

LOWERTOWN BASSEVILLE

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION ASSOCIATION COMMUNAUTAIRE

Lowertown Community Association L'Association communautaire de la Basse-Ville

MEETING NOTES / NOTES DE RÉUNION – 11 JANUARY 2016 / 11 JANVIER 2016
ROUTHIER COMMUNITY CENTRE, 7-9 PM / CENTRE COMMUNAUTAIRE ROUTHIER, 19-21h

- **Board Members Present:** Liz Bernstein (President), John Chenier (Vice President), Peter Ferguson (Director, Planning), Liz MacKenzie (Director, Heritage), Ted Lawrence (Treasurer)
 - **Liaisons Present:** Nancy Miller Chenier (Co-Chair, Heritage Committee), Norman Moyer (Safety & Security)
 - **Community Members Present:** 17
1. **Welcome and Introductions / Mots de bienvenue et introductions (Liz Bernstein, President)**
 - Welcome and round table introductions.
 2. **Approval of Agenda and notes from last meeting / Approbation de l'Ordre du jour et notes de la dernière réunion (Liz Bernstein, President)**
 - Notes from December meeting and agenda for January meeting approved.
 3. **Areas of Interest – Updates / Sujets d'intérêts particuliers– Mises à jour :**

Planning Update / Mise à jour du Comité de planification (Peter Ferguson)

- **New planning documents for 235 King Edward Avenue:** The LCA will be reviewing recently received planning documents and providing written comments to the City. The type of hotel proposed for the site has changed since the LCA commented previously in July and, accordingly, the City has required a new set of planning documents for review and comment.
- **Review of the By-Law on permanent signs on private property:** The committee is providing comments to the City on the By-Law review. Areas of interest for the LCA include the need to treat the ByWard Market as a distinct area with signage regulations that complement its historic significance, a new objective for the review that includes the negative impact of signage illumination and light intrusion and, a ban on digital signs and menu boards in the Market area.
- **Trinity Development Application for 151 Chapel Street:** The LCA will be preparing a response to the application by Trinity to develop a retail and residential complex at 151 Chapel Street. The response will be based on discussions already held with the City and the developer, updated documents provided by the City and a report being prepared by the City Planning and Growth Management Department for the City Planning Committee. The LCA will speak to its concerns at a meeting of the City Planning Committee on January 26, 2016.
- **Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) Hearing re the proposed development for 151 Chapel Street:** The LCA has identified five issues which it has shared with Action Sandy Hill and the other two Parties to the OMB Hearing that is scheduled to begin on March 21, 2016. A decision will be made after the Meeting of the City Planning Committee on January 26 if and how the LCA will to represent its concerns.

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Heritage Update / Mise à jour du patrimoine (Liz Mackenzie, Nancy Miller Chenier)

- **Our Lady School (281-283 Cumberland):** Liz Mackenzie provided a comprehensive powerpoint presentation on the proposal for the Our Lady's School at 281-283 Cumberland.
 1. Demolition of 281-283 Cumberland: Another building in the HCD owned by Lauzon – interesting to note that in 2003 he applied for five buildings to be demolished. At that time he was refused. 281-283 and two walls of Our Lady's School are all that are left. All others have been demolished.
 2. An agreement in 2013 between the owners and the City “resolved” some outstanding legal matters. We know they included permission to demolish all but the two walls of Our Lady's School and the brick double on Murray Street. It required that the remaining walls be braced at the owner's cost. However the encroachment fee (\$47,000/year) were waived. We have requested a status report on the cost to date and the cost if another 2-year heritage permit is given on account of the demolition – does the encroachment fee continue. We are crunching numbers on the cost to the city.
 3. We have filed an access to information request to see the entire agreement.
 4. An inquiry to the Chair of the Planning Committee revealed that within this agreement: no relief from the provisions of the Heritage Overlay, the requirements under the OP heritage constraints, and no relief from the requirements of the Planning Act, including the 12 Steps of the Development Application Review Process. Only an application under the Ontario Heritage Act has been submitted, not a development plan.
 5. A letter has been sent requesting clarification as to how Planning Committee can approve the plans submitted when no development plan has been submitted.
 6. There is a grave problem with the proposal to have the garage entrance on St. Patrick Street between two heritage buildings. It is inevitable that these buildings will be negatively impacted by the excavation activities on the site. Traffic issues are also a concern with a garage entrance on St. Patrick. We will take these concerns to Planning Committee – Ted will prepare a technical report and will use footage from the Claridge development on St. Andrew.

Environment Update / Mise à jour environnementale (Environment and Active Transportation Committee)

- We have transformed the environment committee to also cover active transportation and transportation issues, and we will absorb the work of the King Edward Avenue Task Force. We understand the feasibility study for the tunnel will be forthcoming this quarter, so we are having a meeting next Monday, January 18, here and anyone is welcome. Mat Genest will join us and we will discuss possible results coming from the study and next steps. We will also be in touch with Action Sandy Hill after this first meeting.
- **Urban Forestry Strategy:** Felix noted it is ongoing, and LCA will have opportunities to provide input.
Climate Change: We will explore what we can do to support the implementation of the strategy and 100% renewable energy strategy to come to Environment Committee soon.

Housing and Homelessness Committee Update / Mise à jour du comité sans-abris:

We have a new coordinator and are reviving the committee and if you are interested in joining let us know.

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Lowertown East Resident's Committee Update / Mise à jour du Comité des Résidents de la Basse-Ville Est (Sandra Pilote)

- No update provided.

4. Councillor's Update / Mise à jour du conseiller

Present from the Councillor's Office: Councillor Mathieu Fleury, Emeline Sparks

- **St Brigid's Pub:** Will follow up on the licensing of the pub at St Brigid's re how it happened, as some raised concerns that a visible notice had not been posted.
- **Climate Change:** Ottawa Community Housing (OCH) has a green plan to retrofit properties, have exceeded targets at 215 Wurtemberg, Beasoleil/Beausejour, for example. Return on investment in 3 years vs the target of 5 years. Will share information
- **Tunnel Feasibility Study:** It may be on the March committee agenda, or else April. It seems it may demonstrate anything is feasible but we do not know yet. Next step will be an environmental assessment and many steps for consultation.
- **Trinity/151 Chapel St:** They have received many letters and it will be at Planning Committee January 26. They want a Council decision before the OMB hearing. It only speaks to zoning.
- **ByWard Market Revitalization:** The City has committed \$1 million and so the funded project will start this summer, on street scaping and governance. They are in talks with the Province and Federal government to each contribute \$2 million and then the City will increase their budget to \$2 million so \$6 million is available for the initial phase. They are progressing with the design work now. The report on governance, etc will likely go to committee in early March, based on the proposal we heard here last fall, with more details on the governance structure, not for profit etc.
- **Snow Removal:** It was a normal snowfall, we have no excuses. We should be doing sidewalks at the same time as streets. We should do another walkabout this winter. We agree.
- **Sussex Drive:** Construction is completed, doing some maintenance and we have a one year warranty so if you see anything let us know.
- **NCC land discussion (land transfer between the City and NCC – responding to a question):** It is a city wide land transfer. Ottawa Rowing Club, for example, would benefit from the transfer. There are small parcels of land all over, but the main ones implicated are all waterfront. The proposal is to connect Major's Hill Park with Champlain Lookout.
- **Fire on Clarence:** Still under investigation.

5. Community Interest and Events / Intérêt communautaire et Événements:

- **Call for volunteers / Appel aux bénévoles:** Looking for volunteers in all kinds of capacities but particularly for the skating rink in Bingham Park and the Housing & Homelessness Committee. To volunteer, send e-mail to info@lowertown-basseville.ca.
- **Winterfest 2016:** It is family day and we will again work with Lowertown East Residents Committee and make a financial contribution. If you wish to volunteer let us know.
- **Bingham Park Rink:** The rink is being prepared now and should be open very soon, thank you to all of the volunteers and if you wish to join in and help, you would be welcome! We are hoping to organize some family skating days at both Jules Morin and Bingham Park.
- **Echo:** The Echo in December was terrific, thank you Giullia and everyone on the team, and they are always looking for more volunteers, writers, in English and French, so let us know if you wish to volunteer. It was distributed by Canada Post and was able to get a wider distribution.

Meeting adjourned: 8:45