céline requested that the RPCA support the petition.

- 7.6.2 It was moved by Joel and seconded by Mark to support the petition by writing a letter to the City of Ottawa and the NCC, and promoting the petition online and on social media.

**Motion Carried**

## 8. Other Business

- 8.1 There was no other business.

## 9. Announcements

- 9.1 Joel announced that the Brookfield Restaurant introduced a breakfast burrito to its menu and encouraged community members to try it.

## 10. Next Board of Directors Meeting

10.1 The next meeting of the RPCA Board of Directors will take place on Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

## 11. Adjournment

11.1 It was moved by Kate and seconded by Katie to adjourn the meeting.

**Motion Carried**

11.2 The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

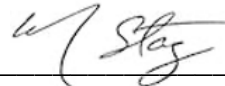
Meeting minutes were prepared by:

Mark Staz

Minutes confirmed by:



Joel Duff, President



Mark Staz