

Blackburn Community Association

Meeting Minutes

January 21, 2021 7:30 pm

1. Call to order at 7:30pm
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Minutes from previous meetings
 - Motion to approve the minutes from November 19, 2020 by Lisa Margeson. Seconded by Don Kelly. Approved
4. Councillor Update (Laura Dudas)
 - Arena completion is on track for end the of May. Laura's office will be returning to the Area and will open based on Provincial guidelines.
 - The Splashpad contract has been awarded awarded to Excel Contracting Inc. Construction will be completed Finish by the end of September. The City of Ottawa and Laura's office each contributed an extra to cover increased costs.
 - Vaccine rollout has covered the first dose to 92% of long-term care home residents. Remaining vaccines in stock will be used for the second doses. The next priority will be other vulnerable populations. More information will be shared with council next week.
 - Ottawa's Growth Management strategy will be discussed next week. One discussion will focus on the proposed gold belt that would be used to contain urban sprawl.
 - NCC is adamant that no development would go on Greenbelt lands. The exception is a TriBro film studio that will be built on the former Greenbelt Research Farm, near the intersection of West Hunt Club Road and Woodroffe Avenue.
 - Bylaw enforcement for rinks and toboggan hills is similar to the original mask enforcement. They started with warnings and are now moving to fines. Some hills have been reported busy, but Rink use in the Hamlet has been more restrained. Residents are encouraged to avoid congested parking areas, hills and rinks and call 311 to report excess crowding.
 - The BCA raised a concern on options for local vaccinations where residents have limited transportation options. Laura will bring our concerns back to the City.
5. BCA Financial update & 2021 Budget (Lisa Margeson)
 - Motion to approve the Zoom \$226 cost for access from Nov 2020 to Oct 2021 by Mark Lister. Seconded by Satinder Sahota. Approved.
 - When the Zoom license expires next year, we will consider other options, such as Webex.

- We need to cleanup a couple of items in the 2020 financials before they can be submitted to the accountant for review. This includes the costs for the Halloween and Grad events.
- The 2021 City funding will depend on when restrictions are lifted.
- The GST Registration will be finalized by the end of the month, once we have completed the 2020 financials.
- We have been registered with CRA Since Jan 1991 but are classed as Caretaker status, which we will need to remedy.
- Motion to include the \$2500 bike stand in the 2021 Budget by Mark Lister. Seconded by Lisa Margeson. Approved
- Motion to approve the 2021 BCA budget by Mark Lister. Seconded by Don Kelly. Approved.

6. Finance Committee (Mark Lister)

- Once our financial statements are completed, we will need a committee to review the statements before presenting them at the AGM. The committee will also action any recommendations we receive on improving our processes and safeguarding our assets. It will consist of the BCA Executive and any board members who wish to participate. Satinder Sahota has agreed to join the committee.

7. AGM Date (Mark Lister)

- We need to set the AGM date so that it can be included in the next BANAR.
- Motion to set the AGM Date for March 25, 2021 by Mark Lister. Seconded by Brent Lawrie. Approved.

8. Website Update (Daniel Gosson)

- We recently received the package from the students and the initial review looks promising. An update will be sent to the board next week.

9. Neighbourhood Watch (Don Kelly)

- As of January 21, the Blackburn Hamlet Neighborhood Watch has 135 members, 22 Street Captains and representation on 27 streets within the Hamlet. Over 500 copies of the Neighborhood Watch info package have been delivered to our residents.
- The current City rules require a minimum of 40% of the homes on a street must be signed as members to qualify as a Neighbourhood watch street. None of our streets meet this. Don has proposed to alter the rules so that any street with 15 Homes signed up or 40% would qualify for certification and is waiting for a response.

10. Ottawa Neighbourhood Studies (Don Kelly)

- Don has been reviewing three Neighbourhood studies that include Blackburn Hamlet - Ottawa Neighbourhood Study, Area Vibes and the Community Safety and Well Being Plan. The first two contain statistics that are specific to the Hamlet. The Ottawa Neighbourhood study is out of date. Area Vibes is using 2019 data pulled from Statistics Canada, but contains misleading stats on crime and some of the schools.
- One important fact is that in 2019 Blackburn Hamlet had a population 8,468 with 20.7% of the population 65 or older, while another 13.5% were 55-64. With such a high senior population, the BCA needs to consider improving our Seniors program.
- Don has agreed to take on the Seniors Coordinator role on an interim basis and will look at redefining and expanding the role to meet the needs of the community. Daniel has also been talking to an area resident about filling this role in the future, once the pandemic situation has been resolved.

11. BCA By-law (Brent Lawrie)

- A lot of work has been done over the past year to improve our By-law in preparation for a vote by BCA members at the AGM.
- Motion to approve the new version of the bylaws dated January 21, 2021 and post them for membership to vote on at upcoming the AGM by Satinder Sahota. Seconded by Brent Lawrie. Approved.

12. Hall Coordinator & IT Director (Mark Lister)

- Auramarina has stepped down as Hall Coordinator. She will be available to assist in handing over the duties once we have filled the position. The position will remain vacant until we know when the hall will be reopened.
- Kevin has advised that he will not be running for re-election at the AGM. He will be available for emergency assistance and to hand over duties when a new Director is elected.
- The board would like to extend our gratitude to both for everything that have done for the BCA.

13. Rinks (Mark Lister)

- All Rinks are open again.
- Rink attendants have been hired but they only work short shifts to clear the ice at the start of the evening skate and before flooding, plus an extra shift during the day on the weekends.
- They were hired as employees at minimum wage.

- Ali is using the snowblower on the tractor to clear snow from the Norman Johnson rink and Bearbrook is using new snowblower. Miguel Trudeau has also been hired to clear large snowfalls.
- City has published updated restrictions, which will be posted on our Facebook page.

14. Forêt Capital Forest (Kendra Brett)

- This initiative to maintain and improve the local urban forest canopy initially approached community associations looking for grants, but have recently received funding for their initiative. They are looking to assist Community organizations with their own tree planting initiatives. As they get moving, they will be looking for additional volunteers.

15. Ottawa East End Cycling (Dave)

- Bike Ottawa organized a meeting with all four East End councillors earlier this week. 65 residents attended. Each councillor provided updates on cycling related projects in their ward. All four actively cycled last year and have better understanding of deficiencies in the network.
- City planners are looking for residents to provide suggestions for new paths. If you have an ideal, you can submit it through your councillor's offices.
- Upcoming projects for Blackburn Hamlet include the Montreal Road LRT station, which will include a path from the Parkway, through the station and beyond.
- They are lobbying for a path to be added along Orleans Blvd.
- Improvements to the Eastbound Innes path from Blair to Blackburn could include a crossover at the Prison traffic lights and a bidirectional path to Pepin Court.
- As part of the Innes road repaving, bike lanes will be widened West of Anderson.
- NCC has released 10 year pathway plan which includes one from Tauvette, past the baseball diamond, crossing Innes at the bypass light, down to the Prescott Russell Trail and further towards Walkley (no firm date, within the next few years).

16. BANAR

- January 28 is the deadline for the next edition.

17. Public attendance

- If any BCA members are interested in attending a board meeting, they are encouraged to contact secretary at least 24 hours in advance.
- We need the event dates to be posted on the BCA website, facebook, in the BANAR and in our eNewsletters.

- Lynn to create message with Mark and Brent with information on how to attend so that it can also be published.

18. Newsletter

- Lynn to verify if we can have a newsletter@blackburnhalmet.ca email address for those who work on the newsletters.

19. Speeding

- We are seeing a lot of reports about speeding on our Facebook page. Dave will work with Don and Nina to post a standard facebook message to always report it to the Police.

20. Adjournment at 10pm (Next meeting February 18, 2021, 7:30pm)

Attendees

Mark Lister

Brent Lawrie

Lisa Margeson

Lynn Lefevre

Daniel Gosson

Don Kelly

Kendra Brett

Nina Ryan

Satinder Sahota

Dave Garand

Ian Chamberland

Tracy Wilson

Laura Dudas (Innes Ward Councillor)

Chelsey Wynne (Councillor's office)

BCA Board

Executive

President: Mark Lister

Vice President & Facilities and Operations: Brent Lawrie

Secretary: Lynn Lefevre

Treasurer: Lisa Margeson

Past President: Ali Yassine

Director Portfolio's

Environment: Kendra Brett

Parks & Rinks: Zack Jackson

Communications: Nina Ryan, Dan Gosson, Patrick Phillips

Community Relations: Kiel Dixon

Website: Vacant

Transportation: and Community Safety: Don Kelly

Youth: Vacant

Membership: Satinder Sahota

Committee Chairs

BANAR: Kendra Brett

Seniors: Don Kelly

Beautification: Vacant

Community Hall: Vacant

Events

Fun Fair: Ian Chamberland

Canada Day: Tracy Wilson & Jason Wegner

Cancer Chase: Don Kelly

Hockey Day: Mark Lister & Zack Jackson

Pot Luck Dinners: Auramarina Sawyer

Santa's Pancake Breakfast: Tracy Wilson & Jason Wegner

Volunteer Appreciation: Mark Lister

Spring Cleanup: Kendra Brett

Seniors Information Event: Vacant

Bike Rodeo: Dave Garand