

Heron Park Community Association (HPCA)
Community Zoom Meeting
7:00 pm, September 7, 2021

Present:

Shawn Menard (Councillor), Mélanie Boyer (Councillor's Office), Phil Castro (City of Ottawa, Parks & Facilities Planning Services Dept.), Mike Little, Rosella Mac Neil, Helen Brennan, Diane Burgess, Clément Berthiaume, Marta Khan, Susan Carbone, Robert Lacroix, Marcia Foster, Debbie Brereton, Karen Schlesiger, Colleen Lundy, and Renso Vettoretti.

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION/DECISIONS:

1) Welcome

- a) Mike welcomed everyone to the community meeting which takes place every first Tuesday of the month from September to June. He also mentioned that the HPCA Annual General Meeting will take place the first Tuesday of November at 7pm. More details on the AGM to follow.

2) Councillor's Update:

a) Heron Park Community Building:

- Phil Castro was introduced as the lead planner for the design and implementation of the Community Building. A community sub-committee has been established to work with him to develop the design of the building, which includes identifying what the community would like to see in the design (eg. kitchenette, meeting room, exercise room, skating change room, bathroom, office, etc). Nick Wilson was identified as the lead contact from the community, who will confirm membership of the sub-committee. He also has documents from former consultations with the community that require updating. Marcia volunteered to join the sub-committee. Phil indicated he would send examples of plans used for recently built community buildings. Next steps involve soil remediation, demolishing the current building, and developing the design, with the goal of starting construction next year.

b) One-sided Parking Petition:

- The Councillor's office has tentatively set a date of September 17th to deliver the petition to households on the streets that were top priority for one-sided parking in our community survey. (Gregg St. – from Junction to Carlsen, Aldea - from Clémentine to Clover, and Clémentine - from Brookfield to Heron.) Mel will work with Mike to confirm this date and has asked for 4 volunteers from the community to assist with distribution.

c) Contra-Flow Bike Lane (Clover St.):

- The Councillor's office continues to be in conversation with city staff regarding this item.

d) Development of Bank & Riverside Highrise Apartment Buildings:

- The Councillor's office is having ongoing conversations with planning staff, to see reflected some of the community consultation input (eg. managing safe pedestrian flow across major highways, height restrictions, etc.) The next opportunity for them to have meaningful input is during the site plan review, which is on the Councillor's radar.

e) Abandoned Construction Site at 1097 Richard:

- The current owners are trying to sell the property so construction on the site will likely not take place until it is sold. Bylaw services responded to Property Standards complaints (eg. long grass and weeds, garbage, etc.) in July and the property was brought into compliance. Many complaints were voiced by call participants with respect to the continual unkempt state of this property. They were asked to submit a service request to the city (by phoning 311 or

online at: <https://so311.serviceottawa.ca/selfserve/index.jsp>) if property standards are not being maintained. Bylaw is a 'reactive' service and they do not respond unless a service request is submitted. Councillor Menard indicated he'd visit the property this week and share his observations with Bylaw services.

f) Temporary Closure of Heron Road East:

- The culvert repairs have been completed under the East Bound lanes and they have been reopened. Work is still ongoing under the West Bound lanes, but this should not require their closure. After the culvert work is completed, the sidewalks and green space will be reinstated.

g) Kaladar Park Splash Pad:

- The tender for the contract was issued and the company that had the lowest bid was deemed non-compliant (the city's policy is to award contracts to the lowest bidder if they are compliant with all mandatory criteria requested in the tender). The city staff are now determining which company was the next lowest bidder and hope to award the contract in October if they are deemed compliant. Construction should begin in the Spring 2022.

h) New Development at 2492 Clover St.:

- This is a double lot which is being split into 4 lots and the developer intends to build two semi-detached dwellings. Concerns were raised by numerous call participants about a planning process where developers can present a design/plan for two dwelling units to obtain approval for variances, and then build something very different, (eg. 6 dwelling units each with 4 bedrooms). Examples given were developments at 2489 Junction Ave. and 1045 Secord Avenue. These multi-unit apartments buildings were seen not to have adequate parking or property/garbage maintenance protocols in place and consequently are disruptive to neighbours and the community at large.
- The Councillor indicated that this is a problem that they are trying to address in other Wards. He and Councillor Leiper are both on the City's Planning Committee, however, they are finding it difficult to solicit support from their colleagues from other Wards that may not have a full appreciation of the impact of these types of developments.

Other Business:

1. A suggestion was made that the small service road that will be used during the construction of the Bank and Riverside apartment towers could become permanent which may reduce vehicular traffic entering the complexes off Bank Street. Mike to follow-up with Mel, directly.
2. The repair to the depression that fills with water in front of the Field House did not last. Mel is working with City Staff to find and implement a longer-term solution.
3. Mel will review a household flyer from the Councillor's office, to include information about the Heron Park community that would be pertinent to new residents. Susan offered to deliver these flyers to residents.
4. A question was asked about how other community organizations ran their AGM, virtually or in person. Mel indicated that all AGMs to date have been done virtually.
5. It was noted that a service request had been submitted about the missing garbage can at the end of the Bank to Brookfield Rd. East walking/bike path. It has yet to be replaced.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:15 p.m.