

Chapel Hill North Community Association (CHNCA): Public Meeting

Tuesday February 27, 2018 Orleans Library

Present:

Katie Morissette, President
Patrick Brazeau, Vice President; Forest Valley Trails Working Group (FVTWG) member
Brett Stewart, Treasurer
Pascal Laverdure, Director Parks & Rec; co-Chair FVTWG
Vacant, Secretary

Guest: Tammy Lynch, Councillor Mitic's Office, City of Ottawa

Susan Bureau, resident
Jillian Bureau, Chair of the Heritage Park Working Group
Susan Davies, FVTWG member
Ghislain St-Jacques, FVTWG member
Nancy Barrett, resident
Donald Barrett, resident
Rejean Bordeleau, resident
John Dick, FVTWG member

1. Welcome and Introductions.

Commencement of meeting at 6:35 p.m.
Katie welcomed and thanked everyone assembled for attending. She advised that Jennifer MacMurdo had decided to resign from the CHNCA Board as Secretary.
Patrick reminded everyone of the importance for all discussion to be conducted respectfully.
It was advised that the meeting would be recorded to assist with the taking of minutes.
Everyone in attendance was asked to introduce themselves.

2. Review Agenda

No additions to the agenda.

3. Review and Approval of Minutes

There were two sets of minutes for approval.
The minutes of the September 26, 2017 were not approved during the November meeting as additional content revision was requested.

Meeting Minutes from September 26, 2017:

Katie asked for any further discussion or revision. There was no further discussion or revision.

Katie called for approval of the revised September 26th minutes. All were in favour. Addition of text provided by the FVTWG will be added to the minutes as an addendum.

Meeting Minutes from November 28th, 2017:

Katie asked for any further discussion or revision. There was no further discussion or revision.

Katie called for approval of the November 28th minutes. All were in favour.

4. Review of Action Items

Action items to be addressed through agenda reporting.

5. Presidents Report

Katie reported some resident feedback concerning the lighting for outdoor rinks being on a push button user activated timer system rather than coming on at dusk and going off at 11:00 p.m. The concern was that many residents were perhaps unfamiliar with the lighting system and might assume the rink was not open for use. Katie worked with Parks Staff to develop a poster highlighting info for residents about the outdoor rinks (including a map), which was circulated on our social media. Tammy was able to respond that the use of user activated lighting on a timer is quite common and helps with conservation and cost reduction.

Katie explained the options to fill the vacant Secretary position on the Board. She asked if anyone attending the meeting would have interest in the position. There was some clarification of the duties and time commitment involved, and that it would be a case of completing the current term to the next AGM in May, however, no one put their name forward.

Another option would be to post the position on the CHNCA website and through other social media channels to see if anyone in the community wished to put their name forward.

A final option would be to simply continue to the AGM in May with the position vacant, and then fill the position during the normal annual election process.

6. Update from Councillor Mitic's Office

Tammy provided updates.

Heritage Dog Park:

- A request from Jillian to add two or three more covered waste collection units in the park to handle animal waste from the off-leash area and to reduce odour. The covered waste units are expensive and would likely not be supplied through the parks budget. Additional un-covered units may be possible or to explore fundraising for the covered units.

- A request from Jillian to install a waste station to supply baggies for animal waste collection. A local business 'Critter Jungle' has expressed a willingness to supply the plastic baggies. The parks department has looked into the design and mounting of the waste bag dispenser and is willing to install a mounting post and attach a dispenser. Critter Jungle must provide the dispenser and maintain the supply of bags. Suggestion to add a phone number to the dispenser to alert when bags are running low.

- A request from Jillian to add a public access water supply to allow owners to keep pets hydrated at the off-leash area. Tammy indicated that the City is moving away from public water fountains and especially when there is the potential for both human and animal water source access as a health concern. What is certain is that parks will not fund a water fountain – either from the municipal water supply or well-fed –

but would consider a community funded installation proposal. Rejean expressed concern that the community should not circumvent health and safety restrictions even if we are able to raise the necessary funds.

- Tammy advised of the 'Adopt A Park' initiative. With a commitment to organizing a Spring and Fall cleanup, community groups can adopt a park at no cost. Heritage Park is currently adopted by another group, but the group may be looking for another park option closer to their location. CHNCA would potentially be interested in adopting Heritage Park.

Action: Tammy to follow up regarding whether or not the Heritage Park adoption could be secured.

Other updates:

- The Gerald Poulin splash pad – completed in the fall of 2017 – will open for the first year of full operation as of the Victoria Day weekend. Tammy encouraged a community event as a grand opening of the new splash pad. 'Parks Month' is coming up in June and might be a good tie in with the splash pad official opening. A potential date of June 2nd was mentioned for the grand opening.

- Councillor Mitic's Free Pancake Breakfast on Saturday March 31st between 9 and 11 a.m. at St. Kateri Tekakwitha School, 6400 Beauséjour Dr. Enbridge gas will be a sponsor and do the cooking.

- Orleans Little League has had success with two of three matched funding proposals for facility / infrastructure upgrading. The first project is to replace the existing scoreboard positioned just beyond the outfield fence. The second project would cover the installation of a permanent batting cage. Orleans Little League must provide the City with a proposal outlining options for the location of the batting cage on the Heritage Park property. The proposal would then require public consultation before approval.

It was recommended that the public consultation be added to the agenda of the next scheduled CHNCA meeting. To make the public consultation as effective as possible, the proposal and meeting time and location will need to be advertise well in advance, through a variety of channels.

Action: Tammy to help with the participation of Renee Proteau from the City to facilitate the public consultation.

7. Forest Valley Trails Working Group

An update summary from the working group was presented by Pascal (co-chair of the FVTWG):

"Since our last update to the CHNCA in Sept, the FVTWG has met at least 4 more times and has carried out an astounding amount of research; varied consultations with forest experts from NCC and the City; have explored forest maintenance and custodian responsibilities and applications in light of environmental protection status, much like the highest such status ("EP1") of both land parcels; and have explored possibilities of their enjoyment within existing constraints, policies and guidelines.

The group is now trying to compile a list of specific priorities on forest trail enjoyment in order to present these at an upcoming CHNCA meeting and to start CHN resident consultations on these recommendations and proposed use."

Discussion among other FVTWG members continued and highlighted some of the issues being addressed by the working group. Much focus on research and understanding the trends in terms of green space stewardship and evolving environmental protection policy. It has been challenging to navigate with three levels of government involved: The City of Ottawa – Municipal, The NCC – Federal agency, Watershed a responsibility of the Provincial Government. The zoning of the entire area appears to be under City jurisdiction. There is significant erosion potential with the soil make up. The NCC does not recognize the

existing trails and 'official trails'. User conflict will be important to address. The compatibility of walkers, pet owners, runners, cyclists, skiers, snowshoeing, etc. The focus of the work group is on Forest Trail Enjoyment.

Action: To have a general outline and timeline related to the working group proposal to share at the upcoming AGM.

8. Update on Heritage Park Working Group

All points of activity were covered during the updates from Tammy and related discussion.

9. Other Business

Two bylaw amendments were proposed.

First: Article 17.1 states that the fiscal year will be based on the calendar year. The last financial statement was based on the period from April 1st to March 31st. This fiscal period is consistent with the City of Ottawa. The proposal is to formally adjust the fiscal year from April 1st to March 31st.

Second: Article 8.2 states that there will be an auditors' report presented at the AGM. Though an annual audit is a common requirement for registered / incorporated not-for-profit entities, CHNCA is not a formally registered entity and has a minimal operating budget at this time. The cost of an audit would exceed the budget resources of the association. The proposal is to suspend the bylaw requirement for audited statements until such time as warranted by a significant increase of financial activity. Year-end statements will still continue to be posted publicly on the CHNCA website.

Motion 2018-1: That the bylaw reference to the CHNCA fiscal year be adjusted to April 1st to March 31st.
Katie / Patrick

Motion 2018-2: That the bylaw reference to audited statements be suspended until time as warranted by increased financial activity.
Katie / Patrick

Rejean requested an update on the Forest Valley traffic calming survey completed in 2015. Tammy responded that there was no clear preference among residents that answered the survey, and that other traffic calming measures that have since been installed along Forest Valley (e.g. speed boards, paint markings) seem to be helping reduce drivers' speed.

Patrick raised concerns with the current PXO on Forest Valley at Des Ravins – several drivers seen ignoring pedestrians trying to cross, especially in the morning when glare from the sun could be causing low visibility. Suggested we run a 2-week campaign with a crossing guard to help raise drivers' awareness of the PXO.

10. Adjournment

7:50 p.m. Next meeting will be the AGM in May (date TBD).