

MINUTES

Riverside Park Community Association
RPCA November Meeting of the Board of Directors

Wednesday, March 3, 2021 – 7:00 p.m.
Meeting Location: Zoom

1. Call to Order

1.1 The meeting was called to order by Joel at 7:01p.m.

The following directors were in attendance (8)

- Sarah Brickell, Director
- Travis Croken, Vice-President
- Joel Duff, President
- Ethila Palit Parna, Director
- Katie Raso, Director
- Michael Simms, Director
- Mark Staz, Secretary/Treasurer
- Terry Wood, Director

1.2 The following directors were absent with regrets (2):

- Kate Cathrae, Director
- Andrew Wintonic, Director

1.3 Joel opened the meeting by welcoming attendees and acknowledging that we are on the traditional unceded land of the Algonquin Anishinaabe. He expressed gratitude for the privilege of living on this land.

He explained the dual purpose of the meeting to address board business and provide open community discussion. He invited community members participate and explained the meeting procedures.

1.4 The following community members were in attendance (36):

- Suzanne Appleton
- Alex Beauvais
- Eleonore Benesch
- Stephen Bird
- Michelle Branigan
- Jocelyn Brown
- Donna Bueckert
- Lewis Burpee

- Judy Chow
- Jim Coke
- Marilyn Ellis
- Gabriel González
- Roger Howard
- Laurence Huysecom
- Marvin Kaplansky
- Norma Knight
- Bob Laird
- Cameron Lewis
- Marika Magro
- Ron Moir
- Anne Morrison
- Dorota Nowodworski
- Paul Penna
- Carolyn Percy-Searle
- Sarah Pettenuzzo
- Natalie Riendeau
- Linda Rossman
- Barry Rodomar
- Eta Schneiderman
- Craig Searle
- Fran Singlehurst
- John Singlehurst
- Doug Thompson
- Teresa van den Boogaard
- Liliane Vincent
- Donna Warner

1.5 The following guests were in attendance (2):

- Riley Brockington, River Ward Councillor
- Erin McCracken, Councillor's Office

2. Agenda

2.1 It was moved by Terry and seconded by Mark to accept the [agenda](#).

Motion Carried

3. Minutes of the February 3, 2020 Board Meeting

3.1 It was moved by Travis and seconded by Katie to accept the [minutes of the February 3, 2020 Board Meeting](#).

3.1.1 There was a suggestion to amend item 7.2.5 in the minutes to read "Accepting enhanced development ~~on the perimeter of the neighbourhood~~ along Riverside Drive and Brookfield Road, while defending the integrity of the interior of our neighbourhood."

Motion Carried

4. Report: Riley Brockington, River Ward Councillor

4.1 Councillor Riley Brockington gave an oral presentation of his [Councillor's Report](#).

4.2 The Councillor also provided the following updates:

4.2.1 **Snow removal on Anand Private:** The Councillor noted that this section of the road is privately owned, but that the owner will be notified of the responsibility to remove snow.

4.2.2 **Stoplight at Airport Parkway Offramp:** The Councillor has inquired with the city regarding the long duration of the red light at this intersection and is awaiting a response.

4.2.3 **Tewin Development Proposal:** The Councillor noted that he voted against the Tewin Development Proposal and thanked the RPCA for its letter supporting the opposition of the FCA and other stakeholders to the recommendation of the City Planning Committee.

4.3 The Councillor was asked whether the city will be including art at LRT station stops in Riverside Park, as has been done at other stations, including Pimisi.

The Councillor responded that he is not aware of any plans to add art to further stations at this point.

4.4 A community member asked whether the city had provided contact information to a US company providing insurance for sewer-related issues.

The Councillor noted that the city had not provided lists, nor has it engaged in any partnership with the company. It seems that addresses were pulled from public sources. The Councillor will follow up with any additional information that becomes available.

4.5 Terry noted a useful meeting held in May 2019 with LRT and OCTranspo, suggesting that another meeting of this type be scheduled to address how the completed system will serve Riverside Park.

The Councillor suggested that if the goal of the meeting would be to obtain information, it can be scheduled at the convenience of the RPCA, but if there is a desire to influence changes, the meeting would need to be scheduled as soon as possible.

As the meeting would be primarily informational in nature, but could involve a substantive discussion about future development and services, Joel

suggested that “transportation” could be a theme for an upcoming RPCA board meeting.

- 4.6 In response to a request for new information about the Brigil development, the Councillor noted that the developer is working on its third revision of plans, but nothing has been filed with the city. He is encouraged by Brigil’s responsiveness to community input and the fact that they are not rushing development. He looks forward to facilitating public discussion at the appropriate time.

5. Report: RPCA Board of Directors

5.1 President’s Report

5.1.1 Joel presented the [President’s Report](#).

5.1.2 Joel noted that at the Councillor’s River Ward Community Association Breakfast, area community associations requested that the Councillor coordinate a group meeting with senior city planners, for a follow up discussion on the New Official Plan. The Councillor agreed to arrange such a meeting.

5.1.3 It was moved by Terry and seconded by Travis to accept the President’s Report.

Motion Carried

5.2 Gardening Committee Report

5.2.1 Joel presented the [Gardening Committee Report](#).

5.2.2 It was moved by Joel and seconded by Michael to accept the Gardening Committee Report.

Motion Carried

5.3 Planning and Development Committee Report

5.3.1 Katie presented the [Planning and Development Committee Report](#).

5.3.2 As part of the Committee Report, Katie provided an overview of the process being undertaken for drafting a response to the City’s New Official Plan by the RPCA that incorporates comments submitted by residents, feedback from experts, high level concerns shared by

members of the Federation of Citizen's Associations (FCA), and comments from the RPCA Board of Directors. The RPCA aims to submit a final document to the City on or before March 12, 2021.

5.3.2.1 In response to a question about whether the RPCA will support the FCA proposal to make the New OP an election issue, Katie noted that while the RPCA has not taken an official position on the decision of the FCA, our Association's comments clearly do not support the planning document, as drafted. The RPCA continues to gather community comments and is monitoring the situation closely in order to be well-positioned to provide additional feedback or request an extension of consultation on the New OP at a time when it will be most effective.

5.3.3 Councillor Brockington thanked Katie and members of the Planning and Development Committee for their efforts, noting that as Councillor, his focus will be on the transect proposed for Riverside Park, that would split the community into inner and outer urban at Walkley Road, as well as the designations for Riverside Drive and West Walkley Road as minor corridor and main street corridor, respectively.

The Councillor also suggested that delaying approval of the New OP would engage more people and achieve a better result from engagement of community leaders and residents while fostering a better understanding of the proposal. The final product will likely be improved if time is allowed for additional consideration.

5.3.3.1 Terry added that another good reason for a delay is that the accompanying transportation master plan will not be finished until next year. This plan and the New OP fit together, and we will not have the full picture on the New OP until the transportation master plan is complete.

5.3.4 It was moved by Joel and seconded by Sarah to accept the Planning and Development Committee Report.

Motion Carried

5.4 There was a question about how often the RPCA's Community Action Plan is updated. Joel noted that a new plan was adopted at the February board meeting that replaces the previous plan and lasts for two years. Joel committed to updating the action plan link on the RiversidePark.ca website.

6. Old Business

6.1 Donation to Debra Dynes Family House

6.1.1 As resolved at the RPCA's December meeting, a donation of \$900 (half of the surplus from the RPCA's Halloween activities) was made to the Debra Dynes Family House organization.

6.2 Update on Banking and Signing Authorities

6.2.1 Signing authorities for the RPCA will be changed now that the minutes of the February 3, 2021 meeting have been adopted.

6.3 Hydro One Twin Transmission Reconductoring

6.3.1 Terry provided an update about two exchanges he had with Hydro One since the February Board meeting. The first was about the environmental review process. Even though the reconductoring work does not meet the threshold for requiring an assessment or under the Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities, Hydro One conducted a review with special focus on screening criteria of environment assessment. The report concluded that the work involved insignificant and mitigatable environmental impacts.

The second exchange was about how Hydro One addressed environmental impacts on green spaces, recreational aspects, wildlife and neighbouring residents. Terry also requested information about how they modeled and assessed the electromagnetic field radiation. In response, Hydro One provided modeling graphics showing that at 50 meters from the line, the doubling of the line will have the same impact as standing 9 inches from a refrigerator. Terry commented that Hydro One seems to have done their due diligence.

6.3.2 A community member noted that there are two large community gardens along the hydro corridor and gardeners may want a warning before planting their gardens this spring.

6.4 Inquiry about Summer Student Funding for Park COVID Contact Tracing

6.4.1 Councillor Brockington followed up with the city about securing funding to hire summer students for monitoring and COVID-19 contact tracing at local parks and Mooney's Bay. He noted that there are two factors involved: Parks and Recreation staff have been reassigned to Ottawa Public Health and as a result, our own community centre has not yet reopened. Also, Parks and Recreation revenue from 2020 was

not generated, so there is insufficient capacity to hire as many staff people for the summer. Summer camps will still take place and involve hiring of students. Ottawa Public Health canvassers will also be used for contact tracing. Mooney's Bay will likely have a record summer again, so staff on site will be necessary, but hiring and staffing will likely take place on an ad hoc basis.

6.5 Operation Snow Angel

- 6.5.1 It was moved by Joel and seconded by Mark to make a donation of \$100 to the Ottawa Snowsuit Fund on behalf of the RPCA.

Motion Carried

7. New Business

7.1 RPCA Zoom Account

- 7.1.1 Joel suggested purchasing a Professional Account for the RPCA for conducting Committee and Board meetings. The RPCA currently uses a Board member's own professional account for Board meetings and Committee meetings are limited to 40 minutes when a free Zoom account is used.

- 7.1.2 It was moved by Joel and seconded by Sarah that the RPCA purchase a Professional Zoom account at a cost of \$200 USD.

Motion Carried

7.2 Update on RPCA Submission on Ottawa's New Official Plan

- 7.2.1 Katie shared an outline on-screen of the draft submission from RPCA on the City's New OP. The submission is divided into four sections, including an introduction, missing pieces in the New OP (this section of the RPCA's submission will cover a lack of metrics in the OP, a missing equity lens, no consideration of how COVID will change the city, inadequate accessibility to participation in consultations, and no consideration of renters), a focus on Riverside Park (including the transect at West Walkley Road, the designation of West Walkley Road as a main street corridor, and walkability), and the RPCA's recommendations which are based on the abovementioned issues.

- 7.2.1.1 Terry mentioned the need to change the transects to include all of Riverside Park into a single category.

- 7.2.1.2 Concerns were expressed that insufficient attention was

being given to the Mooney's Bay neighbourhood because of a semblance of greater willingness to accept development in that part of the community.

Joel provided assurances that while development is occurring along Brookfield Road and Riverside Drive, the RPCA strongly advocating against intense development within the interior of the Mooney's Bay, as well as other neighbourhoods across the community.

7.2.2 At the request of a community member, Terry explained a graphic showing the OP's proposal for West Walkley Road, noting that corridors are all about housing density, not traffic flow. As a proposed main street corridor under the current plan, West Walkley Road would be allowed development to a maximum height of up to nine storeys, reaching back 220 meters from Walkley on both sides.

7.2.3 Councillor Brockington provided an update about a conversation he had with the General Manager of Planning where he was told that his request to classify Riverside Park in one transect would be accepted and that he directed his staff to review the community. This does not amount to a guarantee, but the Manager agrees that our community should be within one transect, not two. The Councillor's position is that outer-urban is the most appropriate transect but he is open to listening to staff about reasonable accommodations within that transect near Brookfield Road and Riverside Drive.

The Councillor also shared concerns about having extremely inappropriate developments interspersed among single family dwellings. He provided additional information recently received from City staff that he will share with the RPCA in writing.

The Councillor also noted that even if West Walkley Road remains designated as a main street corridor, he will move a motion seeking a provision to limit the maximum height to fewer stories.

7.2.4 A community member who attended a virtual meeting of the Alta Vista Community Association on March 2, 2021 commented on a presentation that included top people from the planning commission who made a case that Alta Vista is a unique ward and stated that all the greenspace currently in Alta Vista should be retained as it will contribute to the overall tree canopy. The member reported on additional messages that ran counter to those reported to the RPCA at its January meeting by city planners, but expressed optimism in the messages conveyed by Councillor Brockington about retaining

elements in Riverside Park that contribute positively to our community's character.

- 7.2.5 Terry commented that if we can get Mooney's Bay classified as outer-urban, this would be a positive development. However, we also need to have the evolving overlay removed as it would be an accelerant for development.

He also argued that with regard to West Walkley Road, changing the designation from main street corridor to minor corridor should be non-negotiable.

- 7.2.6 Joel discussed working with Councillor Brockington to schedule another meeting with city planners that would include representatives from all of the other River Ward community associations.

He also expressed support for the idea of instead of finding a pocket for development within Riverside Park and offering it, rather than carving out an entire neighbourhood. The corner of Brookfield Road and Riverside Drive seems like a logical location for this.

- 7.2.7 Terry suggested drafting a letter that would accompany the RPCA's submission, highlighting problems with the process and calling for greater transparency, as well as a more accessible and inclusive process.

It was moved by Terry and seconded by Joel that the RPCA support the FCA resolution calling for an extended process for consultation and adoption of the New OP in order to allow for greater community input and plan revisions.

Motion Carried

7.3 West Walkley Road Traffic Calming Initiative

- 7.3.1 Terry thanked Riley for helping facilitate a meeting with city transportation planners about possible traffic calming measures for West Walkley Road. Updates were also provided and views exchanged on the status of the Airport Parkway expansion project, the West Walkley traffic calming pilot project, and photo radar. A comprehensive list of traffic calming initiatives for West Walkley Road was presented by the Subcommittee and discussed. The city planners agreed to review the proposals and get back to us. Another meeting will take place in June to follow-up on the proposals and to assess whether the traffic calming pilot project can proceed this Fall.

8. Other Business

- 8.1 It was pointed out that the 2019-2021 action plan is still on the RPCA website and retains the goal of included a fenced-in dog park.

Joel responded that the 2021-2023 plan which is now posted replaces the previous plan, but that expired plans remain on the site to provide a historical perspective.

- 8.1.1 Concerns were expressed about taking away valuable park space for dog parks when there are already areas that could be used for walking dogs.

- 8.1.2 Councillor Brockington noted that he receives frequent requests to redesignate parks as spaces for dogs, commenting that such discussions are often controversial.

He has inquired about the process involved in redesignating parks and suggested an unused section of Paget Park close to the berm which is already bound on two sides as worthy of consideration. This could also help solve ongoing issues with off-leash dogs in the playground section of the park which is more widely used. He has asked staff to review whether the playground section could be designated as no dogs allowed, while the other small section of unused greenspace could be used as an off-leash dog park.

- 8.2 A community member noted that the skating rink at Paget Park has been very successful with several children and families using it.

9. Announcements

- 9.1 There were no announcements.

10. Next Board of Directors Meeting

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

11. Adjournment

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

Motion Carried

11.2 The meeting was adjourned at 9:39 p.m.

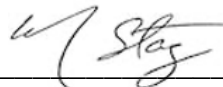
Meeting minutes were prepared by:

Mark Staz

Minutes confirmed by:



Joel Duff, President



Mark Staz