



Leslie Park Community Association Meeting
Thursday, November 2, 2017
7:00pm
Leslie Park Public School

Meeting Minutes:

<u>Agenda Item:</u>	<u>Action Items:</u>
<p>1) Welcome and Introductions (Rachel Tweedy) 30 neighbours attended this meeting including Constable Kevin Williams from the Ottawa Police Service</p>	
<p>2) Thank you to our volunteers (Rachel Tweedy) Rachel acknowledged:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Nicole Lauro who coordinated another successful membership drive b. Alina Matern and Alfia Sorokina who organized the amazing Picnic in the Park to celebrate Canada's 150th birthday c. Melinda Buijis who keeps the community up to date as the social media coordinator d. Peter Talajic who coordinates the volunteers who deliver our newsletter to 800 households e. Alicia Martinez who organized the Fall Fun Day f. Kristine Bourque and Anthony who have volunteered to organize the Winter Fun Day g. Mark Howard and Jane O'Regan who will be running the rink this winter h. Andrew Barton who joined LPCA's executive as the Vice-President i. Marina Hartley who continues to keep our books organized as the Treasurer 	
<p>3) Q&A with Community Police Officer Constable Kevin Williams</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constable Williams reported that there are now only 3 police officers covering an area of the west end that extends to Stittsville so they are extremely busy keeping up with the demands of serving such a large catchment. • Constable Williams reminded residents when to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Call 911: 	<p>Rachel: Confirm with Constable Williams the relevant phone numbers/website URLs that residents should have and post on the website.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There is a crime in progress – i.e. someone is breaking into your car/shed/home ▪ Someone is trespassing on your property ▪ There is a medical emergency ○ Call 613.236.1222 or Report it online or via the App <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Theft (excluding theft of passports) ▪ Lost Property (With a visible serial number or distinct marking such as a custom engraving) ▪ Mischief/Damage to Property ▪ Theft from Vehicle ▪ Traffic Complaints ▪ Drug Complaints ▪ Fraud Complaints ▪ Hate Crimes • Residents had questions about what to do in these situations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A door to door solicitor wants access to a resident’s home to see a furnace/hot water heater etc. – <i>Constable Williams suggested that if they have received a fraudulent phone call/email/communication and have not provided any personal information or lost any money, they should contact the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at 1-888-495-8501 to file a report for statistical purposes.</i> ○ You see cars parked near the path to the park and you see people heading down to the bridge to potentially make a drug deal – <i>Constable Williams noted that this would not warrant a 911 call, but the resident could report it online or, if they wished to remain anonymous, contact Crime Stoppers at crimestoppers.ca or 1-800-222-8477.</i> • Constable Williams emphasized the importance of reporting every theft or criminal activity (no matter how small) as the statistics are important for determining resourcing and police patrol coverage. • Jane noted that break ins/thefts seem to be cyclical and often begin after March Break and continue until the weather turns colder. • Constable Williams encouraged residents to contact him if they had any questions or concerns at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cst. Kevin Williams WilliamsK@ottawapolice.ca ○ 613.236.1222, ext. 2243 	
<p>4) Update on Status of Leslie Park School Closure (Rachel Tweedy)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rachel reported on the status of the school currently: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the report that includes recommendations on which schools to dispose of won't be issued now until November 14th (it was originally expected in October) 	

- there is still some debate on the long term need for some of the properties and no final decision has been made on whether the Board will keep or dispose of Leslie Park School
- because the Board hasn't yet declared the school surplus, the meter has not yet started running on the timeline to submit proposals - it won't likely start until the new year
- we will continue to engage with Rick's office and stay in touch with QCH and the City, but nothing can happen until the Board report is delivered

- If the Board declares the school surplus, it will be offered to other school boards first. If no other boards want the property, public institutions (including municipalities, colleges, health agencies, First Nations groups etc.) have 90 days to express interest in the property and another 90 days to make an offer.
- In September, Rachel and Councillor Rick Chiarelli met with MPP Bob Chiarelli to explore whether the school building, if it were declared surplus could be used as a '[community hub](#)'. A community hub makes it easier for residents to access the health, social, cultural, recreational and other resources they need together in one spot. Community hubs serve as a central access point, which offer services in collaboration with different community agencies and service providers.
- MPP Chiarelli made suggestions for people to connect with and a subsequent meeting was organized by Rick Chiarelli for the LPCA, planners from the Queensway Carleton Hospital, The City of Ottawa, and the OCDSB. The purpose of the meeting was to meet, gather information, and brainstorm possibilities for partnerships that could sustain the building as a community hub.
- A private school has expressed interest in the building but in the property disposition process, they would not have an opportunity to submit a proposal until the building goes to public tender. At this point, they would be competing with private organizations like developers.

Questions from the Community:

Q1 – Will the OCDSB continue to plow the building an property during the winter?

Answer (from OCDSB)- There will be one pass plowing of the fire lane and they will maintain the walkway to the front door at Leslie Park.

Q2 – How often are OCDSB visiting the school? How are residents to know whether activity/people in the school is legitimate or suspicious?

Answer from (from OCDSB) - There is a staff member visiting the school two to three times a week to complete their checklists. This will continue until further notice. The OCDSB has placed signs on the doors and play structure for the public to contact the main switchboard at the OCDSB Depot if they have concerns. Unless it is a crime in progress, any suspicious activity should be reported to the Board, not the police as the building is considered private property.

Rachel: inform the community of the status of the school building in the December newsletter

<p>5) Update on Financials (Marina Hartley)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marina provided an update on the LPCA’s finances – statements will be circulated at the spring AGM. • Marina noted that we are in a surplus position and some of the highlights included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The membership drive generated almost \$2600 in funds. With an online option through the website, we can collect funds all year and we have received a few donations after the May renewal period. b. One of the biggest expenses in this fiscal year was the Picnic in the Park/150th Birthday celebration due to the rental of tents and tables/chairs. The LPCA Executive had budgeted for this expense as it was a special, one-time occasion. c. The Winter and Fall Fun days were cost neutral as any expenditures were covered by donations. • Marina confirmed that the LPCA had \$8324.10 in the bank. 	
<p>6) Call for Volunteers (Rachel Tweedy)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rachel reported that there is a vacancy on the LPCA Executive and a Secretary is needed. Kristine Bourque has volunteered for the role. • Jane O’Regan provided an update on the Rink Operations for this winter: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jane reported that she and Mark will be running the rink for this year to build up a larger volunteer base to sustain it for future years. ○ Jane noted that the LPCA will be providing an honorarium of \$500 for managing the supervision of the rink and a \$500 honorarium for the maintenance of the rink. Jane said that if a resident would like to take on the supervision, to please contact her. ○ Jane reported that the rink needs supervisors (paid or volunteer), flooders, snow clearers and a team to help get the base ice ready at the end of December. Supervisors will be paid \$10.70 an hour and returning supervisors will be paid \$12 an hour. ○ Rachel will be coordinating with St. John the Apostle for school skating. ○ Anyone interested in volunteering can contact info@lesliepark.ca and there will be an orientation session in mid-December. 	
<p>7) Upcoming Community Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Winter Fun Day will be moved from January 20th to another date in January to accommodate organizers Krissy and Anthony’s schedule. • The Griswold Christmas decorating contest will be launching in early December. 	<p>Rachel: Publicize the new date for the Winter Fun Day on the website and social media</p>

8) Other Business

- Andrew Barton mentioned that in 2016, the City Stream Watch program conducted surveys on 53 sections (5.3 km) of Graham Creek including the section that runs through Leslie Park. [The report](#) includes interesting information on the wildlife, vegetation and invasive species found in or near the creek.
- One resident asked about the status of the sidewalk on Costello. Rachel reported that there is now a new sidewalk installed by the City. The safety concerns about the condition of the old path raised by the Costello Gardens Association have been addressed and the old path has been removed.
- The group discussed the status of the rental units on Costello (the only terrace homes that have not been renovated) as there was a For Sale sign that came down. Rachel reported that the previous owner, Dragon Ho has gone into receivership and the property was being managed by Collins Barrow. Kristine Bourque (a realtor) confirmed that the real estate listing had expired, and the sign may be down while they find another agent – this does not mean the property had been sold. One resident wondered whether a community housing co-op could go in its place, but this would need to be re-zoned by the City.
- Janice Rupert mentioned that in her basement she has the plans for all the homes built in the Leslie Park Community and she is looking for a way to catalogue the information and share it. Claire Sonier offered to work with Janice to sort through and scan the documents.
- Rachel was asked about the status of resurfacing Harrison as it has been postponed at least twice. Rachel said she would follow up with Councillor Chiarelli’s office for an update.

Rachel: post a link to the Graham Creek report on the Leslie Park

Rachel: follow up with Councillor Chiarelli’s office on resurfacing of roads.

9) Meeting Adjourned