

Blackburn Community Association

Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2024 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 June 20, 2024 by Miriam Hampson. Seconded by Lisa Margeson. Carried.
4. Just Food (Kate Veinot)
 - Kate is the Director of Operations and Neighbourhood Planning
 - There are many activities on the farm and beyond, including the Women warriors healing garden, the community gardening network that supports 120 community gardens, support for people growing food at home, community Food assessments and solutions and much more.
 - Their next big event is the annual Fall Farm Fest on September 28.
 - The NCC is still planning to install the fence along Tauvette starting in October.
5. Community Update (Councillor Dudas)
 - Concerns have been noted regarding the development on Innes road next to the fire station. They have been parking their trucks on the sidewalk and bike lane and have been visited by Ottawa bylaw a number of times. A meeting is scheduled with the develop next week to review the parking at their Innes site as well as their Bearbrook Road site.
 - Funding for the Bearbrook rink repairs has been requested for 2025 but no guarantee it will be funded. The Good Shepherd School owns the property next to the rink and has built an outdoor classroom that encroaches on the space where we normally setup a puddle rink space. The City has asked the school to remove the hill that was added on the Park property to be removed so that we can have some space for a smaller puddle rink.
 - Flex stakes were installed along Bearbrook from Louis Riel high school to Hornets Nest in order to improve safety of pedestrians and cyclists. Residents are asked to send their feedback on the effectiveness of the stakes to Councillor Dudas.
 - Orleans construction has been a challenge this year. The majority of the road construction on the Montreal Road / Highway 174 underpass has been completed, restoring two lanes in each direction.
 - There will be an in-person Zoning Bylaw Review session on the evening of October 1st at Ray Friel recreation complex. No significant zoning changes to Blackburn Hamlet are expected.
 - The new three container limit on trash collection starts soon. During the first month the city will be issuing warnings. Special bags will be available for purchase for those who need more than three bags.

6. Scouts (Paul Bornn)

- The 1st Blackburn scout group has been part of the community for over 50 years. Participant ages range from 5 to 18 years old. Beavers, Cubs and Scout Troop are currently active.
- In the past, the BCA and Scouts were more interconnected and supported each others events and activities. They still support the BCA Funfair and Spring Cleanup each year and are hoping to strengthen the connection with the BCA through BANAR articles, updates at board meetings and other shared activities and events.

7. Asphalt Plant Expansion (David Purchase)

- A freedom of information request has been submitted to the province of Ontario requesting:
 - Emissions Reports: All available emissions reports, studies, or assessments for the facility including any projected emissions increase due to the planned production increase from 109 tonnes/hour to 140 tonnes/hour, with a focus on hot asphalt production.
 - Site Plan and Related Documents: Full site plans and any associated planning or regulatory documents related to this facility.
 - Environmental Compliance Approvals: Any Environmental Compliance Approvals or amendments issued to the facility.
 - Monitoring Data: Records of ongoing or past environmental monitoring at the site, particularly those related to air quality, emissions, and pollution control.
- We are waiting for the province to respond to this request.
- Moving forward, I recommend we form a subcommittee to continue working on this issue. This group would be able to review the answer of the freedom of information request and, depending on the information we receive, look into making requests for new environmental assessments, lobby the province of Ontario to be more transparent with key stakeholders such as municipal authorities, local community organisations and residents when changes like this are made or plan to come into effect, and other things such as community awareness newsletters, etc.
- If we decide to take this route, I will of course be a part of this subcommittee as the Director of Environment.
- According to Blair Walker at Lafarge, Coco paving has been operating an asphalt plant on their site since 2008. When it was opened, a mistake was made with the permit covering the activities across the site, including Lafarge aggregate and concrete operations. When the ownership of the asphalt plant changed, new permits were issued, separating the Lafarge aggregate and concrete activities from the asphalt plant. The new permits have the same limits as the previous one, although the Coco asphalt plant was not reaching the maximum limits permitted. Blair Walker is open to attending future BCA meetings to discuss their operations.
- We are looking for ways to trigger a new environmental assessment as one has not been done for decades and the community has grown up around the site since then. Waiting for results from ATIP request as part of next steps. Minister Blais is also following up with the Minister of Environment.

8. Making Spirits Bright Funding/Support (William Pfitzer)
 - A group in Blackburn Hamlet have been helping less fortunate families at Christmas by organizing toy drives. This year they plan to increase their efforts to support 100 families and hold a party on December 15.
 - The BCA agreed to provide the Hall at no charge and William will work with them to ensure they have all the supplies needed for the party as well as help promoting their toy drive. If any funding from the BCA is required, it will be presented at the October meeting.

9. Ski Club Sponsor (Lynn Lefevre)
 - Motion to grant \$500 to Ski Heritage East for their snowmobile replacement fund by Lynn Lefevre. Seconded by Jeff Miller. Carried

10. Financial & GST Update (Lisa Margeson)
 - Hall revenue down this year.
 - The GST claims have been filed and we waiting for CRA to review them.
 - Lisa Margeson to review recurring hall user payments with Will Pfitzer
 - Lynn Lefevre to work with Will Pfitzer on options to incorporate all Hall bookings in our online system.

11. Christmas Market and Community Closet (Jenny Lawrence)
 - Christmas market vendor selection is complete, Don Kelly is organizing vendor table payments to OHS.
 - Holiday hop is canceled unless someone else can lead it
 - Kids community closet is proceeding for October.

12. Adult Bike Event (Robert Bellizzi)
 - Blackburn Hamlet Community Centre, November 2, 2024 10am-1pm
 - Free bike tune-up workshop sponsored by the Blackburn Hamlet Community Association. You'll learn the basic bike mechanics and tune-up. Led by seasoned bike mechanics servicing Blackburn Hamlet residents. Bring your own bike, or try fixing and adjusting model bikes

13. Showcase, Safety & Event Updates (Don Kelly)
 - a) **Cancer Chase**
 - The Cancer Chase was successful this year with 93 people attending. We were able to raise \$14,130 for cancer research at the Ottawa Hospital. The Cancer Chase Committee I would like to thank the BCA for their generous donation and support.
 - We were supported by 34 volunteers highlighting again our strong community support. I will be sending a big Thank You letter to the Orient Park Condo Association for allowing us to use their private property for the Walk/Run.
 - Our committee has recommended that we continue to hold the event at the Hall. Having the Silent Auction inside was a great success. It was also recommended that the run feature of the event be discontinued and we focus

on having a Friendly Family Walk. The Committee is also recommending the CC signs be upgraded.

- This is my last year as Chair. I will ask for someone to take over in the next Banar.

b) Electrical Review of Community Center Building

- According to the arena General Manager, Bill Hewitt, the City will not be conducting an extensive review of the electrical system at the Community Center. The situation could change if the Center was designated as an Emergency Response Center.
- Bill has advised that the BCA should continue to use the same electrical support system used at Fun Fair. It was also suggested that the BCA consider establishing a rental agreement with a company, like Sunbelt, if a generator is needed. Aspira has an agreement of this sort.

c) Fire Safety Review of Community Center

- The fire safety review of the Community Center has been completed. A \$5000 contract has been awarded to a contractor and some items have been already been completed. The list of items to be done include:
 - (1) check on occupancy max for hall - no change – 100 persons
 - (2) CO sensor in furnace room, and smoke detector 1 near the kitchen 1 near the 2 washrooms
 - (3) emergency call buttons for the bathrooms.

d) BCA Showcase

- The showcase structure has been completed. It is located on the West side of the arena as you enter the front door. The case is missing the glass plate and a locking mechanism. The contract for these items was initiated in June to a local contractor but the product was found to be inadequate. A new contract has been issued. It has been confirmed that the BCA showcase will be consistent to the other shelves at the Minor Hockey cabinet.
- The BCA Showcase committee is still working on what will be in the Showcase.

e) First Aid Training

- So far this year the BCA has supported the completion of 2 First Aid Courses, with 32 pers trained. Our next attentive course is Oct 26. Perhaps the BCA can support another 1 or 2 Board candidates.
- We owe Aspira with a big thanks for their continued support for room, display equipment and snacks.

f) Safety Report

- At a recent meeting with our Community Police we were provided newly released stats that show Blackburn Hamlet, relative to their population, have a high crime rate in 2 areas - B&E & Assaults. I have asked our Community Police officer, Constable Marc Leroux, if we can have a more definitive explanation of the two items.

14. Seniors Activities (Barbara Whittaker)

a) Seniors Breakfast Get-together

- July 3, 2024 – 20 in attendance
- August 7, 2024 – 35 in attendance
- September 4, 2024 – 27 in attendance

b) Seniors Walk-and-Talk Outings

- September 18, 2024 – 3 in attendance. (One person was a new Blackburn Hamlet resident, so the walk turned into a tour of the area.)

c) Seniors Saturday Social – June 22, 2024 –Potluck Lunch and Around the World in 80 Minutes – 41 in attendance

- Tables highlighting many different places.
- Trivia game and travel-related door prizes included.

d) Seniors Holiday Christmas Gathering – November 30, 2024 – NL Holiday Kitchen Party

- Planning is underway. If additional funds are required (beyond the amount already allocated), a request will be made to the Board next month.

e) Heart Valve Disease Screening Session

- Ottawa Heart Institute, Aspira and BCA Seniors partnered to coordinate a free heart-valve disease screening session for seniors in Blackburn Hamlet on Wednesday, September 18, 2024 at the Aspira Retirement Residence.
- Twenty spaces were available and all were booked. Preliminary results helped participants identify a few medical issues to follow up on.
- If there were people who were unable to get a spot, another session could be held.

f) Discovery Café Fall Sessions

- September 26 – Fraud Prevention and Awareness – Canadian Ant-fraud Centre
- October 24 -- First Crossing: Alexander Mackenzie`s fascinating crossing of North America – Richard Van Loon
- November 28 – Let`s Talk Climate Change -- Elsa DaCosta

g) Welcome to Blackburn Hamlet

- Looking to explore a walking tour of the Blackburn Hamlet amenities and highlighting BCA involvement as a welcome to new residents.

15. Garden Initiatives (Miriam Hampson)

a) **Garden Tour:**

- For a third year in a row, another successful garden tour was had here in the Hamlet. There were 14 gardens open for viewing, each one unique in style, design and plantings.
- To enhance the garden settings, on both days were seven musicians. They were not alone, as in some cases about 60 seated guests attended listening to beautiful voices and magical music.
- Three Master Gardeners were kept busy on Sunday, for four hours answering the many questions put to them.
- Then there were the five Plein Air artists who set up their easels, either in their own gardens or those of others, each displaying their creative works for all to see.
- The clay pots for **donations to the Lifecentre Food Bank**, were overflowing with coins and bills. The total was \$1732.90 and the BCA contributed another \$500, for a **grand total of \$2,232.90**. A big thank you goes out to the BCA, for their assistance and contributions in helping to make this event happen. Special thank you to Lynn Lefevre for organizing the online map, to Brent Lawrie for putting up and taking down the signs, and to Nina Ryan for promoting the event on social media.
- So, for two great sunny days, we were able to meet, and speak to so many curious, admiring, sharing and happy people, who visited the lovely gardens in Blackburn Hamlet!.
- Cynthia Hoisak and I hope to organize another wonderful Garden Tour next year—July 5 & 6 2025.

b) **Watering Crew of Four BCA Gardens:**

- 17 volunteers continue to manage the watering of the gardens by the 3 gateway signs into the Hamlet (May-Oct).
- The consistent watering, the beautiful summer weather and the established perennials in many of the garden beds have created a wonderful welcoming sight into our community.
- Fewer flower purchases were necessary this year, lowering expenditures.
- We were thankful that Aspira agreed to install a hose for us to use. Mid-summer we modified the hook-up of the hose to make the watering of the garden in this area less labour intensive for the volunteers. Thank you to Don Kelly for assisting and purchasing hose parts.
- Fall mums will be purchased and garden beds will be cut down in preparation for the autumn months.
- Don Kelly is working with Satinder Sahota on the costs to install a new Plaque highlighting the Art Installation at the Four Corners.

c) **Garden Bench:**

- In discussion with Aspira Retirement Residence, we would like to have a bench put beside the BCA garden at the Art Installation.
- Don Kelly has done some research and suggests that approximately \$1500 will be required to purchase and install. Locates would have to be done.

- A dedication on the bench from BCA would be nice! (Maybe something about the community volunteers, etc.)
- There is \$500 in the Beautification budget assigned to a community bench. I believe there is also some unspent funds in the garden budget and could move this towards the purchase of the bench.
- If additional funds are needed, it will be presented at the next board meeting.

16. October Board Meeting Agenda (Lynn Lefevre)

- The BCA Branding discussion will be held at the October meeting. Lynn Lefevre to out current list of ideas.
- The October meeting agenda will also include a discussion on when we will hold an accessibility training session.

17. Round Table

- 20 new trees will be planted around the Glen Ogilvie school grounds this fall.

18. Adjournment at 9:36pm (Next Board meeting is October 17, 2024 at the Community Hall)

Attendees

Jeff Miller
 Brent Lawrie
 Lisa Margeson
 Lynn Lefevre
 Barbara Whittaker
 Don Kelly
 Miriam Hampson
 William Pfitzer
 Katie Shea
 Marion Hall
 Councillor Dudas
 Chelsey Wynne (Councillor Dudas Office)
 Paul Bornn (Scouts)
 Kate Veinot (Just Food)
 Dave William (MPP Blais Office)
 Amanda-Lyn Smith

BCA Board 2024-2025

Executive

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

Director Portfolios

Beautification	Miriam Hampson	beautification@blackburnhamlet.ca
Communications	Nina Ryan	communications@blackburnhamlet.ca
Community Hall	William Pfitzer	hall@blackburnhamlet.ca
Community Relations	Jenny Lawrence	jenny@blackburnhamlet.ca
Community Safety	Don Kelly	safety@blackburnhamlet.ca
Environment	David Purchase	enviro@blackburnhamlet.ca
E-Newsletter	Lynn Lefevre	newsletter@blackburnhamlet.ca
Facilities and Operations	Brent Lawrie	vp@blackburnhamlet.ca
Membership	Shashank Iyer	membership@blackburnhamlet.ca
Parks	Brent Lawrie	parks@blackburnhamlet.ca
Seniors	Barbara Whittaker	seniors@blackburnhamlet.ca
Social Media	Satinder Sahota	satinder@blackburnhamlet.ca
Transportation	Robert Bellizzi	transportation@blackburnhamlet.ca
Youth	Mélanie Mathieu	youth@blackburnhamlet.ca

Committee Chairs

BANAR	Jaclyn O'Shaughnessy	banar@blackburnhamlet.ca
Rinks	Mark Lister	rinks@blackburnhamlet.ca
Tree Team	Stephen Fanjoy	treeteam@blackburnhamlet.ca
Website	Steve Vesely Lynn Lefevre (Content)	webmaster@blackburnhamlet.ca webadmin@blackburnhamlet.ca

Events

Bike Rodeo	Robert Bellizzi	transportation@blackburnhamlet.ca
Cancer Chase	Don Kelly	cancerchase@blackburnhamlet.ca
Christmas Market	Jenny Lawrence	jenny@blackburnhamlet.ca
Community Closet	Jenny Lawrence	jenny@blackburnhamlet.ca
Discovery Café	Barbara Whittaker	barbara@blackburnhamlet.ca
Fun Fair	Steve Vesely	funfairchair@gmail.com
Garage Sale	Lynn Lefevre	enviro@blackburnhamlet.ca
Garden Tour	Cynthia Hoisak	gardentour@blackburnhamlet.ca
Hockey Day	Mark Lister	rinks@blackburnhamlet.ca
Santa's Pancake Breakfast	Don Kelly & Angie Jodoin	santasbreakfast@blackburnhamlet.ca
Spring Cleanup	Lisa Margeson	cleanup@blackburnhamlet.ca
Volunteer Appreciation	Don Kelly	president@blackburnhamlet.ca

Asphalt Plant Expansion

I spoke with Jordan Hook an Environmental Compliance officer with the local provincial Environmental Compliance Office

He said there is no official notification process regarding these matters you just have to be monitoring the website and admitted this is a flaw and recommended addressing it with the local MPP and community association to address an amendment similar to other provinces that require a written notice to key stakeholders and elected officials in the community, he also recommended requesting a freedom of information request to release the emissions reports and full site plan/documents planning specific to what the MECP regulates and would not include anything under to the Aggregate Resources Act which is administered by the MNR. With the change to GIPP paving the name change is there but facility is now increasing production by 25% is real concern, the facility will be going from 109tonnes/hr under coco paving to 140tonnes/hr with a focus on hot asphalt which produces more harmful emissions. An abstract on the property would also be helpful although most likely outdated.

He did say that city zoning and bylaws are absolutely valid in this case as there has not been a full evaluation/assessment of the property in many decades due to a grandfathering in of the property, He did confirm Lafarge does own the property not the NCC, the NCC granted the original use of the property specifically as a quarry which is under the Aggregate Resources Act by the MNR but the Asphalt facility would fall under his department MECP which is provincially regulated but subject to municipal bylaws and zoning, there has been no evidence to show they have not been compliant but they are self regulated regarding emissions unless there is a formal complaint to investigate, the property was specifically used exclusively as a gravel pit until 2008 when coco paving changed partial operations (with no comments or environmental assessments at that time either) ,

He explained that this has happened in other municipalities as growth trickles into rural areas that were once good locations and are no longer appropriate, he said the city should have its own industrial use bylaws/zoning and setbacks and if an industrial site in this location is no longer applicable or the land use is recommended to change over to say housing for example with being a location better suited for transit access (as an example) the city has a right to change the bylaws and zoning associated to this property providing notice to the property owner who would be responsible for an environmental assessment, amend operations to meet the requirements the province would deem safe and reasonable based on modern guidelines, in cooperation with the municipality, should the province decide the landowner has met new updated requirements at that point they can override a municipal bylaw or zoning decision to maintain industrial use but only with regards to the Gravel operations not Hot Asphalt, the property owner would be required to ensure updated compliance (operations can continue as long as timelines are met before formal decisions are made)

(Asphalt guidelines are currently being updated in Ontario but PEI just updated their asphalt facility guidelines in January and there is a 500 meter setback from any non industrial building like homes or schools to offset toxic emissions) asphalt_plant_guidelines_january_2024.pdf (princeedwardisland.ca)

Moving forward I am not sure what next steps to take outside of the request for information which I will ask the BCA to conduct as a formal community association?

There is clear concerns as a local homeowner within the 500 meter area as well as knowing a sports school and city soccer facilities are across the street along with the concerns that once the Montreal Rd Station is open for LRT you have an entire community commuting through a belching industrial emission zone to access it, I know the quarry has been there for years and the blasts have brought noise violations and complaints which need to be through the MNR but who could request an environmental assessment on this property based on the recent changes and related to emissions? The city would have documents to show industrial zoning how does it compare with the current bylaws/zoning?

Ski Heritage East Sponsorship

The Ski Heritage East Team is beginning preparations for the upcoming Winter season. We very much appreciated the sponsorship support from you last season, which helped us acquire our new Mueller Tiller.

This season, we are focusing our fundraising on replacing two aging snowmobiles. As I'm sure you appreciate, pulling grooming gear through snow is heavy work and our 10 year old machines are coming to the end of their lifespan.

While we do not need any payment until October/November (we'll send an invoice), it will be helpful for our planning to know that you will return as a sponsor.

Please also note that we appreciate it when sponsors display their Ski Heritage East sponsorship sign prominently in their place of business. It helps to raise awareness of the Trail, as well as to demonstrate your community support.

Ian Gadbois
President Ski Heritage East/Est
www.skiheritageeast.ca

Crime Trends by Neighbourhoods 2018 to 2023 & 2024 YTD

<u>Cardinal Creek</u>	<u>Fallingbrook</u>	<u>Queenswood</u>	<u>Avalon</u> ✖	<u>Convent Glen</u> ✖	<u>Blackburn Hamlet</u>
609	1,134	635	2,744	1,445	646
Homicide 0	Homicide 1	Homicide 2	Homicide 0	Homicide 0	Homicide 0
Attempted Murder 0	Attempted Murder 1	Attempted Murder 0	Attempted Murder 1	Attempted Murder 0	Attempted Murder 0
Assaults 74	Assaults 203	Assaults 128	Assaults 212	Assaults 231	Assaults 112
Criminal Harassment 8	Criminal Harassment 17	Criminal Harassment 5	Criminal Harassment 17	Criminal Harassment 11	Criminal Harassment 11
Uttering Threats 25	Uttering Threats 68	Uttering Threats 30	Uttering Threats 78	Uttering Threats 69	Uttering Threats 47
Harassing Communications 21	Harassing Communications 46	Harassing Communications 14	Harassing Communications 74	Harassing Communications 50	Harassing Communications 24
Robbery 9	Robbery 25	Robbery 11	Robbery 21	Robbery 33	Robbery 12
Break and Enter 37	Break and Enter 58	Break and Enter 33	Break and Enter 111	Break and Enter 101	Break and Enter 44 ✖
Theft of Motor Vehicle 112	Theft of Motor Vehicle 127	Theft of Motor Vehicle 69	Theft of Motor Vehicle 243	Theft of Motor Vehicle 82	Theft of Motor Vehicle 47
Theft Over \$5000 11	Theft Over \$5000 15	Theft Over \$5000 14	Theft Over \$5000 39	Theft Over \$5000 19	Theft Over \$5000 10
Theft \$5000 and Under 183	Theft \$5000 and Under 313	Theft \$5000 and Under 216	Theft \$5000 and Under 1,662	Theft \$5000 and Under 610	Theft \$5000 and Under 203
Arson 1	Arson 13	Arson 1	Arson 9	Arson 6	Arson 6
Mischief 128	Mischief 247	Mischief 112	Mischief 277	Mischief 233	Mischief 130

26