

Blackburn Community Association
Meeting Minutes
November 20, 2025 7:30 pm

1. Call to order at 7:45 PM
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Minutes from previous meetings
 - Motion to approve the October 16, 2025 minutes by Melanie Mathieu. Seconded by Barbara Whittaker. Carried.
4. Councillor Update (Laura Dudas)
 - The draft City of Ottawa budget was released this week and includes the repaving of Innes through Blackburn Hamlet. If residents have any questions or concerns, they are encouraged to contact Laura Dudas office.
 - The recently passed Ontario Bill 60 may impact the planned cycling path along Orleans Blvd. City of Ottawa staff are reviewing the plan.
 - The Greg Kazmierski ball diamond renaming was approved and funded. A formal ceremony will be held in the spring.
 - The installation of Wifi in the Arena and Community Hall has been delayed due resource shortages. The goal is to have it operational by mid-2026.
 - Councillor Dudas participated in a walk audit in the area around Good Shepherd school to review concerns about speeding, traffic and people not crossing at crosswalks. City police will likely be conducting some enforcement in the area as speeding on Bearbrook has already increased since the speed camera was shut down.
5. Financial Update (Lisa Margeson)
 - Our spending is on track to meet the planned deficit (as part of our plan to reduce the surplus funds that have accrued over the past 4 years).
 - A reminder will be sent to the Directors to submit their planned budgets for 2026.
6. Youth 2025 budget (Melanie Mathieu)
 - Due to the overwhelming success of this years youth activities, there are insufficient funds allocated for the upcoming December events.
 - Motion by Lynn Lefevre to increase the 2025 Youth budget by \$1,200. Seconded by Lisa Margeson. Carried.
7. Scouts Grant (Lynn Lefevre)
 - Motion by Melanie Mathieu to approve a \$500 grant to the 1st Blackburn Scout Group. Seconded by Barbara Whittaker. Carried.

8. Proposed Grant Form and Process (Lynn Lefevre)

- After reviewing the form and the Grant Requirements section it was decided that additional revisions are needed. An updated version will be brought to the January meeting.

9. Swag Budget for 2026 Parade (Lynn Lefevre)

- The consensus was to allocate \$750 for handouts at the 2026 FunFair Parade in the upcoming budget.

10. Volunteer List & Website Form (Lynn Lefevre)

- It was agreed that the maintenance of the list continues to be valuable.
- Melanie Mathieu will create a shortlist of youth volunteers who can be contacted for assisting with BCA event setup/tear down and other event activities.

11. Event Updates (Don Kelly)

• **Pancake Breakfast**

- We now have over 200 people with reservations for the Pancake Breakfast. Our capacity is 325. We may have to deny some folks again this year even with the extra sitting. MP Fortier & Laura have confirmed they will attend and serve pancakes.

• **Christmas Market**

- This year's market had 23 Vendors compared to the 29 last year. Some of this was due to last minute health issues of vendors but mostly because of the constant confusion and delayed response from the Ottawa Hospital Foundation to the vendors with their fee payment. I had to continually intervene to straighten out the payment process. It is my opinion the OHF sees this event as a small contribution and gives it their attention accordingly. I recommend we do it in-house next year and give the fee funds to our foodbank.
- Another sore spot was the poor service we received from the City on the booking of the room at the arena. Although the application was submitted in August it was not until the week of the event did we get confirmation, and this is mostly attributed to Lisa who took the bull by the horns and got it off its behind. This is a very popular site with Vendors and I do recommend we continue using it. The poor service issue should be addressed, perhaps Laura's office has some suggestions.
- The good news is that the 23 Vendors were happy with the event and the large crowds that attended. I have already received requests from Vendors for next year. And once again we had incredible community volunteer support in making this another successful BCA event.

12. Seniors Action Committee Updates (Shirley Sheppard)

a. **Past Events**

- **October 24:** Thank you to Tammy Bedard/Aspira for organizing, advertising and hosting the Hocus Pocus Hallowe'en movie showing at Aspira as well as providing yummy treats.

- **November 5:** 33 seniors attended the breakfast at Halibut House including our favourite entertainer, Garth Hampson, who sang, along with the usual Happy Birthday song for those with birthdays in November, a Vera Lynn war song in recognition of Remembrance Day (Wish me Luck When You Wave me Goodbye). \$119.40 and bags of non-perishable goods were collected for the Life Centre Food Bank.
 - **November 19:** 7 humans participated in the Walk & Talk event at Petrie Island. Unfortunately, dogs were prohibited from joining us at this location.
- b. Upcoming Events**
- **November 21:** 30 seniors have registered for the upcoming autumn lunch event to take place at Portugalos.
 - **November 25:** Tammy Bedard/Aspira will host a Christmas Movie (It's a Wonderful Life). Thanks in advance Tammy/Aspira .
 - **December 3:** Our next breakfast at Halibut House will be Christmas themed.
 - **December 13:** A Christmas "Let it Snow" Potluck event will take place at the Community Centre with a trivia quiz or two with prizes including door prizes and Christmas Karaoke with the much-appreciated help of Jack Arsenault and Lynn Lefevre as well as Garth Hampson. We will collect cash or cheque donations at the door for the Snowsuit Fund.
 - **January 7, 2026:** The first monthly breakfast of 2026 will be held once again at Halibut House.

13. New Business

- Thank you to Aspira for providing treats at the meeting.

14. Adjournment at 8:45 PM (Next Virtual Board meeting is January 15, 2026)

Attendees

Lisa Margeson
 Lynn Lefevre
 Barbara Whittaker
 David Purchase
 Kyle Humphrey
 Melanie Mathieu
 Miriam Hampson
 Satinder Sahota
 Shirley Sheppard
 Laura Dudas
 Sharon Kes
 Nathalie Monpetit

BCA Board 2025-2026

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

Accessibility and Transit	Kyle Humphrey	kyle@blackburnhamlet.ca
Beautification	Miriam Hampson	beautification@blackburnhamlet.ca
Communications	Nina Ryan	communications@blackburnhamlet.ca
Community Relations	David Purchase	david@blackburnhamlet.ca
Community Safety	Don Kelly	safety@blackburnhamlet.ca
Environment	Camille-Emmanuelle Purchase	enviro@blackburnhamlet.ca
E-Newsletter	Lynn Lefevre	newsletter@blackburnhamlet.ca
Facilities and Operations	Brent Lawrie	vp@blackburnhamlet.ca
Membership	Barbara Whittaker	membership@blackburnhamlet.ca
Parks	Brent Lawrie	parks@blackburnhamlet.ca
Seniors	Shirley Sheppard	seniors@blackburnhamlet.ca
Social Media	Satinder Sahota	satinder@blackburnhamlet.ca
Transportation	Robert Long	transportation@blackburnhamlet.ca
Youth	Mélanie Mathieu	youth@blackburnhamlet.ca

Committee Chairs

BANAR	Jaclyn O'Shaughnessy	banar@blackburnhamlet.ca
Community Hall	Tammy Bedard	hall@blackburnhamlet.ca
Rinks	Mark Lister	rinks@blackburnhamlet.ca
Website	Steve Vesely Lynn Lefevre (Content)	webmaster@blackburnhamlet.ca webadmin@blackburnhamlet.ca

Events

Bike Rodeo	Don Kelly	safety@blackburnhamlet.ca
Cancer Chase	David Purchase	cancerchase@blackburnhamlet.ca
Christmas Market	Don Kelly	safety@blackburnhamlet.ca
Community Closet	Camille-Emmanuelle Purchase	enviro@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	Don Kelly	safety@blackburnhamlet.ca
Santa's Pancake Breakfast	Don Kelly	safety@blackburnhamlet.ca
Spring Cleanup	Camille-Emmanuelle Purchase	cleanup@blackburnhamlet.ca
Volunteer Appreciation	Don Kelly	president@blackburnhamlet.ca