

# LOWERTOWN BASSEVILLE

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION    ASSOCIATION COMMUNAUTAIRE

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

MEETING NOTES / NOTES DE RÉUNION – 9 NOVEMBER 2015 / 9 NOVEMBRE 2015  
ROUTHIER COMMUNITY CENTRE, 7-9 PM / CENTRE COMMUNAUTAIRE ROUTHIER, 19-21h

- **Board members present:** Liz Bernstein (President), Peter Ferguson (Director, Planning), Sarah Bonesteel (Secretary)
  - **Liaisons present:** John Woodhouse (Walkability Liaison)
  - **Community members present:** 16
- 1. Welcome and Introductions / Mots de bienvenue et introductions (Liz Bernstein, President)**
    - Welcome and 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)**
    - Meeting notes and agenda approved.
  - 3. ByWard Market BIA Update / Mise à jour de la ZAC (Jasna Jennings)**
    - **Shop the Neighbourhood, November 28 (regular business hours):** Nation-wide event encouraging people to shop in their neighbourhood. BIA will provide rickshaws to all areas of Market, hot apple cider, and gift bags for making a purchase. Yellow decor indicates which businesses are participating.
    - **Christmas programming:** installing more lighting in trees in Market, swags and a tree. Will also have choirs and wagon rides first three weekends in December. Will have lighting event coinciding with lighting event on Parliament Hill December 2.
    - **Winterlude:** 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of stew cook-off (funds go to a charity, Lowertown Community Resource Centre for past three years). Expanding event to include the weekend with sampling in restaurants. Will have server events and other fun games. Will also have Family Day programming.
    - **Public Art Project for the Tin House Court Yard:** Artist will be selected and will work with community on art design. A committee has been established. Those wishing to participate should contact Norman Moyer at [norman.moyer@gmail.com](mailto:norman.moyer@gmail.com).
    - **Improvements:** new website is under development and looking at what physical/decorative improvements can be made over next year.
  - 4. Presentation: Ottawa River Centre / Centre de la rivière des Outaouais (Peter Thompson, Ottawa Rowing Club)**
    - Rowing Club established by Sir John A. Macdonald in 1867. Oldest rowing club in Canada.
    - Presented plan for growing club to City and NCC. Proposal is to grow centre and expand programming to be a "River Centre". Plan is aligned with growth plan of Cities of Ottawa and Gatineau. Plan is supported by Ottawa River Keeper. 2017 will be 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

# LOWERTOWN BASSEVILLE

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION ASSOCIATION COMMUNAUTAIRE

- Significant amount of shoreline land is owned by City and NCC. Want to see shoreline opened up and made accessible; not just for rowers.
- Proposing a three-story building. Area is zoned for a marina facility. Lowest level would be floodable and would hold boats. Second story would have gym and showers, as well as classrooms. Third level would be meeting space for 150. Upper level would have finished decks for viewing river events. Building would be fully accessible. Would retain old boathouse that dates to 1888. Venue would accommodate community, other events and rowing events. Would be available for use year-round.
- Training and education: no formal centre of excellence for coaching but planning to develop one as part of new facility.
- Looking for community support for re-development plan. Also looking to various levels of government for support and funding. NCC is supportive of the proposal and it aligns with their overall plan for re-development of the shoreline. Want to be seen as neighbourhood recreation centre. Want to ensure sustainability and stewardship of river. Volunteer organization so provides value in running facility.
- Timeline: Planning to have new building open in 2017. Submitted proposal in 2015 to City's infrastructure fund for 2017 legacy projects.

## Questions:

- Aga Khan's shoreline development? Aga Khan is focused on development of the Centre for Pluralism but is still enthusiastic about developing the waterfront aspect of the project.
- What are the provisions for accessibility by pedestrians given that Sussex is so busy? In principle, will be more accessible by cyclists through creation of new cycling lanes on Sussex. 130 parking spaces are available and not planning to increase.
- How will project be funded? Cost is expected to be \$18M. Looking to NCC and various levels of government for funding.
- Does Rowing Club own land? Straddles NCC and City land. Do not own land. Club operates program on behalf of City. Proposed that City would own new building but Club would continue to operate. In discussions with restaurateurs about a possible business model but would be a "supporting" activity; is not primary purpose of building.
- Will old boathouse be renovated? Was renovated in late 1990s so likely not.
- Question about City budget commitments? Will see if it is in the Budget to be released on Thursday. P3 is an option for the project.
- LCA President noted that there is general support in room for the project.

## 5. Councillor's Update / Mise à jour du conseiller

**Present from the Councillor's Office:** Nathaniel Mullin

- Councillor Fleury sends regrets that he is double booked and not able to join us.
- **171 Bruyere:** Discussed at Built Heritage Sub-Committee today but decision deferred to January meeting. Discussion about Ottawa Community Housing (OCH) willingness to sell property. OCH to follow up with mortgage holder to investigate severing & selling property.
- **Sussex Drive:** Construction should be completely done by December 1. Will be an official opening. Art in Bingham Park will also be completed by then.
- **ByWard Market:** Budget coming out on Thursday and need residents to support Councillor Fleury in requesting funds for project.

# LOWERTOWN BASSEVILLE

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION    ASSOCIATION COMMUNAUTAIRE

- **Mackenzie Avenue:** Close collaboration between NCC and City, and will be dedicated cycling lanes on Mackenzie.
- 6. **Areas of Interest – Updates / Sujets d'intérêts particuliers– Mises à jour:**
  - **Planning Update / Mise à jour du Comité de planification (Peter Ferguson)**
    - **Committee of Adjustment Mailing List:** following up. LCA is not on mailing list.
    - **Uptown Rideau Community Design Plan:** Will go to committee on November 24. Would go to full council on December 9.
    - **216 Cathcart:** large addition to house. Only approved for three storeys and built a fourth. If they are planning to re-submit plans, LCA Planning Committee will review and comment. Stop work order issued. Councillor's Office does not have an update.
    - **Sotto:** Different owners but no change to business plan.
    - **Mellos:** Hoping to stay open despite legal issues.
  - **Environment Update / Mise à jour environnementale (Liz Bernstein)**
    - **November 29 March:** 100% Possible march for renewable energy to coincide with international talks in Paris. Will be a family event and will go through Lowertown.
    - **Tree Consultation:** invitation on City of Ottawa website. Daytime/evening events.
    - **Park on York Street Median:** Trees taken down because of disease.
  - **Communications Update / Mise à jour des communications (Communications Team)**
    - Echo is under development. Deadline for submissions is November 13. Should be out at end of November or early December.

## Homelessness Committee Update / Mise à jour des sans-abris (Catherine Hacksell)

- Had committee meeting recently. Concerned that no one on committee has lived experience with homelessness. Would like to see greater effort made to engage homeless population. Not sure why LCA wants to have a homelessness committee.
  - **Nathaniel Mullin:** Committee developed several years ago when City was developing 10 year housing plan and wanted community engaged. Plan was approved early last year and is available online. Suggestion to connect with Lorraine Bentley from Options Bytown to see if there is a resident interested in being on the committee. City trying to move people who have been in shelters the longest into supportive housing. Supportive residences have opened in Kanata and Vanier. Projects are underway in Orleans and Old Ottawa South. Residences provide permanent housing in various neighbourhoods. Community and Protective Services Committee reports to City Council annually on implementation progress of the plan. By 2024, shelters will be for emergencies.
7. **Community Interest and Events / Intérêt communautaire et Événements: (5 minutes each)**
- **Call for volunteers / Appel aux bénévoles**
    - Rink volunteers needed. Contact [info@lowertown-basseville.ca](mailto:info@lowertown-basseville.ca) to help.
  - **Resident/Volunteer Appreciation Event:** To be held at December 14 meeting.

*Meeting adjourned: 8:30pm*