

**Blackburn Community Association (BCA)  
Minutes for Thursday, February 18th, 2010**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Roger Smiley  
Trisha Cloutier  
Sarah Cloutier  
Laura Czekaj Dudas  
Charles Kennedy  
Al Ross  
Evelyn Budd  
Tom Scott  
Helen Rosseau  
Paula Rosenquist  
Lynn Leduc  
Rainer Bloess  
Annick Laporte

**Guest:**

Natalie Steele (EORC)  
Teri Sabourin (Resident)  
Sheryl Travy (Resident)

**CALL TO ORDER**

Roger called the meeting to order at 7:35.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

January minutes were approved. Motioned by Helen, seconded by Al, carried.

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

The Orleans Chamber of Commerce, several east end community associations, and east end councillors are uniting to oppose alternatives to the Kettle Island location for the inter-provincial bridge. The BCA has been invited to take part in the next stage of the NCC process.

There was an excellent turnout at the NCC public meeting by the BCA and the local residents. The east end is sending strong messages.

Regarding Dr. Sati: Helen received an email from the organizers. They have all the volunteers they need and are now seeking sponsors.

**GUEST**

Natalie Steele explained that the East Ottawa Resource Centre has received additional funding for initiatives in the area. The survey that was sent out with the last BANAR is intended to reveal how best to use the funding to serve the residents of Blackburn Hamlet. The results of the survey should be available

soon and will be published in the BANAR. Natalie is looking to assemble focus groups to create new initiatives. These groups will be open to all. She provided the BCA with contact information. This will be available on the BCA website.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Roger delivered his annual president's report. He gave a grateful thank you on behalf of the BCA to Jan Whitehouse for her work on the Community Hall, where we are seeing a 12% increase in demand over the last year. This brings the number of users up to 2500 children and 4500 adults a year, or over 2000 hours of use. This illustrates the need for the planned expansion of the hall.

Roger also thanked Tom for a great job managing the Parks and Recreation portfolio, Evelyn for continuing to keep the main communication vehicle, the BANAR, going strong, and Jenn Cloutier for making the last two Funfairs a rousing success.

Roger closed by announcing his departure as president.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Al gave his yearly report on the BCA's finances. The BCA has a gross annual surplus of \$24,536 for 2009. The Balance Sheet will be made available on the Website and in a future BANAR.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

#### **PARKS AND RECREATION**

Tom delivered his annual report on the parks and rinks. Maintenance went very well with Ryan Van Bruinessoen, who did an excellent job. Tom will be replacing the cart.

All walkways have been repaved except the one behind Ste-Marie school, which is on private property.

The mild weather has resulted in a higher level of vandalism, loitering, and bottle-smashing at the rinks. Some monitors have felt compelled to leave due to the presence of aggressive loiterers. A stronger police presence will be asked for.

#### **SENIORS**

Sarah reported that after 10+ years the 50 Plus Club is going strong. Potlucks, diners, pub nights, tours and outings have continued to be popular and well attended. The group has been invited to attend the opening of the St. Louis Residence on Tuesday 23rd of February.

#### **WEBSITE**

Helen reported that the website is up to date and well frequented.

#### **ENVIRONMENT**

Paula will apply for City funding for another rain barrel initiative. Al offered to provide past sales records of rain barrels if needed for the proposal.

The **Spring Clean Up** date is set at April 17th with a rain date of April 24th. The annual Blackburn Hamlet **Garage Sale** will be held on May 1st.

## **COUNCILOR'S REPORT**

Rainer thanked the BCA for a great year. Chapel Hill South now has strong community Association. Rainer emphasised that community associations make a big difference.

The NCC public Meeting at Ecole Secondaire Louis Riel was very well attended; despite an email server glitch that failed to notify many residents of the meeting. The east end sent a very clear message to the NCC that the Greenbelt is important to our communities and not to be parcelled, subdivided, or sold off. The City would like to address the Winter Kill issue by making seed and topsoil available on Clean Up Day to residents who's lawns have suffered damage. Instructions on watering the new grass would be included.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **FUNFAIR**

The Funfair will be held on the weekend of June 5th. Special applications have been filed. Permits are next. Trisha has a good group of volunteers and everything is in place for the fair.

### **COMMUNITY CENTER**

Charles has found several volunteers. They will be putting together 2-3 proposals for the public to review and comment on. The group will be touring community centers that have facilities similar to what is being considered.

### **BANAR**

BANAR delivery remains a challenge. Les Guides and Blackburn Taekwon-Do have been the most reliable. This coming issue will be the last issue delivered to Chapel Hill South, except for the Funfair issue.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Community Hall:

The fridge has been replaced.

There have been new requests for a bench in the entrance to the community hall. Roger is still seeking a flip up bench for that location but has not yet found a supplier.

The city has said it will remove the winter mats after March Break as leaving them in warmer weather causes more problems than they solve.

Requests were made for a simple sun shade on the back patio.

Laura, Jan, and Roger met to discuss the rates. The City has asked that the rates be adjusted as they are considered exceedingly low. A new rates schedule is ready. It will be available on the website and will continue to differentiate from and favour Blackburn over non-Blackburn organizations.

Approval of the new rates was motioned by Charles, seconded by Helen.

Carried.

A motion to increase the honorarium paid to Jan Whitehouse to \$300/month was made. Motioned by Laura, seconded by Tom, carried.

**2010 Election of Officials:**

Laura Czekaj Dudas - President  
Annick Laporte - Vice President  
Al Ross - Treasurer  
Charles Kennedy - Community Relations  
Paula Rosenquist - Environment  
Sarah Cloutier - Senior  
Tom Scott - Parks and Recreation  
Helen Rosseau - Website  
Jenn Cloutier - Youth  
Patrick Kahtouni - Communications  
Sheryl Tracy - Secretary

**Approval of Appointments:**

Evelyn Budd - BANAR  
Motioned by Tom, seconded by Charles, carried  
Jan Whitehouse - Community Hall  
Motioned by Charles, seconded by Laura, carried  
Trisha Cloutier - Funfair  
Motioned by Charles, seconded by Laura, carried

**Meeting was adjourned by Laura, seconded by Tom, at 9:05**

Next meeting is at the Library, March 18th, at 7:30pm.