

Blackburn Community Association

Meeting Agenda

September 15, 2022 7:30 pm

1. Call to order at 7:35pm
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Minutes from previous meetings
 - Motion to approve the minutes from June 16, 2022 by Kiel Dixon-Lawlor. Seconded by Brent Lawrie. Approved
4. Election Debate (Jenny Lawrence)
 - We are working with other Community Associations to hold an in-person Councillor debate in the Community Hall. Tentative dates are October 1, 8 or 9 in the Evening. The final date will be set once all candidates respond.
 - If you have suggestions for a debate moderator, questions to ask and debate format, please send them to Jenny@blackburnhamlet.ca.
 - Satinder Sahota suggested that Mayoral candidates be allowed to setup info tables at the event.
 - Lynn Lefevre suggested that Rainer Bloess be contacted for the debate Moderator.
5. Christmas Bazaar (Jenny Lawrence)
 - We are planning on organizing a BCA Christmas Bazaar in the Hall either on December 3 or 10.
 - There will be no cost for a Business to participate, but they will be encouraged to make a donation to the Ottawa Hospital Mental Health Research.
 - Priority will be given to local businesses.
6. Event Dates & 2022-2023 Hall reservations (Lynn Lefevre)
 - Volunteer Appreciation
 - Santa's Breakfast (need coordinator) Dec 3 or 10
 - Christmas Bazaar Dec 3 or 10
 - Spring Cleanup
 - Garage Sale May 6
 - Canada Day June 30, July 1 & 2.
7. BCA Finances (Lisa Margeson)
 - Our original budget projected a \$12k deficit. Based on our current revenue and spending, we are now projecting a \$12k surplus. This is mainly due to the cancellation of the Canada Day event, lower expenses for Funfair and higher Hall revenues.
 - Board directors are asked to start planning their 2023 Budget requirements.
 - We have cancelled the bookkeeper contract. Lisa Margeson is currently maintaining our records.

8. Federal Riding redistribution (Kiel Dixon-Lawlor)

- The Federal Orleans riding is changing significantly under the proposed new riding map that was redrawn based on population distribution. Under this proposal, Blackburn Hamlet would be moved to the Vanier-Ottawa riding.
- Would the BCA be willing to submit a letter formally requesting that Blackburn Hamlet remain part of the Orleans riding where we have stronger ties?
- Motion by Brent Lawrie to formally oppose the Federal riding redistribution that would move Blackburn Hamlet out of the Orleans riding by writing a letter of opposition to our Member of Parliament, Marie-France Lalonde. Seconded by Kiel Dixon-Lawlor. Motion Carried.

9. Youth (Maureen Forsythe)

- The new "rainbow" mural on Lois Kemp Arena was completed on August 10th. Twelve youth participated in the design consultation with artist Ryan Smeeton on July 11th and 20 youth participated in the painting/installation on August 10th.
- The Let's Talk Poetry Event with Henry Beissel planned for the end of August had to be cancelled because Mr. Beissel was ill.
- The Young Helping Hands for Seniors program was launched on May 21, 2022. There were 6 youth who regularly volunteered and a total of 9 visits were organised from 21 May through 31 July. If volunteers are available, the program will continue (weekends only) from October 8th through November 20th to assist seniors with the fall yard cleanup.
- The Wonderful Writers 2022 Essay Contest for Youth was launched in August and posters were shared with schools in early September. The deadline for submission is October 14th. The theme of the essay is "Come of Age" and youth have a choice of three topics to write about.
- A Haunted Halloween event for youth will be held outside at the Community Hall on Saturday October 29th from 2-4pm. The event will include a scavenger hunt, other outdoor activities, refreshments, treats and prizes.

10. Beautification (Miriam Hampson)

- **Gardens:** Our group of 17 volunteers dwindled over the summer to 12 due to other commitments and some due to health issues. Unfortunately, one of our volunteers passed away suddenly after a brief illness (Richard Manicom). Both Richard and his wife Esther have been part of the watering team for the last two years. He was a lovely gentleman, always ready to share his garden knowledge with others. I have attached his obituary for anyone interested.
<https://ottawacitizen.remembering.ca/obituary/richard-manicom-1086089338/guestbook>

Our team of twelve managed to keep the gardens vibrant and lush throughout this hot summer. This required significant amounts of watering and lugging of jugs of water. Still looking at other possibilities that would make this work easier. (i.e., contacting other Community Associations for ideas etc.,)

Unfortunately, in mid-August one of our gardens was vandalized. Many of the begonias, irises and marigolds were pulled out of the garden and thrown around the area by the NCC walking trail (garden by Hornet's Nest). My father-in-law Garth and

I managed to salvage a few plants and succeeded in re-planting in the other three gardens. Our healthy Beautification budget allowed us to take this as an opportunity to re-style two of the gardens with autumn-styled Mums. So far, they remain intact and in the ground!

[Vandalized Dome Garden.jpg](#)

[Dome garden with Mums.jpg](#)

[Baseball Diamond Garden with Mums.jpg](#)

[Re-using plants at the back of Baseball garden.jpg](#)

[Garth volunteering.jpg](#)

- Motion by Mark Lister motions that the BCA make a donation of \$500 to the Cancer Chase in the name of Richard Manicom. Seconded by Miriam Hampson. Motion Carried.
- **Garden Tour:** Our revival of the Blackburn Hamlet garden Tour this summer was very successful. Cynthia Hoisak, lead director of the event, managed the event beautifully, helped raise \$1,164.55 for the Food Bank, wrote a follow-up article in the Banar, and arranged for a thank you lunch/meet and greet at the Arms Pub for all participants after the event. Lovely group of gardeners we have in the Hamlet! It was an absolute pleasure working with Cynthia and she is looking forward to leading this event again next year.

Cynthia's article and Summary of the Garden Tour:

We couldn't have planned a better weekend for the sun to shine on the two glorious days of July 9th and 10th for the Blackburn Hamlet Garden Tour. It was a great success.

There were 16 gardens in all, with 4 of them, front only. So we did get to see what's going on behind those hedges and the back yards of many.

Visitors came from all over the City of Ottawa, Gatineau, Russell and beyond, including the majority, from here in the Hamlet. Streaming through, were 40 - 140 people, per day, per garden.

There was something of interest for everyone. Many going home with fresh takes and ideas, on how to tweak that earthy bed of potential.

Cash donations to the Food Bank totaled \$1,164.55.

This was a pilot tour with a positive result, and so we will be having a yearly garden tour here in the Hamlet. It will remain a 2-day tour in July, and the 10am - 4pm time frame remains the same, along with the cash donations to the Food Bank.

It wouldn't have been possible without the preparations, work and generosity of the 16 participants and their helpers. Many thanks and kudos to all.

Needless to say, we are looking forward to adding more gardens for next year's July 8th and 9th 2023, tour.

Thanks go out to BCA, Miriam Hampson, Lino Demasi, and again, the 16 participating

gardeners.

[Blackburn Hamlet Garden Tour 2022 \(Video of the participating gardens\)](#)
[Garden Tour Participants 2022.jpg](#)

- **Blackburn in Bloom Photo Contest:** In keeping with the garden theme, a photo contest was organized to allow Blackburn residents an opportunity to showcase their own gardens through social media. Jen Read kindly accepted to lead the event.

Note from Jen Read: Winner of the Blackburn in Bloom photo contest - congratulations Pierre Lacroix!! It was an extremely difficult decision because everything was gorgeous - honourable mentions go out to the critter photos!



- **RUNNERS UP** of the Blackburn in Bloom Photo Contest - congratulations Sarah Howlett and Julie Linton! Thank you to everyone who participated and submitted photos!



- The Community signs will be repaired in October. Brent Lawrie to coordinate the date with Miriam Hampson.

11. Canada Day (Lino Demasi)

- Lino has past experience organizing a much larger Canada Day event.
- He understands that fireworks and insurance costs have risen over the years and will plan accordingly.
- There will be family focused activities during the day, entertainment and a beer garden in the evening and fireworks at the end.

12. Cancer Chase (Barbara Whittaker)

- Sunday, September 25, 2022 at Hornets Nest Park, 1660 Bearbrook Road. Doors open at 8:15 AM and the walk/run begins just after 9:-00 AM.
- Final activities are being completed e.g. logistics, volunteer assignments, etc.
- No additional insurance required for event from City; City and NCC permits finalized
- Several last-minute adjustments have been required
 - A section of the park was booked for another group at the same time so have had to move and re-position things
 - No fee for HN clubhouse usage, but contract for use is now required.
- Registrations are coming in; please encourage people to sign up
- Cancer Chase Activities
 - Speeches: Emcee, MP Lalonde, OHF representative
 - Group photo and warm up
 - 5K walk/run
 - Silent auction (great items!); list on website in next couple of days
 - Raffle and handouts for participants
 - Selfie/photo station and Loonie Line
 - OHF resource display, with researcher on site
 - Imerman Angels display
- PROMOTION --This year, we have used several approaches to promote the event:
 - BANAR articles
 - BCA website page, news items and calendar entry
 - [Blackburn Hamlet Cancer Chase – Blackburn Community Association](#)
 - Fun Fair parade and showcase table
 - Social media (BCA and Blackburn Hamlet Cancer Chase Facebook pages, BCA Twitter and Instagram)
 - Large signs at Hamlet entrances and four corners; lawn signs placed throughout Hamlet
 - Posters in Metro, OPL, Community Hall, etc.
 - Smaller cards in mailboxes in some areas (as a trial)
 - Promotion in schools
 - Word of mouth and other outreach (e.g., Let's Connect Outdoors activities)
 - Email to youth group mailing list
 - [OHF "Fundraisers" page](#)
 - [Rogers TV Community Bulletin Board](#) (Charities section)
 - "To Do Canada" website ([Things to do in Ottawa](#))

- THANK YOU, MERCI BEAUCOUP and MUCHAS GRACIAS to Co-Chair Don Kelly, planning committee members Miriam Hampson, Lisa Margeson, Robert Bellizzi and Deborah Zepeda, as well as to Lee Stach, Lynn Lefevre, Nina Ryan, Brent Lawrie, Sarah Morgan-White, Maureen Forsythe and the countless others who have helped us plan and organize the event!

13. Enviro (Sarah Morgan-White)

- Enviro Committee (Sarah, Anna-Sarah, Laura, Lisa, Devon and Jenny)
- **Summary of Upcoming Enviro, Tree Team and Seniors Events in Blackburn open to the public!**

Date and time	Event	Location	How to Register or Attend
Saturday September 17th, 2022 11am-12pm (approx) Meet at 10h45 at the red barn (rain date september 19th 6pm)	Let's Learn about Beekeeping with Capital Bees	In person - Just Food Farm	Register by emailing enviro@blackburnhamlet.ca and payment of \$5. (Max 20 people)
Tuesday September 20th, 2022 6:30-7:30pm	Let's Connect Outdoors - Just Food Walk with Sun Shan	In person - Just Food Farm	Meet at the red barn, Just Food Farm. This is a free, informal and inclusive event open to all persons. No registration required. Rain or shine. Please wear appropriate footwear and dress appropriately.
Saturday October 15, 2022 9am - 5pm	Clothing Swap. Throughout the months of August and September, individuals are encouraged to drop off any gently used clothing to 9 Catalpa Court (no shoes, accessories, undergarments). On October 15th, everyone is invited to attend the community hall to pick up free clothing for themselves and their families!	Blackburn Community Hall - 190 Glen Park Drive	More info: https://blackburnhamlet.ca/environment/swap-til-you-drop-blackburn/
Saturday October 22, 2022 11:30 - 1pm	Traveling Series for Seniors: Spanish Language and Food (w Auramarina)	Blackburn Community Hall - 190 Glen Park Drive	Individuals 50 years+. Register by emailing seniors@blackburnhamlet.ca and payment of \$5. (Max 20)
Wednesday January 18th, 2022 6pm	Uptick project.	Virtual	TBD (more info: https://www.uptickproject.ca/copy-of-overview)

- **Climate** - Anna-Sarah - No update.

- **Interpretive Trails**

Harold Diceman trail - Our last volunteer is recording their voice for the French audio interpretive experience of Harold Diceman Park. Once I've finished editing the recordings and finalizing the pamphlet and web text, we will make the French version of the Harold Diceman Interpretive Experience available online on the BCA's website.

- **Enviro**

- **Bird Feeders**

Birdfeeder builder event scheduled for June 26th, 2022. While our update here is in English, the event was bilingual! The event was lots of fun. Feedback at the event was very positive and all the families were able to complete their birdfeeders within 30 minutes- 45 minutes. For some it was their first BCA event and they were interested in doing more. We may hold another bird feeder event later this fall/winter. We have \$399 left in this budget.

- **Let's Connect Outdoors**

Let's Connect Outdoors is a series of outdoor, informal events in the Hamlet. We continued to have good turnouts this summer and we were able to diversify the types of events from walks in the neighbourhoods, practicing French, and an educational walk to talk about trees. Thanks to Anna-Sarah, Adele, Jenny, Devon, Stephen and Sun Shan who led events in July. Thanks also to Auramarina, Foret Capitale Forest, Adele, Sun Shan, Kristen and Mary who led events in August!

We intend to continue these year round (so long as there is interest). If you have ideas for activities we could have or you are interested in leading an event please let us know: enviro@blackburnhamlet.ca. The events are posted on the BCA webpage, Facebook page and are emailed to those on the email distribution list!

- **Monarch Waystation** - Completed

This project is completed. An article was published in the August BANAR. Thanks to Friends of Mer Bleu for their important contribution to this project!



- **Clothing Swap**

We are holding our first clothing swap this fall on Saturday October 15th from 9am to 5pm at the Blackburn Community Hall.

Individuals are invited to drop off any clothing (all sizes and types) they no longer want/need until October 1st at 9 Catalpa Court. We are not accepting: undergarments, shoes, or accessories.

Everyone is invited to attend the event and pick-up new-to-them clothing to fill their wardrobes! Any clothing leftover at the end of the event will be donated to local charities.

So far we have a mountain of beautiful, fashionable, clean and almost-new clothing!

- **Tree Team**

- **Adopt a Tree - Completed**

Adopt a tree was launched and concluded in June. It was an event through which residents of Blackburn could apply to adopt an edible fruit tree/shrub. The cost of the 4 fruit tree/shrubs was approximately \$79 and we received 27 applicants. We announced the winners at the end of June on the BCA webpage and Facebook pages as well as in an article in the August Banar.

The feedback on the event was overwhelmingly positive. Here is some of the feedback we received through the application process:

“What a fun idea! Thank you for doing this. “

“What an awesome initiative! Thanks for the opportunity to apply!”

“We just moved to Blackburn Hamlet last year and love this idea! We're looking to replace our Ash tree with a couple native trees to the area, so the timing of this is perfect!”

“What a wonderful offer! If our family is selected we would be happy to give a fruit tree a home. Thanks for considering us!”

- **LDD/Spongy Moths**

This year appears to have been better than last with no major impacts of the LDD/Spongy moth caterpillars observed on our urban forest!

- **Tree Seeds**

We invited residents to contact us if they were willing to share their tree seeds with us (in particular local indigenous trees)! Stephen has been working hard at collecting tree seeds and is working on a project with Foret Capital Forest to grow them! Want to donate your tree seeds to this project? Or your plastic flower pots (to grow trees) then : contact treeteam@blackburnhamlet.ca.

- **Project in Southpark**

We have explored various different opportunities with the City and adjoining school (Sainte-Marie) for the little park space. At this time we are aiming to plant native trees and develop a small trail through the trees. The native trees would have plaques identifying them. This project is in its infancy.



- **Community Fruit Tree/Shrub/Vine Orchard Project**



No update since last report.

14. Funfair Update (Brent Lawrie)

- \$15,000 is being returned to the community for their support of the Funfair. There are 65 shares worth \$231 each.
- A gull list of recipients and sponsors will be published in the next BANAR.
- Planning has started for next year.
- We will need to reorganize the containers and install shelving after the Cancer Chase.

15. BCA Tshirts or alternatives (Lisa Margeson)

- We have three quotes for 50 T-shirts ranging from \$10 to \$40 Each
- Picking the sizes is a challenge and we rarely receive them back after an event.
- As an alternative, we could consider volunteer bibs.
- The board recommended that we order a larger quantity and plan for Volunteers to keep their shirts.
- Lisa Margeson to work with Satinder Sahota to refine the proposal.

16. President Updates (Mark Lister)

- BCA Insurance – The City's plan to revise Community Association insurance coverage is on hold until after the election. Most events should fall under existing coverage until the new one is in place (additional coverage is needed for fireworks)
- Hall Repairs- The Bulletin board outside hall has been fixed. No update on the other repairs.
- Emergency Preparedness Committee – Diana Hampson has not responded to our enquires regarding chairing the committee.
- The Rink Tractor has not been used the past few years. Just Food has been storing it and are using it during the summers, which has increased our maintenance costs. Since we were not using it, the tractor was donated to Just Food.
- Volunteer appreciation – We are hoping to hold a joint BCA-Funfair recognition event in October/November.
- Santa's Breakfast – The Event Chair is now vacant. We will need to send out a notice looking for an event organizer ASAP. The Hall has been reserved for the event.

- Satinder Sahota needs to step away from Membership but will remain as a Director. Heather McCuaig Edge will be contacting Satinder to determine if this is something she can take on for the remainder of the year.
- The eNewsletter account has been put on pause to save money until we are ready to resume creating and sending them again.
- The past week has been very challenging for our Facebook for the moderators. We need to find a way of alleviating the strain and workload before the volunteers burn out.

17. Adjournment at 9:35pm (Next Board meeting is October 20, 2022)

Attendees

Mark Lister
Brent Lawrie
Lisa Margeson
Lynn Lefevre
Barbara Whittaker
Heather McCuaig Edge
Jenny Lawrence
Kiel Dixon-Lawlor
Laura Smith
Maureen Forsythe
Miriam Hampson
Sarah Morgan-White
Satinder Sahota
Lino Demasi
Pamela Barton
Jack Denovan
Sharon Kes

BCA Board 2022-2023

Executive

President	Mark Lister	president@blackburnhamlet.ca
Vice President	Brent Lawrie	vp@blackburnhamlet.ca
Secretary	Lynn Lefevre	secretary@blackburnhamlet.ca
Treasurer	Lisa Margeson	treasurer@blackburnhamlet.ca

Director Portfolios

Environment	Sarah Morgan-White	enviro@blackburnhamlet.ca
Beautification	Miriam Hampson	beautification@blackburnhamlet.ca
Parks	Kiel Dixon-Lawlor	parks@blackburnhamlet.ca
Rinks	Mark Lister	parksandricks@blackburnhamlet.ca
Communications	Nina Ryan & Barbara Whittaker	communications@blackburnhamlet.ca
E-Newsletter	Satinder Sahota	newsletter@blackburnhamlet.ca
Community Relations	Jenny Lawrence	jenny@blackburnhamlet.ca
Transportation	Vacant	transportation@blackburnhamlet.ca
Community Safety	Don Kelly	safety@blackburnhamlet.ca
Youth	Maureen Forsythe	youth@blackburnhamlet.ca
Membership	Satinder Sahota	membership@blackburnhamlet.ca
Seniors	Maureen Forsythe & Sarah Morgan-White	seniors@blackburnhamlet.ca
Facilities and Operations	Brent Lawrie	vp@blackburnhamlet.ca
Volunteer Management	Mark Lister	president@blackburnhamlet.ca
City Liaison	Kiel Dixon-Lawlor	kiel@blackburnhamlet.ca
Director at Large	Laura Smith	laura@blackburnhamlet.ca
Director at Large	Heather McCuaig Edge	heather@blackburnhamlet.ca

Committee Chairs

BANAR	Kendra Brett	banar@blackburnhamlet.ca
Climate Team	Anna-Sarah Eyrich	climate@blackburnhamlet.ca
Community Hall	Pamela Barton	hall@blackburnhamlet.ca
Tree Team	Sarah Morgan-White	treeteam@blackburnhamlet.ca
Website	Steve Vesely	webmaster@blackburnhamlet.ca

Events

Bike Rodeo	Dave Garand	Davethebikeguy@gmail.com
Canada Day	Lino Demasi	canadaday@blackburnhamlet.ca
Cancer Chase	Barbara Whittaker	cancerchase@blackburnhamlet.ca
Fun Fair	Trish Cloutier, Mike Murphy & Brent Lawrie – Interim Co-chairs	funfairchair@gmail.com
Garage Sale	Laura Smith & Miriam Hampson	garagesale@blackburnhamlet.ca laura@blackburnhamlet.ca miriam@blackburnhamlet.ca
Garden Tour	Cynthia Hoisak	gardentour@blackburnhamlet.ca
Grad Walk	Nina Ryan & Satinder Sahota	gradwalk@blackburnhamlet.ca
Hockey Day	Mark Lister	parksandricks@blackburnhamlet.ca
Photo Contest	Jen Read	photocontest@blackburnhamlet.ca
Pot Luck Dinners	Auramarina Sawyer	
Santa's Pancake Breakfast	Vacant	santasbreakfast@blackburnhamlet.ca
Seniors Information Event	Vacant	seniors@blackburnhamlet.ca
Spring Cleanup	Lisa Margeson	cleanup@blackburnhamlet.ca
Volunteer Appreciation	Mark Lister	president@blackburnhamlet.ca