

QUEENSWOOD HEIGHTS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
Board Meeting

Minutes of board meeting held 7.00 pm, November 5th, 2008 at the Queenswood Heights Community Centre, Room 3.

Present: Christine Tetrault, Lori Nash, Sue Guarda, Charlie Orr, Philip Berthiaume, Pete Weston, Al Tweddle, Jeanine Mader, Henri Gravelle on behalf of Councillor Bob Monette, Robert Paiement on behalf of Councillor Jellett, Katie Jellett on behalf of MPP McNeely.

Regrets: Alain Belle-Isle, Denise Skellington, MP Galipeau.

1. President's and Membership report

President congratulated the MP for his re-election bid and looks forward to working with him on behalf of the community. President is currently creating a project evaluation on behalf of the Cardinal Creek and Queenswood Heights Rain barrel initiative taken this last May 2008. President has committed to get the web site updated. Councillor Monette has began a publicity program to reiterate the East End's view that the best location for a bridge is Kettle Island.

2. Membership

Association is still receiving membership forms from last May's membership drive. All memberships received from October and forward, will be automatically renewed for 2009. The next membership drive will commence this January with a direct mailing. Certificates will be produced and mailed back to members who join in 2009.

3. Newsliner

New sponsors for the Newsliner are required to make the publication economically more viable. The December edition will be canceled due to lack of sponsors. A marketing plan has been developed and will be put into action for the next Newsliner in February 2009.

4. Treasurer's report

Current treasury balances are healthy in part thanks to the membership drive. The book fund is being rolled over.

5. Neighbourhood Watch

Pete Weston released the latest numbers on reported crime in the community. Break and enters are up due in part to a rash of commercial break ins at local strip malls. Car thefts are now the same as last year at 10. There have been some car flippings in Fallingbrook and individuals were caught. To date this has not occurred in Queenswood Heights. We have a new community police officer, Martin St Denis. He replaces Leslie Malley, who is on maternity leave.

6. Recreation and Petrie Island

FOPI was awarded a \$50,000 prize for work at Petrie Island. The moneys will be used in part to improve displays and other funds will be kept for future use. FOPI will try to keep the Sonshine Spirit coordinator for next year. She did an excellent job. The beach saw a lower turn out with 160,000 people hours of use, due in part to bad weather conditions of the last summer. 2005 saw a record high at 250,000. Construction on the beach house will begin this week or next. The city budget proposes to raise user fees for recreation and sports and will have an impact on programs at the centre. Also the number of skating rinks may be reduced this winter.

7. Christmas Lights Contest

This year's Christmas lights contest will not be held this year. There is limited volunteers to manage the contest and there will be no means of communicating with the community as the Newliner will not be released until after the holiday season.

8. QHC Monument

It is felt that community entrance signage is not what the community desires at this point. The main concern is maintenance and replacement costs. The city has indicated that it would not be responsible for the signs and the association feels that the burden of community signage will be unsustainable both financially and in terms of volunteer manpower. The board did feel that community indicators, similar to those found in Little Italy on Preston, would be a much better option and many more can be purchased for the cost. They would be placed over street indicators on main road ways. Maintenance costs are minimal and vandalism would be very minor if at all.

9. Family Fun

Members of the executive will meet with the Queenswood United Church. The church will be asked to organize Family Fun day and share in any funds raised. With the involvement of community groups, the attendance of the fun day should increase. The association feels that its mandate is to organize the Fun Day for the community and not necessarily as a fund raiser.

10. Guides and Scouts

Over 100 children are participating in the guides and scout movements in the community. Scouting is pleased with its rate of participation.

11. MPP McNeely

Mr. McNeely's private members bill passed the House unanimously. It will require energy audits when houses are sold beginning in 2011. Grants will be researched to see if anything can be found to upgrade the splash pad at Queens Ridge Park.

12. Councillor Monette's Report

Councillor Monette will be pushing for cuts to the proposed city budget for 2009 and defer the Organics collection program. There will be a public budget meeting on November 20th at 7 PM at 255 Centrum. Students in Motion was handed off to Sketch. Councillor Monette feels that his initiative to engage youth in the community has been very successful. A well for the community garden was installed and a hand pump will be

added shortly. The councillor thanked the board for their volunteer effort to the community. On November 18th at the community centre at 7PM, councillor Monette is holding a volunteer appreciation meeting.

13. Councillor Rob Jellett Report

Councillor Jellett indicates that park signage will be updated. He also reminded the association that there will be an Ottawa Police Service (East Division) Autumn/Winter session and to report back on the policing issues identified affecting the community.

Next Meeting will be Wednesday December 3rd 2008 at 19h00.

Meeting adjourned.